

MARKEL CORP  
Form 8-K  
January 27, 2005

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# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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## FORM 8-K

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CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to section 13 or 15(d) of  
The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: January 26, 2005

(Date of earliest event reported)

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## Markel Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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Virginia  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

001-15811  
(Commission File Number)

54-1959284  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

4521 Highwoods Parkway  
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060-6148

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(804) 747-0136

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

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(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- .. Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - .. Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - .. Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.**

On January 26, 2005, Markel Corporation issued a press release announcing fourth quarter and year-end 2004 financial results. A copy of this press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(a) None

(b) None

(c) Exhibit

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Description</u> |
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| 99.1 | Press release issued January 26, 2005. |
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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

MARKEL CORPORATION

Date: January 26, 2005

By: /s/ Darrell D. Martin  
Name: Darrell D. Martin  
Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

**EXHIBIT INDEX**

Exhibit 99.1 Press release issued January 26, 2005