RLI Corp.

NEWS RELEASE

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RLI named to prestigious Ward's 50® Top P&C Performers list for 21st consecutive year

PEORIA, ILLINOIS, July 22, 2011, RLI Corp. (NYSE:RLI) – For the 21st consecutive year, RLI has been named as one of the insurance industry's top performing companies by the Ward Group. RLI is one of only four property and casualty insurers to be recognized as a Ward's 50® Top P&C Performer every year since the list's inception in 1991.

"RLI is proud to receive this prestigious award for the 21st consecutive year," said RLI President & CEO Jonathan E. Michael. "This award recognizes RLI's commitment to delivering superior long-term results. We celebrate this achievement with our employee-owners, whose everyday accomplishments allow us to maintain our financial strength."

Ward Group, a Cincinnati-based consulting firm specializing in the insurance industry, publishes the analysis in *Ward's Results*, an insurance industry financial reference series. Companies selected for the Ward's 50® Top P&C Performers must pass safety and consistency tests and demonstrate outstanding financial performance. For a complete listing of all companies in the Ward's 50® Top P&C Performers visit www.wardinc.com.

RLI, a specialty insurance company, offers a diversified portfolio of property and casualty coverages and surety bonds serving niche or underserved markets. RLI operates in all 50 states from office locations across the country. RLI's insurance subsidiaries – RLI Insurance Company, Mt. Hawley Insurance Company and RLI Indemnity Company – are rated A+ "Superior" by A.M. Best Company and A+ "Strong" by Standard & Poor's. RLI's recently-acquired insurance subsidiary, Contractors Bonding and Insurance Company, is rated A "Excellent" by A.M. Best Company. For more information, visit www.rlicorp.com.

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