## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

### FORM 8-K

### **CURRENT REPORT**

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

Date of Report: July 28, 2004

(Date of earliest event reported)

# **Markel Corporation**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Virginia (State or other jurisdiction 001-15811

54-1959284

of incorporation or organization)

(Commission File Number)

(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)

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

ITEM 7.	FINANCIAL STATEMENT	S AND EXHIBITS.
(a) None		
(b) None		
(c) Exhibit		
	No. Descripti	on
!	99.1 Press rel	ease issued July 28, 2004.
ITEM 12.	RESULTS OF OPERATIO	NS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.
On July 28 Exhibit 99.	, 2004, Markel issued a press re 1.	lease announcing second quarter 2004 financial results. A copy of this press release is furnished as
		SIGNATURE
	the requirements of the Securit d thereunto duly authorized.	ies Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the
		MARKEL CORPORATION
Date: July	28, 2004	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 July 28, 2004