

## **MONDIAL ASSISTANCE STRENGTHENS MIDDLE EAST OFFERING**

### **Mondial Assistance and NEXtCARE combine to deliver health insurance management solutions**

Mondial Assistance, the International leader in Assistance, Travel Insurance and Personal Services, has strengthened its Middle East operations as it combines forces with NEXtCARE, a specialist provider of health insurance management and third party administration services. Mondial has relocated its current offices in Bahrain to merge its activity into NEXtCARE's new offices in Dubai to maximise the synergies between the two organisations.

NEXtCARE became part of Allianz Global Assistance in July 2011, reinforcing the Group's position in health insurance management. With more than 600 employees across the region, it provides services to over 1 million customers.

As Mike Webb, Regional Director of Northern Europe and the Middle East explained, the merging of the two organisations provides the combined business with significant mutual advantages.

"Mondial Assistance is providing NEXtCARE with access to our global medical network, thereby enhancing the NEXtCARE proposition for businesses looking for a complete worldwide health insurance solution" said Mike Webb.

"NEXtCARE is already the market leader in the GCC with offices across the region and a highly respected player in the Middle East and North African region, working closely with most of the major insurance companies. We therefore believe the company's experience and expertise will enable Mondial Assistance to increase its presence in the Middle East, building on its many recent successes in this market."

NEXtCARE operates a 24/7 call and claims centre with over 100 medical professionals available to provide real time help and advice to ensure the highest quality treatment is provided whilst closely controlling the medical costs on behalf of its clients. The excellent web-based IT system developed in-house by NEXtCARE, together with its network of offices across the region, ensures effective communication with providers, clients and end users of the service, and of course faster and more accurate claims decisions.

Mondial Assistance, as part of Allianz Global Assistance, carries out more than 670,000 medical assistance and repatriation interventions each year. It operates a network of 400,000 service providers, 180 international correspondents and more than 10,750 multi-lingual, travel and medical assistance specialists who work around the clock, around the world. As a group, Allianz Global Assistance provides services to

over 250 million people around the world, making it the world's leading provider of assistance, travel insurance and personal services.

“The complementary offerings of Mondial Assistance and NEXtCARE will yield a competitive advantage to our clients as they strive to address the growing healthcare and assistance needs within the region”, added Christian Gregorowicz, CEO of NEXtCARE.

Christian will report to Mike Webb and will have overall responsibility for the collective business. He will be supported by Madjid Benchaiba and his team who will continue to develop the travel insurance and assistance portfolio in the region.

“The considerable worldwide expertise that Mondial has developed over the years will be used to strengthen NEXtCARE's capabilities. It is planned to capitalise on NEXtCARE's expertise and further extend its business model into Mondial's largest and developing markets,” continued Mike Webb.

“Equally, we believe Mondial Assistance can benefit from the NEXtCARE expertise and reputation in the Middle East, as we continue to expand our medical assistance and repatriation solutions, travel insurance and assistance services, tailored to the needs of customers in this region.”

END

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**For further press information please contact:**

**Justine Hoadley, Jen Thorneywork or Clare Watson**

**HSL**

**Tel: 020 8977 9132 or email [mondialteam@harrisonsadler.com](mailto:mondialteam@harrisonsadler.com)**

**Notes to Editors**

**Mondial Assistance UK – A member of Allianz Global Assistance**

[www.mondial-assistance.co.uk](http://www.mondial-assistance.co.uk)

In 2010, Mondial Assistance began its transition to become Allianz Global Assistance, which is the international leader in assistance, travel insurance and health, life & home care services. Today, Allianz Global Assistance counts more than 10,783 employees who speak 40 different languages and work throughout the world with a network of 400,000 service providers and 180 correspondents. 250 million people, or 4% of the world's total population, benefit from its services, which are provided on all five continents. Mondial Assistance in the UK is to become Allianz Global Assistance by the end of 2012.

**About NEXtCARE:** The Dubai-based NEXtCARE is one of the MENA region's largest claims administration companies with a direct and partner network encompassing 4,000 providers in the region, and more than 1 million members under management, NEXtCARE administers a portfolio of over USD 400 million annually for more than 60 insurance companies and self-funded clients.

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