

Work Comp Connection



March 2015 Newsletter

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

Follow Planning on the New DigiComp Website

The Division's digitization project now has a name – DigiComp – and a website. This project will create a web-based system for interacting with the Division including electronic data interchange for claims and policy reporting, dispute workflows, document management, alternative dispute resolution processes and attorney electronic transactions and communications.

Visit the [DigiComp](#) site for news, an overview, timeline and key staff involved in the project.



Training Set for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Trading Partners

The Division's Technology and Statistics Unit will conduct free training for existing trading partners on Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Monday, April 13, in Topeka and Monday, May 18, in Bonner Springs, Kan.

The training will include an overview of documentation, technical versus business requirements, compliance, common errors and answers to frequently asked questions.

Electronic preregistration was sent to existing trading partners in February. If you are an existing trading partner and you did not receive an invitation to register, please contact Jessica Webb at Jessica.Webb@dol.ks.gov.

2014 Annual Statistical Report

The Workers Compensation [40th Annual Statistical Report](#), for Fiscal Year 2014, is now available on the Division's *Forms and Publications* page. Some highlights from that report include: the division processed 13,502 applications for hearings; the business section issued 144 self-insurance permits to employers; the compliance section established 301 employer contacts; the fraud and abuse unit collected more than \$324,842 in restitution and civil penalties; the ombudsman section answered information requests from 19,120 parties; and the research unit responded to more than 43,000 requests for workers compensation histories. To find out more contact: Robert.Soria@dol.ks.gov.



Visit the 2015 Gold Sponsors on the [Seminar's website](#)

K-WC 1101-A Accident Report Permanently Removed from Website

The K-WC 1101-A *Accident Report* has been removed from the KDOL Workers Compensation website. As of Dec. 31, 2013, electronic reporting of accidents to the Division became mandatory for all reporting entities (carriers, third party administrators, group-funded self-insured pools and self-insured employers), except for a few entities granted an extension for extenuating circumstances. The Division no longer accepts the K-WC 1101-A.

Annual Assessments

The Business and Self-insurance Unit within the Operations section of the Division is responsible for the taxing function of levying assessments. An assessment is a tax levied by the Division every year on each insurance carrier writing workers' compensation insurance, self-insured employer and group-funded workers' compensation pools (similar to a group of smaller employers that collectively self-insure) in Kansas. The revenue raised by the assessments funds the Division's operations, services and salaries for all employees.

The law allows the Division of Workers Compensation to levy up to three percent of any carrier, pool or self-insured's reported paid losses from the previous calendar year. Losses refer to any medical, indemnity benefits and other costs associated with workers' compensation claims. By March of each year, all reported losses are calculated and reported to the Director of Workers Compensation to calculate an exact assessment levy percentage and prepare a budget for the Division for the next fiscal year.

The Division provides the reported losses by employer to the Kansas Insurance Department (KID). KID can also charge an assessment to these employers, as needed, annually to replenish the workers compensation fund, also known as the workers' compensation second-injury fund. To find out more contact: workerscomp@dol.ks.gov.

SE HABLA
ESPAÑOL



Se Habla Español

Rachel Griego and Rosalio Cardona work as Ombudsmen/Claims Advisors and are the Division's Spanish interpreters. Rachel provides claims information about job-related injuries and illnesses to claimants, employers, attorneys physicians and insurance carriers and agents.

Rosalio is the point of contact for describing death benefits to those who have lost family members in job-related accidents. He also helps with the written translation of agency materials into Spanish and assists claimants, employers, attorneys, physicians and insurance agents with information about job-related injuries and illnesses.

To find out more contact WC@dol.ks.gov.

41st Annual
WORKERS COMPENSATION SEMINAR
Overland Park
Convention Center
September 29 & 30, 2015
Kansas
Department of Labor
Not just ANY Workers Compensation Seminar...the smart choice for trusted information!

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Agenda Changes Planned for 2015 Seminar

The Division plans to discontinue the 90-minute time blocks previously used for general sessions and replace them with 60-minute sessions on both days one and two. The action will change the number of general sessions from four to six and increase the number of topics (and presenters) with broad appeal.

The 2015 seminar will also adjourn at 3:55 p.m. in response to attendees asking to avoid Overland Park's heavy 5 p.m. traffic. The planned changes will cause a slight decrease in the amount of continuing education credits offered.

No plans have been made to increase the cost of attendance. Send comments and questions to Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov.