

The Incident Report

...a monthly newsletter from Districts Mutual Insurance

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THE DEC PAGE [What About TRIA?]...By STEVEN STOEGER-MOORE, EXECUTIVE VP - DMI

The post-9/11 environment resulted in the adoption (in 2002) of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA). This law requires insurers to offer coverage - in the event of an attack by foreign terrorists - for property losses, for the cost of worker compensations claims and for general liability. The Federal Government serves as "backstop" pledging to cover the insurer's cost for loss exceeding prescribed amounts. The current law is due to expire at the end of this calendar year.

TRIA was put in place for a 3-year period. Congress has viewed TRIA as a temporary measure that would allow the commercial insurance industry time to design and price terrorism coverage. The insurance industry has not fully embraced the idea of terrorism coverage without a Federal Government "backstop".

The Bush administration has not supported the continuance of TRIA in its current form. A scaled-down extension of the act for two (2) additional years has the administration's support - however general liability coverage is excluded. Various groups representing higher education continue to urge lawmakers to retain general liability in any extension. Several versions of an extension are being actively discussed. There is the potential for an extension before the end of this congressional session.

Colleges can be a potential target for terrorism. The open door policy and ease of access to the College environment makes the campus a "soft target". The Federal "backstop" has assisted Colleges in keeping terrorism coverage as affordable as practical. Without the Federal participation the cost of terrorism coverage is likely to skyrocket or available limits will be so low they will provide little in recovery. Colleges may need to examine how they do business and perhaps rethink the open and community environment that makes the College campus an inviting place.




Reminders, News, etc...


Waukesha County Technical College served as a test site for an Energy Savings Program under development by Hartford Steam Boiler. The program is assessing what benefits could be provided by HSB's engineering support to improve the facility's overall energy efficiency.

HSB was very impressed with the programs WCTC implemented to maintain the equipment and minimize the energy cost. HSB stated WCTC "could be considered a text book example of what facility maintenance should be like".

Thanks to the staff at WCTC for their time and support. Congratulations for the high quality of your operations.



From all of us at DMI - we wish you and yours all the best for this upcoming Holiday Season and New Year!



PERSONALLY

Natalie Feggestad - Blackhawk

My husband, Bob, and I have been married for 7 years. We have a 3-year old son, Jackson, a 2-year old daughter, Laurel, and a Himalayan cat, Rocky. If they all get along at the same time, we consider that to be a good day. Jackson is definitely going to be like his Dad and Laurel is definitely going to be her own person. We live in Edgerton as this used to be half way between my old job and Bob's job and we're too lazy to move now.

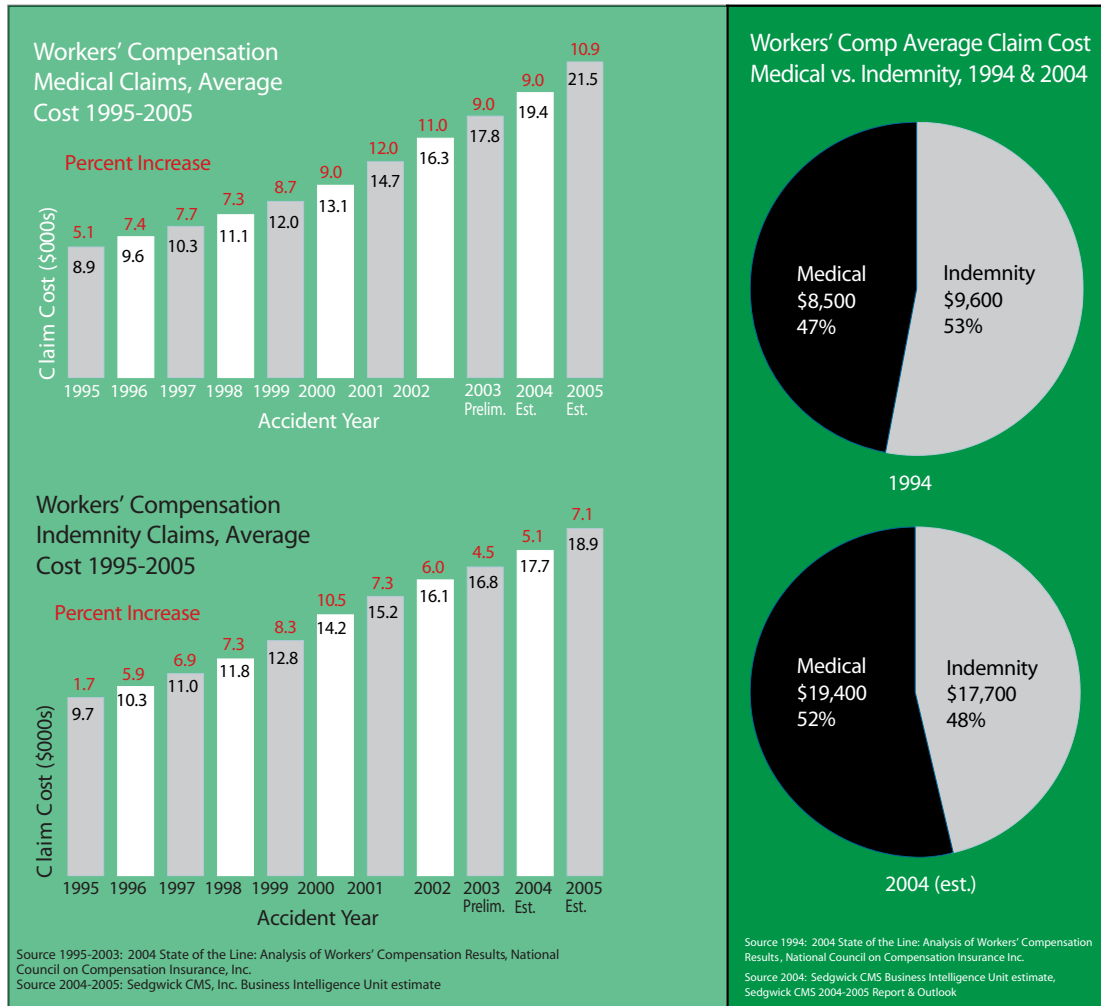
We love to travel and hope to be more adventurous as the kids get older. We are big Packer and Badger fans and luckily for Bob, I like watching football too. I spend as much of my free time playing with my kids as possible. When the kids are sleeping, I like to scrapbook or read.

I love the cooperative nature of the WTCS Colleges and feel strongly that other governmental entities in Wisconsin could learn a lot from the WTCS. I plan to get my Master's in Public Administration but haven't quite figured out how I am going to do that while working and raising a family.



Bright Ideas: The Growing Costs of Worker Compensation...

The greatest expense related to DMI premium costs is derived from worker compensation coverage. Likewise, the highest cost associated with claims are related to Worker Compensation losses. The following charts show the volatility of Worker Compensation claims industry-wide since 1995.



HOW TO BE MORE SAFE ON THE ROAD...

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety drivers using cell phones are 4 times more likely to be involved in a crash serious enough to cause injury to themselves. In the IIHS study, which analyzed the cell phone records of drivers treated in emergency rooms between 2002 and 2004, age and gender did not make a difference in the likelihood of a crash, and 75% of crashes occurred in clear weather. The report also noted that, contrary to public opinion, using a hands-free phone did not reduce the risk of injury.

CRAWLIN' THE WEB

To find out what can be done to contain the FLU and other useful information click here...

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