



RI3K streamlines pricing

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London-based electronic trading platform RI3K is streamlining charges for its services in response to "market criticisms" over the firm's pricing structure.

Carriers choosing a £50 per bound line "standard" service will be delivered the ACORD quote, bound line and signed line data to their messaging gateways.

The new tariff also includes options for more detailed data exchanges, explained RI3K.

Alex Letts, chief executive of the platform, said that electronic placement was beginning to "move the effort of data entry away from the underwriter".

"Effectively the broker will do the data entry for carriers. After so much money has been wasted in this area both in processing and solutions, if you had told the market leaders that the cost of electronic trading would eventually be so low, they would have bitten your arm off," he continued.

According to Letts, if an average sized carrier binds 2,000 lines of business a year in the London market, and half is placed through RI3K, their cost of electronic trading will be £50,000.

"For this they get the speed and accuracy of management information, a contract certain and less risky process and, of course, the removal of re-keying - all for £50 a risk," he added.

RI3K slashed its rates last year - from \$500 per line to the current £50 - following an agreement with Aon that saw the broking giant integrate its slip production with the trading platform.

Previous owner Brit Insurance sold a 56 percent majority stake in RI3K to a consortium in early May for £8.3mn cash.

The insurer retains a 19.9 percent stake in the platform.