

Erie Insurance Named in 2009 Ward's 50 Top Performing Insurance Companies

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The Ward's 50 award analyzes the financial performance of 3,000 property and casualty companies and 800 life-health insurance companies and recognizes the top performers for achieving outstanding financial results in safety and consistency over a five-year period (2004-2008).

Erie Insurance is represented locally by Henry Insurance Agency, located at 2757 Observatory Cincinnati, Ohio 45208. Henry Insurance Agency offers a full line of property/casualty insurance products, including auto, homeowners and commercial insurance, as well as life insurance products and services from Erie Insurance. Henry Insurance Agency serves the Greater Cincinnati area.

The Ward's 50 analysis provides a detailed look at what makes a top performing insurance company. It highlights these companies as excelling at balancing expense management, technology deployment and customer service. A top performer must meet a five year consecutive operating history and follow a detailed list of financial criteria and metrics.

According to Jeff Rieder, President of Ward Group, 'Volatility in the investment portfolios, economy and competitive landscape has forced companies to evaluate many of their business strategies. In selecting the Ward's 50, we identify companies that pass financial stability requirements and measure their ability to grow while maintaining strong capital positions and underwriting results.'

Ward is a consulting firm specializing in the insurance industry and leading provider of industry benchmarking and best practices services. For more information on the Ward's 50 Group of top performing companies, see Ward's Web site at www.wardinc.com.

The recognition follows Erie Insurance recently moving up three spots from 21 to 18 on A.M. Best's top 200 Property/Casualty Groups ranked by 2008 net premiums written. A.M. Best Company also affirmed the financial strength rating of A+ (Superior) of the Erie Insurance Group and its property/casualty members, Erie Insurance Exchange, Erie Insurance Company, Erie Insurance Company of New York, Flagship City Insurance Company and Erie Insurance Property & Casualty Company. A.M. Best has also affirmed the financial strength rating of A (Excellent) of Erie Family Life. Only 10 percent of the ratings handed out by A.M. Best are Superior or better.

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