

Holiday 2017 Newsletter



Dear Members and Supporters,

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New Members

Please welcome the following contractors who made the decision to "COME ON BOARD" the Union Construction Workers' Compensation Program (UCWCP):

Red Cedar Steel Erectors, Inc. | November 1, 2017

Incor Installation, LLC | December 1, 2017

WELCOME ABOARD!

You can see our current lists by clicking on the following links:

[361 Participating Contractors](#)

[34 Sponsoring Organizations](#)

[29 Sponsoring Insurance Providers](#)

Quote to Note

"As an employer association representative I promote the interests of union contractors in the legislative and labor-force arenas. This gave me the unique opportunity to draft and lobby for the 1995 legislation enabling the creation of the Union Construction Workers' Compensation Program (UCWCP), and to serve as a management trustee on its board since 2005. It is gratifying to see a radical idea develop into a program that receives

accolades from employers and their associations, union members and their leaders, insurance carriers and insurance agents. The credit for the UCWCP's existence belongs to the early 'founders'-the few employers and union leaders who agreed to trust each other in the shared goal of serving the interests of those most impacted by work-related injuries: the employee and the employer."

- **Gary Thaden, Government Affairs Director**
Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association
Management Trustee, UCWCP

To review or print other quotes from our participants please click on the following links:

[Contractor Testimonials](#)

[Union Leader and Member Testimonials](#)

[Insurance Agent and Carrier Testimonials](#)

Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) Update

EPO Nominations and Review Committee (ENRC): Expanded

The Program relies on a volunteer committee (the ENRC) of workers' compensation medical and rehabilitation professionals to provide the UCWCP with the most current information about physician and clinic practices, and any problems with care delivery to our participants. We recently expanded membership in the ENRC to include senior WC claim professionals, and insurance carriers' in-house medical case managers in order to increase the depth and breadth of information to better serve our participants.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEER ENRC MEMBERS FOR YOUR SERVICE TO THE UCWCP

New Specialty: General Surgeons

At the request of our participants, General Surgeons have been added to our Specialty Provider listing. These surgeons understand the importance of providing consistent work restrictions and following WC treatment parameters while providing the highest standard of care. Services include hernia repair, abdominal and vascular surgery and infection management.

Reviewed, Expanded & Updated: Pain Management Specialists

Last month our EPO Nominations and Review Committee (ENRC) reviewed pain management providers, with an emphasis on doctors and clinics using an interdisciplinary approach to treating chronic pain with the goal of reducing opioid medications. Many of these providers use active rehabilitation, psychology, alternative medicine services and patient education to improve vocational functioning and the overall quality of life for our participants. Updates to our Pain Management listing will be made shortly.

[Visit the Updated EPO Network Directory!](#)

New Digital Tools!

Did you know our website is mobile friendly? We are creating new digital tools for our customers to use whether they are in the office or on the jobsite. You can access all of our information from your desk top, smart phone, or tablet. [Visit our website](#) to get access to our newest digital tools, the [Primary Physician Search Tutorial](#) or our [EPO Designated Physician Sign Template](#). Keep checking our website as additional tools are released through 2018!

Incident Only Filings Can Help in Resolving Disputes

A Laborer strained his back lifting materials on the job. An "incident only" report was sent to the insurer, as no medical care was needed. Eventually his symptoms worsened and the employer sent him to an Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) physician for medical treatment. The insurer accepted the claim because of the documentation provided by the employer.

The employee was later referred to an orthopedic back specialist who recommended surgery. The insurer contacted the Dispute Resolution Facilitator to request a neutral physician's opinion regarding the surgery. A Dispute Resolution Examination (DRE) was expedited due to the surgery recommendation. Medical records and the Facilitator's cover letter explaining the issues were provided to the neutral physician within days.

The neutral examiner's report was issued two weeks later, with the specialist also recommending surgery. The insurer immediately approved the request and following the successful surgery the employer provided their employee with union work within his restrictions at full scale and benefits.

Trustees in Transition

Farewell Michael Cook! Mike is retiring as President/Secretary-Treasurer of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local Union 1 MN/ND on January 31, 2018. He served the Bricklayers for 21 years and as a UCWCP trustee for the last four years. Thank you Mike for your service to our industry!

Welcome Douglas Schroeder! Doug is succeeding Mike as the President/Secretary-Treasurer of the Bricklayers as well as a trustee on our board. Doug was hired as a Business Agent in 2006 and began serving as Executive Vice President in 2014. He has been a trustee on the local's pension, vacation, and apprenticeship funds for many years. He also served on the Otsego City Council and is an avid volunteer in his community. He lives in Otsego with his wife, and has 2 grown children.

As we come to the end of our 20th year of operations, THANK YOU for the support and confidence you have placed in us to continue our mission: "Making Workers' Compensation Work Right for Minnesota's Unionized Construction Industry".

May You and Yours Enjoy Blessings in the New Year,



Kevin Gregerson, Program Administrator

Making Work Comp Work Right

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