



Dear Members and Supporters,

NEW MEMBERS

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

**A J Lysne Contracting Corporation (effective January 1, 2015)
(Returning Contractor)**

**Steenburg-Watrud Construction, LLC (effective January 1,
2015)(Returning Contractor)**

Thor Construction, Inc. (effective January 1, 2015)

Elliott Contracting Corporation (effective February 1, 2015)

New Look Contracting, Inc. (effective February 1, 2015)

Penn Contracting, Inc. (effective February 1, 2015)

WELCOME ABOARD!

You can see our current list of Participating Contractors by clicking on the following link:
http://www.ucwcp.com/docs/Employer_Participants.pdf

You can see our current list of Sponsoring Organizations (labor & management) by clicking on the following link:
http://www.ucwcp.com/docs/Sponsoring_Organizations.pdf

You can see our current list of Sponsoring Insurance Providers by clicking on the following link:

QUOTE TO NOTE

"Knutson Construction joined the UCWCP in 2011 and we are very pleased with the services provided. Two components of the program have been extremely beneficial. First, the Exclusive Provider Network has allowed us to direct injured employees to 'best in class' physicians who are familiar with workers' compensation. This has created consistently better outcomes for our employees and lowered costs for our company. Second, the "Intervention" component of the dispute resolution system has been invaluable. When an employee has concerns about their claim which I can't resolve or that they don't feel comfortable discussing with me, I direct them to the UCWCP's Facilitator. As a neutral professional, the Facilitator does an exceptional job of explaining how the process works and has been able to either reassure the individual or get any problem resolved quickly. Typically, one conversation with the Facilitator is all it takes to put the focus back on a full recovery and return to work. I highly recommend the program to any union contractor."

**- Mike Nielsen, Safety Director
Knutson Construction
Member since June 2011**

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

Contractors:

<http://www.ucwcp.com/docs/Employer%20Member%20Testimonials.pdf>

Union Leaders and Members:

<http://www.ucwcp.com/docs/Union%20Member%20Testimonials.pdf>

Insurance Agents and Carriers:

<http://www.ucwcp.com/docs/Agent-Insurer%20Testimonials.pdf>

THE QUESTION: DID WORK AGGRAVATE INJURY FROM OLD CAR ACCIDENT?

A laborer injured his low back in a motor vehicle accident that was not related to his work. He received non-surgical treatment for an extended period of time. The injury disabled him from working, but after recovering he returned to his full time, full duty job.

His duties included preparing sites for laying pipe. He continued to do this type of work for over a year following the accident. While at work he was starting a tamper when he pulled and felt a painful strain in his low back. He reported this incident to his employer who directed him to receive care within the program's Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO). Although the initial medical opinion was that this injury was an aggravation of the pre-existing condition that resulted from the car accident, the insurer requested

that a dispute resolution examination (DRE) be performed by a neutral doctor from the UCWCP panel.

The unrepresented parties cooperated with the facilitator in scheduling the appointment and providing all the medical records from both incidents. The doctor's report concluded that the worker had a pre-existing back condition, but that it was aggravated when he pulled on the tamper. Further conservative treatment was also recommended and light duty restrictions were provided in the report. The insurer accepted liability for the aggravation, the employer arranged for light duty work, and after several weeks of treatment with the EPO doctor the employee was returned to his full duty job making scale wages and benefits.

2014 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- No increase in the payroll multiplier (construction field payroll X .0013) used to calculate annual employer subscription fees for July 2014 - June 2015, with a modest increase in the minimum fee to \$1,050 and the maximum fee to \$8,450.
- Ended 2014 with 329 contractor members employing an average of 17,305 trades' people earning \$859 million in annual field payroll-- an increase of \$71 million from the end of 2013.
- As a 501 C (9) non-profit Labor-Management Trust, the UCWCP received the highest-level opinion on our audited financial statements from the Trust's Auditor.
- Brought web site administration in-house with Wilson-McShane staff. Built an entirely new web site with enhanced search features for our medical provider network. Added home-page testimonials from contractors, labor and insurers; hot-links to frequently used documents, program enrollment forms and instructions.
- Brought graphic design in-house with Wilson-McShane staff. Redesigned folders, folder inserts and brochures while continuing to use union print shops for final production.
- The Program's Rules and Procedures were extensively reviewed by Fund Counsel, and updated to ensure consistency with statutory administrative procedures and regulations.
- The EPO Nominations and Review Committee reviewed three practice areas: Pain Management; Occupational Medicine; and Sports/Family Practice. The feedback identified the most appropriate doctors for the EPO and updated information about clinic services.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The contractor training event on January 21, 2015 went very well and those attending the session gained further insights in using the program's services to reduce the negative impact of work injuries on their company and union workers. The Occupational Medicine Specialist's presentation on return to work planning generated some good discussion on a challenging topic.

The next training event for contractors is currently scheduled for April 22nd at 9:00 am here in Bloomington. Mark your calendars so you can join us!

With a new year begun, the staff of the UCWCP thanks you for supporting our mission: "Making Workers' Compensation Work Right for Minnesota's Unionized Construction Industry".

With warm regards during these chilly winter months,

Kevin Gregerson

Program Administrator



MAKING WORK COMP WORK RIGHT

www.ucwcp.com