

Winter 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):

GR Mechanical Plumbing & Heating, Inc. | January 1, 2017

RJ Mechanical, Inc. | January 1, 2017

Empirehouse, Inc. | February 1, 2017

Schurcon Companies, Inc. | February 1, 2017

WELCOME ABOARD!

You can see our current list of Participating Contractors by clicking on the following link:

[Participating Contractors](#)

You can see our current list of Sponsoring Organizations (labor and management) by clicking on the following link:

[Sponsoring Organizations](#)

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

[Sponsoring Insurance Providers](#)

Quote to Note

"Our company has more than a decade of experience with the Union Construction Workers' Compensation Program (UCWCP). Properly using the Occupational Medicine doctors within the Exclusive Provider Organization avoids lost time claims to the benefit of contractors and injured employees alike. The UCWCP is an important tool in managing risk. The staff makes sure that our company, the insurer and our employees communicate and understand what must be done when an injury happens."

-Marie Egger, Claims Manager, Q3 Contracting, Inc., Member since 2004

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

[Contractor Testimonials](#)

[Union Leader and Member Testimonials](#)

[Insurance Agents and Carrier Testimonials](#)

An Apprentice Learns About "Best In Class" Program Doctors

A sheet metal apprentice got his thumbs pinched in a lift. He was taken by ambulance to receive emergency treatment. The adjuster accepted the claim and assigned a program Qualified Rehabilitation Consultant (QRC) to assist with the follow-up care within the program's Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO)-a network of 'best in class' physicians which all parties are required to use for medical care. The injured worker resisted going to the appointment set up by the QRC because he was told "he could go to the doctor of his choice".

A UCWCP facilitator called him to explain the purpose of the EPO and his ability to select any doctor within the network, but that the QRC had made arrangements for treatment by a hand specialist on an expedited appointment. The injured worker agreed to get the medical treatment within the EPO. The treatment resulted in a very good outcome, and the apprentice returned to his pre-injury job.

2016 Program Highlights

- Ended the year with 346 members employing 20,700 trades-people earning annual field payroll of \$1.14 billion - an increase of \$197 million
- **No increase** to the payroll multiplier used to calculate employer subscription fees or to the maximum fee (\$8,450); and a **decrease** to the minimum fee (\$960)

- 99% of benefit claim disputes were resolved at the first step: Facilitation
 - A Communications Consultant was retained to evaluate all methods and types of Program communications, recommendations were made in five areas: website redesign and analytics; electronic newsletters, emails and surveys; USPS mailings (stand-alone, inserts, themed); presentations, video and webinar training tools; and testimonials, case studies and claim data comparisons
 - The ucwcp.com website: home page, navigation displays, user registration and web traffic analytics were updated, added or modified
 - Electronic newsletters and email surveys were reformatted, embedded with links, statistics gathered and evaluated for usefulness to members
 - All Primary Care clinics (Occupational Medicine and Family Practice) were contacted to obtain multiple data elements crucial for our participants in receiving appropriate and timely care
 - 'Find a Doctor' website search functions were simplified; data-fields were added; and a 'radius from location' mapping function was created
 - Effective April 1, West Bend Mutual Insurance was added as a Sponsoring Insurance Provider, offering a 5% premium credit to our members
 - As a 501 C (9) non-profit Labor-Management Trust, the UCWCP is audited annually. Once again, we received the highest-level opinion on our audited financial statements from the outside auditor.
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Farewell to a Founding Trustee

Dave Semerad, recently retiring CEO of the A.G.C. of MN, has served as a management trustee since the program began back in 1997. Dave was instrumental in convincing contractors, association executives, insurance brokers and labor leaders to support the idea of a collectively-bargained alternative to the state-run workers' compensation system. During his time on the Board Dave served on multiple committees to oversee the development of our unique criteria for providing dispute resolution services, along with vocational rehabilitation and medical treatment networks.

Thank you Dave, for over 20 years of service to this grand adventure-labor and management providing workers' compensation benefits serving their mutual interests.

Welcome to our newest Management Trustee

Tim Worke, recently named CEO of the A.G.C. of MN, began serving as a management trustee this year. Tim has been with the AGC since 2003, most recently as Director of Highway & Transportation. He also serves as a management trustee for the MN Cement Masons Health & Pension Funds. Tim is married with two children and grandchildren and enjoys running, classic cars and music trivia.

As we complete our 20th year of operations, the staff of the UCWCP thanks you for supporting our mission: "Making Workers' Compensation Work Right for Minnesota's Unionized Construction Industry".

Wishing you health and safety in the year ahead,



Kevin Gregerson
Program Administrator
Making Work Comp Work Right

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