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## Gallagher attracts heavy hitters to its Australian corporate stable

**SYDNEY, September 2nd, 2020:** Industry heavyweights, Samantha McCormack (VIC), Geoff Babbage (NSW) and Darren Bryan (QLD) join the Gallagher team as it continues on its strategic drive to build regional presence and specialist expertise across Australia's corporate sector.

At a time of tougher trading conditions and the continued pressure of lockdown and economic uncertainty, the new additions are made to help Australian corporate organisations mitigate increased balance sheet and workplace risk.

**Katherine (Katie) Simmonds**, Head of Corporate Broking at Gallagher, explains: "The Gallagher brand is proving to be a significant draw card for high calibre corporate brokers. In a hard market cycle with shifts in capacity and increased challenges with placing certain risks, clients are valuing brokers who have significant industry and placement experience. A great broker knows the market, loves the industry and pushes for the best possible outcome for our clients."

"Samantha, Geoff and Darren come to us with a solid industry track record and are highly respected in their field. All have experienced hard market environments and are well equipped to guide clients through the roadblocks and hurdles to achieve the best available outcomes on their insurance placement." Simmonds concludes.

**Sarah Lyons**, Chief Executive of Australian Broking adds, "We're delighted to welcome Samantha, Geoff and Darren to the Australian team. The current market presents a number of significant and complex risk challenges for corporate organisations, and we will continue to invest in the places that ensures we are in the strongest position to help clients where they need us most."

"Insurance is ultimately about relationships. Corporate clients need structured advice and the confidence of a partner who has their back and consistently pushing the bar higher. By challenging a client's existing insurance arrangements and testing new placement strategies, we are ensuring their insurance spend equates to robust risk mitigation, and this is where we will continue to focus our attention."

These latest additions come on the back of other key hires including **John Muir** who added specialist financial lines expertise and market leading Directors' & Officers Liability (D&O) capability to the WA Corporate team in August 2019 to enhance the region's strategic mining and energy broking capability.