

Memorandum

To: CIRMA School District Advisory Committee
From: Jeff Rogers, Risk Control Consultant
Date: May 10, 2006
Subject: Tools for Schools
Indoor Air Quality – Boards of Education

Background

A recent Connecticut bill was passed making it mandatory that all school districts implement Tools for Schools or a similar program by January 1, 2008. In light of this, CIRMA conducted a survey of workers' compensation indoor air quality claims data for CIRMA school district members who are enrolled in the Tools for Schools program. The purpose of the survey is to monitor the impact that Tools for Schools has in the frequency and severity of indoor air quality incidents. The results of the survey are attached.

Tools for Schools is a preventative and proactive program developed by the Federal Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to monitor and improve indoor air quality (IAQ) in school buildings. Tools for Schools builds indoor air quality awareness throughout the school community, focuses on low-cost, common sense solutions, and encourages careful resource planning so that long-term indoor air quality issues can be remedied. In Connecticut, 535 schools in 88 districts currently use the Tools for Schools program in some form.

Observations

Approximately 63% of the boards of education have shown no change in the frequency and/or severity. The reasoning behind that statistic is that, for many of members there has not been a claim reported.

The information below is a breakdown on the data for frequency and severity of claims:

Frequency of Claims

The information below is a breakdown on the Frequency of Claims reported by the members. The frequency is compared from the prior implementation data to post implementation data.

- The overall frequency of claims has decreased by 41 claims, or 64%.
- 30 members or 63% of the survey group show no change in frequency.
- 15 of the 47 members, or 32%, that have shown a decrease in frequency. The average decrease for the 15 members is 3.6 claims.
- The total number of members out of 47 that have shown an increase is 2.

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Severity of Claims

- The severity of claims decreased by \$56,705, or 87%.
- The total number of members that have shown no decrease or increase is 29, or 62%.
- 14 members have shown a severity decrease.
- Only 4 members have shown an increase in severity.

Action Required:

CIRMA management seeks input from the School District Advisory Committee on the following action items:

- Formation of a sub-committee to promote Tools for Schools or similar programs for CIRMA members.
- Develop communication tools designed to guide and assist CIRMA members in the process of implementing a Tools for Schools program.

Attachment