

# Winner of **Young Meteor** of the year

————— **Mike France, Stark Investments** —————

**3**4-year-old Mike France is one of three portfolio managers at Stark's Reinsurance Linked Investments (RLI) team and has demonstrated an incredibly broad and deep expertise in the convergence sector.

His experience includes origination, structuring and distribution, as well as investment analysis and underwriting of catastrophe bonds, cat derivatives and private collateralised reinsurance transactions.

He has also worked extensively on the development and utilisation of tools for portfolio analytics, risk management, risk pricing and hedging.

Highlights of France's achievements in 2008 include an instrumental role in investing \$675mn in collateralised reinsurance transactions in 2008 and playing a crucial role in Stark's investment of \$76.5mn in sidecar debt last year.

He also sourced and executed a large "LiveCat" transaction related to Hurricane Ike and introduced a number of new (re)insurers, brokers and other service providers to the convergence sector.

France has led the group's efforts to establish new partnerships and further existing ones with traditional reinsurance markets, which has helped to facilitate growth in the sector.

France's pioneering work in various non-investment – yet crucial – operational areas of the RLI business have allowed for efficient investment of capital into the sector.

France established and continues to oversee Stark Re (Bermuda) Ltd – a Class 3 reinsurer writing collateralised reinsurance – and continues to work with Bermuda counterparts and authorities to improve the landscape for and relationship with collateralised reinsurers.



**Mike France,**  
Stark Investments  
(left), receives his  
Young Meteor of  
the year  
award from  
Aon Benfield's  
**Des Potter**

**Entry criteria:** Candidate is an individual, aged 35 or under on 31 December 2008, and working in the convergence sector. Although young, the winner has already made a significant contribution to the sector, demonstrating a solid contribution to the future of the convergence market. Candidates must be nominated, or supported by their departmental manager.