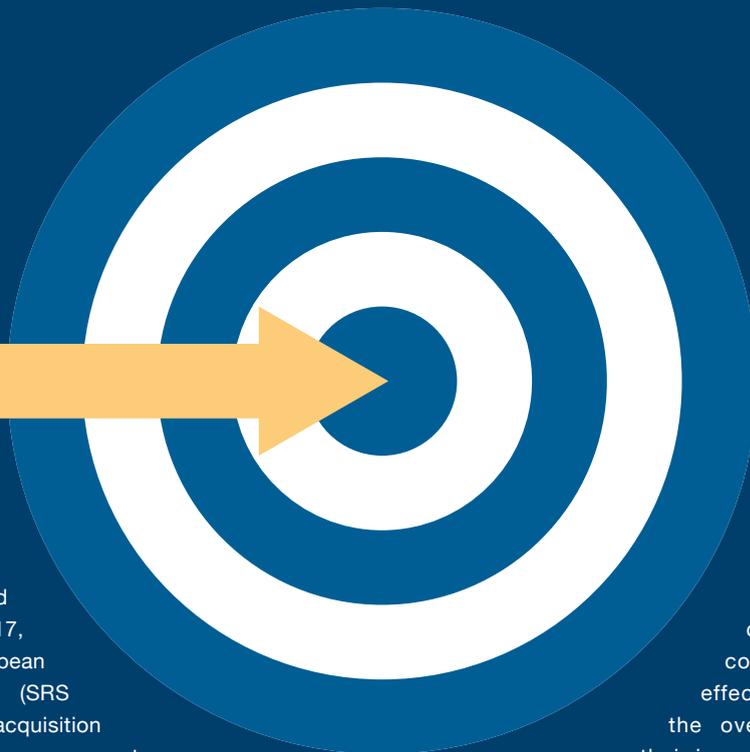




A different approach

**Strategic Risk
Solution's head
of governance
Mary McMorrow
discusses the
firm's specialised
captive governance
services offering**

Set against a backdrop of new, emerging risks and increasing regulatory scrutiny, it has become more important than ever that companies adopt an approach that places governance at the heart of positive captive ownership. As the world's leading independent captive consultant and manager, SRS has worked hard to respond to those demands by offering a tailored approach to governance risk and compliance (GRC) services that supports clients in implementing the robust governance framework now essential.



While headquartered in the US, Strategic Risk Solutions (SRS) expanded into Europe in 2017, establishing its European headquarters in Ireland (SRS Europe), followed by the acquisition of a regulated insurance management company in Malta.

As with their highly regarded US network, SRS Europe has deliberately focused on the provision of the highest standard of client services, both domestically and across Europe, recently announcing branch establishments in Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland.

As Mary McMorrow, SRS Europe’s head of governance explains: “We have set a conscious strategy to operate a lean and agile business model and become the premier level firm across Europe.”

McMorrow said that this strategy is differentiated by SRS’s captive

management plus servicing approach, comprising three core service components:

- Delivering outstanding service in our core captive management services
- Helping our clients succeed through the provision of value-added strategic and technical consulting services
- Providing depth of expertise through the hiring and retention of experienced staff

She explained: “We believe in consulting with clients to help them develop GRC best practices on an

individual basis that will serve as a platform to build their companies and offer assurance to clients that they not only fully comply with the regulations, but effectively and efficiently improve the oversight and governance of their insurance organisations.”

“We understand the importance of good corporate governance but are also mindful of the challenges faced by clients in meeting their regulatory requirements.”

“In addition to the Solvency II regulations, captives must adhere to the corporate governance codes, laws and other regulatory requirements of their respective domiciles.”

As McMorrow continues: “While recognising the need for proportionality in their application to captives, these regulations as they apply to commercial insurers can act as a source of best practices to captives in their own corporate governance.”

She noted that there are numerous benefits in establishing a robust corporate governance framework that is proportionate to the activities of captives, which include:

- Promotes ethical behaviour/culture
- Acts as a risk mitigation tool in itself
- Enables companies to achieve goals and prevents conflicts
- Results in board and other governance bodies' key responsibilities being clearly outlined

SRS offers a comprehensive suite of bespoke GRC services to the captive and general insurance markets, including:

Development of an effective risk management system:

- Define and document the risk appetite framework
- Establish a risk register for the company
- Develop a suite of policies and procedures as required under Solvency II and operational policies and procedures
- Design and embed the own risk and solvency assessment process and report
- Develop a solvency and financial condition report (SFCR) and regular supervisory report (RSR) for the company
- Develop internal control and compliance monitoring schedule

Act as compliance function/provide compliance support:

- Identify and assess compliance risk and develop a suitable compliance plan, monitor and report on compliance performance

Act as appointed internal audit function:

- Develop an internal audit charter
- Perform the relevant audit fieldwork
- Deliver an internal audit report to the board which provides an independent, objective and critical assessment of the design and effectiveness of the company's internal controls and governance system

Independent governance review:

- Independent review of the existing governance system
- Provide the company with an objective and critical assessment of the design, effectiveness and conformity of the company's governance system including recommendations for enhancing the same

Board effectiveness guidance:

- Extensive review of the effectiveness of the board and report to the board with critical assessment thereof including recommendations on optimising effectiveness
- Deliver tailored training programmes on board performance, effectiveness and corporate governance with a focus on effective oversight of Solvency II regulatory reporting

David Lewis, managing director of SRS Europe agrees: "Our view is that governance and compliance is not only essential but can really help captive owners drive the best value

from their captive strategy. At a time when parent boards are scrutinising return on investment, we feel that the SRS approach is ideal to help risk managers not only justify the value of their captive internally but help place that vehicle at the very heart of group strategy. Our captive management plus approach, together with our unique strategic advisory capabilities, presents us with the ideal foundation from which to really support our client's strategic objectives."

"Now that SRS has established a firm base in Europe, it's our intention to bring a new dimension to the way that clients utilise, and manage, their captive vehicles. With the platform offered by McMorrow and her team in delivering a genuinely different approach to governance, we are confident that captive owners across Europe will appreciate having a new choice for their captive services and we look forward to being of service." ■



Mary McMorrow
Head of governance
Strategic Risk Solutions



Strategic Risk Solutions *The World's Leading Independent Captive Manager*

SRS Europe is changing the Face of European Captive Management

- Specialist focus on captive insurance management and consultancy... **It's all we do**
- Offering impartial advice and bespoke solutions without conflicting internal vested interests... **It's how we do it**
- Driven by client service excellence underpinned by flexible, innovative and solid delivery... **It's focused on you**

Our Services

- Captive management
- Feasibility studies
- Program management and underwriting services
- Governance, risk & compliance consulting
- Strategic reviews

European Operations

- Ireland
- Liechtenstein
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Sweden
- Switzerland

Find out why over 500 captive clients trust SRS

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