

# Work Comp Connection



March 2013 Newsletter

Division of Workers Compensation:  
Serving Kansas for more than 100 years

## Updates on IAIABC EDI Release 3 Standards

Kansas Workers Compensation will mandate the use of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Release 3 Standards beginning in April.

At implementation, all insurance carriers, group pools and self insurers will be required to use EDI to file both First Reports of Injury (FROI) and Subsequent Reports of Injury (SROI) using the Release 3 Standards.

Information has been added at [www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/edinews.aspx](http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/edinews.aspx) detailing the tiered implementation approach to amendment K.A.R. 51-9-17 including the trading partner and production process. The EDI vendor list has also been updated at [www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/EDISTaff.aspx](http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/EDISTaff.aspx).

The site also provides updates to EDI frequently asked questions and the Trading Partner testing process. EDI staff anticipates in-person training will be offered in May or June in Overland Park. Continue to read this newsletter for additional details.

## Coverage and Compliance: Behind the Scenes

The Compliance unit, with a staff of three employees, ensures that all businesses in Kansas are in compliance with and aware of their responsibilities regarding the Workers Compensation Act. The unit administers and enforces mandated proof of coverage and compliance. Compliance works closely with five other staff members to ensure that all of the accident reports are accurately received in regard to the reporting requirements of First Reports of Injury.

In fiscal year 2012 the Compliance unit researched approximately 36,258 employers and contacted 1,021 businesses. Approximately 186 of those businesses were referred to the Fraud unit for further investigation and possible prosecution. Investigations by the Compliance unit led to 85 businesses obtaining coverage and 473 businesses responded with proof of coverage or an explanation why the employer was not subject to Workers Compensation requirements. The Division was contacted by 1,133 businesses with renewed certificates showing current coverage.

Accident reports are received by an additional group of five staff members who ensure that all accident reports are properly processed and checked for complete information. All ineligible, incomplete or unverifiable reports are sent back to the employer for correction. Complete and accurate reports are coded and keyed into the Web-based database system in a timely fashion.

Carrier and employer information is gathered from completed accident reports which aid in populating and maintaining employer carrier information in the Web-based database system. Problem reports with incomplete employer or carrier information are researched and resolved immediately.

Social Security numbers on new and existing claimants sent through Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) and on paper

## New Law Book Available Now

Purchase for \$17.50 at:  
[www.dol.ks.gov/Files/PDF/KWC300.pdf](http://www.dol.ks.gov/Files/PDF/KWC300.pdf)

Includes the new Workers Compensation Act of 2011 and all regulations.

reports are verified through the Social Security Administration. After verification their names and addresses are updated in the database. The EDI reports and election forms are also researched for correct information. Statistics used in the annual statistical reports are developed from information in the accident reports.

## Who's Working For You?



Nancy Wessel is Administrator for the Division's Coverage and Compliance unit. Nancy began working at the Kansas Department of Labor in 1999 and has worked in Coverage and Compliance since 2000. She is the first point of contact for investigation on employers who may be noncompliant. Nancy makes sure that companies file records of workers compensation policies timely and in accordance with the statute. She also refers cases of noncompliance to the Assistant Attorney General for Workers Compensation fraud and for possible prosecution.

Nancy manages a staff of seven who have the responsibility for maintaining the policy database, employer files and do data entry for paper First Reports of Injury into the workers compensation system. Nancy is a direct contact for access to Division information requested by the National Council on Compensation Insurance. She is a member of the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC).

## Tips

Ombudsman services are available to aid injured workers, employers and insurance professionals with claims information and problems arising from job related injuries and illnesses.

Ombudsmen act in an impartial manner and can provide general information about current issues with the workers compensation system. The Ombudsman section can also assist with specific issues regarding workers compensation claims. Reach the Ombudsmen by calling (785) 296-4000, toll free (800) 332-0353 or visiting the website at [www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/ombuds.aspx](http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/ombuds.aspx).

**Email**  
**Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov**  
**to receive seminar announcements**

## What's Happening in the 2013 Seminar's Legal Track?

Attorneys and others attending the 39th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar will find a variety of legal topics being discussed during afternoon breakout sessions at the Hyatt Regency Wichita on August 6 & 7.

Day One sessions will highlight the following presentations: *The Impact of Affordable Health Care, ADA and Workers Compensation*, presented by Kim Seten; *Third Party Claims/Liens*, presented by Donald Vasos; and *Social Security Disability/Offsets & Private Short Term, Long Term Disability*, presented by Michael Snider and Talia Ravis. Day Two sessions will include: *Updates on Appellate and Board Cases*, presented by Judge John Carpinelli, Jan Fisher and Dallas Rakestraw; *Ethics I*, presented by LJ Leatherman; and *Ethics II*, presented by Steve Marsh. The following management classes are being submitted for Continuing Education: *Basic Workers Compensation* and *Advanced Workers Compensation*, presented by Diane Jordan on Day One; and *2014 Changes*

*in the Medical Fee Schedule*, presented by Anne Haught and Dr. Terry Tracy on Day Two.

Attendees can look forward to 720 minutes of education-based learning. Final award and credit amounts will be in the registration form. Watch for registration online at [www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx](http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx) in May.

**39th Annual**  
**WORKERS COMPENSATION SEMINAR**

Greetings from  
**WICHITA**  
KANSAS

**August 6 & 7, 2013**  
Hyatt Regency Wichita

For more information: [www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx](http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx)

## DOWNLOAD HANDOUTS

**Available July 23 to 4 p.m. August 23**

Staff unable to assist after 4 p.m. Aug. 2 to 1 p.m. Aug. 8