



■ RLI Corp.

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **RLI Selected as One of the Best in the Nation for Benefits Judges name Peoria firm as one of “The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security”**

(Des Moines, Iowa) - RLI, based in Peoria, Ill., is one of only 10 growing companies earning national acclaim for maintaining its commitment to offer employees extraordinary benefits, despite a challenging economy.

An independent judging panel of employee benefits experts named RLI as one of the 2010 winners of *The Principal*® 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security, citing its exemplary retirement benefits—offering a 401(k), an ESOP and a profit sharing plan.

“RLI faces the same challenges as other businesses. What makes them extraordinary is the priority they place on employee financial security,” said Luke Vandermillen, Vice President at The Principal®. “RLI has been an employee-owned company for 40 years. This company understands the direct connection between strong benefits, a strong workforce and a strong bottom line - in the best and worst of times.”

The Principal Financial Group® sponsors the national program, which is now in its ninth year. It honors growing companies for their commitment to their employees’ financial security.

“Certainly, RLI has a very effective healthcare program. But we were particularly impressed with their retirement program. They have an ESOP to which they contributed 9 percent of pay last year—more in previous years. They also have a 401K plan with a 3 percent fixed contribution and a profit-sharing plan with up to 3 percent company contribution to the 401K. And on top of that, they even have annual incentive plans for all employees. This provides an exceptional, rich reward system for retirement,” **Corey Rosen, 10 Best Judge and Executive Director and Founder, National Center for Employee Ownership.**

With more than 700 employees, RLI is a specialty insurance company with a diverse portfolio of property and casualty coverages and surety bonds serving niche or underserved markets.

“It’s a terrific honor to be selected as one of *The Principal 10 Best Companies*,” said Jonathan E. Michael, RLI Corp. President & CEO. “We believe that our benefits are one of the hallmarks of the organization, even in these difficult times. Our employee owners understand the importance of the



long-term financial success of RLI and in turn, we believe that providing them with a strong benefits plan will improve their long-term financial security.”

A summary of best practices from RLI and other winners will be published and available in January 2010 at [www.principal.com/10best](http://www.principal.com/10best).

### The 2010 Winners

- American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), Washington, DC
- Clif Bar & Company, Berkeley Calif.
- Davidson Technologies, Inc., Huntsville, Ala.
- Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Nebraska, Lincoln, Neb.
- Franklin International, Columbus, Ohio
- Red River Credit Union of Texarkana, Texas
- RLI, Peoria, Ill.
- The Bolles School, Jacksonville, Fla.
- The Delp Company, Maumee, Ohio
- The Graham Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

To learn more about the winners and the judging process, visit [www.principal.com/10best](http://www.principal.com/10best).

### About RLI

RLI is a specialty insurance company serving niche and underserved markets. With a diverse portfolio of property and casualty coverages and surety bonds, it has achieved an underwriting profit in 29 of the last 33 years, including the last 14. RLI's insurance subsidiaries - RLI Insurance Company, Mt. Hawley Insurance Company and RLI Indemnity Company - are rated A+ "Superior" by A.M. Best Company and A+ "Strong" by Standard & Poor's. RLI operates in all 50 states from office locations across the country. To learn more, visit [www.rlicorp.com](http://www.rlicorp.com).

### Benefit highlights:

- 79 - 91 percent employer-paid medical insurance premiums for employees; 82 percent - 92 percent employer-paid medical insurance premiums for dependents
- 401(k) plan with a 3 percent non-matching contribution, along with a profit-sharing plan with up to a 3 percent company contribution and an ESOP with up to a 12 percent company contribution; average deferral rate of 7 percent
- 100 percent employer-paid premiums for short-and long-term disability insurance

### About The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security

*The Principal 10 Best Companies for Employee Financial Security* is a national program that recognizes small- and medium- size companies that excel at giving their employees a financial edge. Entrants must:

- Have between five and 1,000 employees
- Be based in the United States
- Have provided a broad range of employee benefits for at least five years
- Offer traditional employee benefits such as retirement and health, life and/or disability insurance



No entry fee is required. Companies owned by employees of The Principal are not eligible to enter. For more information, visit [www.principal.com/10best](http://www.principal.com/10best).

### **About the Principal Financial Group**

The Principal Financial Group® (The Principal®)<sup>1</sup> is a leader in offering businesses, individuals and institutional clients a wide range of financial products and services, including retirement and investment services, life and health insurance, and banking through its diverse family of financial services companies. A member of the Fortune 500, the Principal Financial Group has \$284.7 billion in assets under management<sup>2</sup> and serves some 18.9 million customers worldwide from offices in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America and the United States. Principal Financial Group, Inc. is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol PFG. For more information, visit [www.principal.com](http://www.principal.com).

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<sup>2</sup> As of June 30, 2010.