

FAIRFAX *News Release*

Stock Symbol: FFH.SV (TSX); FFH (NYSE)

TORONTO, October 17, 2005

FAIRFAX ANNOUNCES QUARTERLY CONFERENCE CALL

Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited (TSX:FFH.SV) (NYSE:FFH) will hold its quarterly conference call at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time on Friday, October 28, 2005 to discuss its third quarter results which will be announced after the close of markets on Thursday, October 27 and will be available at that time on its website www.fairfax.ca. The call, consisting of a presentation by the company followed by a question period, may be accessed at (888) 769-8514 (Canada and U.S.) or 1 (712) 257-2114 (International) with the passcode "Fairfax".

A replay of the call will be available from shortly after the termination of the call until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, November 11, 2005. The replay may be accessed at (866) 415-2341 (Canada and U.S.) or 1 (203) 369-0686 (International).

Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited is a financial services holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged in property and casualty insurance and reinsurance, investment management and insurance claims management.

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