

DISTRIBUTOR PRODUCT GUIDE

Machinery Options

- This guide is for intermediary reference only.
- It doesn't contain the full terms and conditions of the contract of insurance.
- You can find more information about the product within the [policy overview](#).
- Full terms and conditions are within the policy documents; you can request to have a copy of these.

Product design

We've provided Machinery Options insurance for over 25 years and work with industry experts such as, the Association of British Insurers (ABI) and the British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers Association (BEAMA), in addition to our global partners across the Allianz Group. We draw upon this experience and insight, as well as customer research to ensure our products continue to add value and meet the evolving needs of our engineering customers.

Machinery Options is a Commercial Lines General Insurance and inspection product designed for businesses that want insurance protection for their machinery along with an inspection service.

The product is designed to provide the customer value by offering them the flexibility to buy a combination of covers that meets their specific needs. The policy overview provides details of the covers available.

Target market

Our target market for Machinery Options is spread across a wide range of trades and industries including:

- all manufacturing industries (excluding chemical/petrochemical works, paper mills, plastics, recycling/waste, refineries and similar.)
- retail, wholesale, warehousing, storage and transport

- property owners, financial services and service industries
- public administration, national/local government and public utilities
- health care and hospitals
- leisure/sporting/cultural centres and industries and hotels
- universities/colleges/schools and educational centres.

There are some trades that we are happy to underwrite with the application of additional or non-standard terms, these include:

- chemical/petrochemical works/refineries
- farming/horticulture
- foundries, rolling mills, steelworks and extruders
- paper mills
- plastic injection moulders/extruders/bag makers and stevedores.

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This product isn't suitable for:

- experimental or prototype plant
- chimneys in isolation or emission stacks and similar structures
- obsolete plant
- plant situated offshore
- plant situated underground
- power presses
- tanks in isolation
- wind turbines/wind farms
- a person acting for purposes outside their trade, business or profession
- non-going concerns or the retired.

Potential conflicts

The policyholder could be conflicted if they wish to make lots of small claims, just above the excess limit, as this may impact the terms offered at subsequent renewals.

Product value assessment

Our September 2023 assessment has concluded that our Machinery Options Product, including its charging and distribution structure, is compatible with the needs, objectives and characteristics of the target market and provides fair value.

Our product value assessment is based on the premium we charge for the cover and the services we provide. In addition to the identified needs, characteristics (including vulnerabilities) and objectives of the target market we take a wide range of other factors into consideration, such as historical and expected claims frequencies, incurred and projected claims costs, plus scenario analysis along with customer feedback.

We also consider how the intended value of the product may be affected by its distribution with the conclusion of our product value assessment based upon our distribution strategy as set out below and that:

- The level of commission is in line with market proximate commission levels and is not being increased from what we have agreed with the placing distributor for the policy. Please refer to your commission schedule and traded commissions for your own distribution / value assessment purposes
- Where distributors operate on a fee-in-lieu (of commission) basis, such fees are expected to be proportionately lower than the equivalent commission would be for that same policy

- Administration fees or any other additional fees are only levied where the commission income is not sufficient to cover any of those respective costs and is commensurate with the activities undertaken
- Our product does not form part of a packaged offering
- Ancillary products (including premium finance arranged by the distributor) are only being offered where requested by the customer and when appropriate to their demands and needs. The total charge to the customer for any ancillary products, and any directly related remuneration (whether commission or fee) is commensurate with the benefit / services provided and activities undertaken
- No other additional charges or remuneration are being received in connection with the distribution of our product other than referenced above or received from us
- All and any parties in the distribution arrangement are able to confirm that their remuneration is consistent with their regulatory obligations.

Distribution strategy

Our Machinery Options product has been designed for distribution by insurance distributors that hold commercial agency facilities with us, and that perform selling, advising and arranging activities in relation to the policy directly with the customer. They must have the appropriate level of understanding of the risks and exposures faced by their customer in the operation of their business.

Where we've granted permission for the distribution of our products to involve another, or an additional, party in the distribution arrangement, this is restricted to be no more than one level beyond the distributor placing the business with us, and in addition to the product value assessment details outlined above applying that:

- The additional parties being relevant and appropriate in terms of their involvement, knowledge and regulatory status
- Any split or sharing of commission and/or the remuneration applicable to each party being proportionate to the activities undertaken by each party
- Administration fees not being applied by more than one party in the distribution chain.

Product Value Feedback

If you have any concerns about an Allianz Commercial product not delivering its intended value, including in relation to potential adverse customer or product value impacts from the distribution arrangement, please notify us of the relevant details by sending an email to:

regulatory.standards@allianz.co.uk