



**For Immediate Release
December 13, 2007**

**Contact: Andy Wessels
304.941.1030**

New Zealand Workers' Compensation Leadership Visits BrickStreet to Discuss Privatization

(Charleston) – The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer of New Zealand's monopolistic Accident Compensation Corporation are visiting BrickStreet Mutual Insurance today to learn about BrickStreet and its successful transition from state agency to fully private company.

Dr. Jan White and Gerald McGreevy, respectively, are engaged in a series of meetings with key BrickStreet executives throughout the day. They also will meet with state officials to discuss West Virginia's workers' compensation system.

"This meeting is an outstanding opportunity for us to tell the BrickStreet success story to a major organization that may be about to start on the road to privatization," said BrickStreet President and CEO Greg Burton.

"At the same time, it's a good opportunity for us to learn about a very different system and structure. It's interesting to see all that we have in common with an insurance organization half way around the world from us."

Accident Compensation Corporation writes a number of policies in addition to workers' compensation insurance. They have a staff of 2,300, process 1.7 million claims each year and have offices across the nation. A new national administration has expressed interest in privatizing the ACC and other government functions, and BrickStreet is seen as an example of how privatization can be accomplished quickly and effectively.

White has been CEO of ACC for just over a year. Before that, she held a number of positions in medical management. COO McGreevy is a key decision maker who is part of the senior management team at ACC.

White and McGreevy, after spending the morning with BrickStreet, also were scheduled to meet with state Senate President Earl Ray Tomblin and House Speaker Richard Thompson to discuss the legislative process which led to the creation of BrickStreet. Later in the day, they were scheduled to meet with Governor Joe Manchin and personnel from the Offices of the Insurance Commissioner.

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