



State Board of Workers' Compensation

July 12, 2007

Judge Carolyn Hall, Chairman
Judge Viola Drew, Director
Judge Warren Massey, Director
Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation
270 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

TO: Insurers, Self-Insurers and Claims Offices

We are very pleased to announce that the Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation is anticipating the launch of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) submission this coming fall. This letter is to let you know the current status of our project and what our expectations are for you, our customers.

Our Current Status

The Board implemented the Integrated Claims Management System (ICMS) in October, 2005. ICMS is an electronic document management system that directs the workflow of claim-related information throughout the organization.

This summer, the Board's internal users are testing and our vendor partner is finalizing the computer programs that support EDI. While changes are still being made, we are optimistic that we will be able to release these products to our external customers this fall. The Board will be conducting Pilot testing during 4th quarter 2007. If you are interested in being a part of the Pilot testing, we are accepting applications until September 14, 2007.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

ICMS will use Release 3 of the IAIABC's Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) standards as a way to enter First Reports of Injury (FROIs) as well as Subsequent Reports of Injury (SROIs). The FROIs include data from the WC-1 forms while the SROIs include data from WC-2, WC-3, and WC-4 forms.

EDI allows insurers and self-insurers to transmit large amounts of data electronically to ICMS. We believe EDI will provide a fast, cost-effective method of data transmission for our customers.

The Board has begun testing our EDI application with a few select customers. We will deploy the EDI application in three groups. There are limited spaces in each group. SBWC is asking each organization to submit their request for group assignment by November 1st, 2007.

Assuming that all goes well, we will follow the schedule below for implementing EDI at the Georgia SBWC:

Anticipated Schedule

SBWC acceptance testing complete
Partner Participation Sign-up Period
EDI Pilot Program complete
Deadline for Submitting Group Request
Board's Determination of Group Assignments

September 2007
September – November 2007
4th Quarter 2007
November 1, 2007
December 1, 2007

Group 1

Partner Agreement Completed

Testing

FROI and SROI submission

Entire group in production

Group 2

Partner Agreement Completed

Test

FROI and SROI submission

Entire group in production

Group 3

Partner Agreement Completed

Test

FROI and SROI submission

Entire group in production

1st Quarter 2008

1st Quarter 2008

1st Quarter 2008

2nd Quarter 2008

2nd Quarter 2008

3rd Quarter 2008

3rd Quarter 2008

3rd Quarter 2008

3rd Quarter 2008

4th Quarter 2008

4th Quarter 2008

1st Quarter 2009

Board's Objective

This schedule represents the Board's objective of having ALL FROIs and SROIs submitted electronically within eighteen months after successful completion of the 1st Pilot. This electronic submission can be either through EDI or individual web submission of documents. At the end of this eighteen month period, no more paper WC-1s, WC-2s, WC-3s, or WC-4s will be accepted by the Board. **Electronic filing for all Insurers and Self Insurers will be mandatory by 2nd Quarter 2009.**

Use of Consolidators

The Board expects many organizations will want to use consolidators, organizations that can accept data and pass it successfully via EDI transmissions to the Board. Consequently, we expect consolidators to be among the first approved to use EDI at SBWC. We will post on our web site (<http://sbwc.ga.gov>) those consolidators that are approved as EDI submitters.

Web Site Updates

We will post all information regarding Georgia's requirements and the EDI Release 3 standards on our web site (<http://sbwc.ga.gov>). Please check this site for updates. If you have questions, please send them to edi@sbwc.ga.gov.

We appreciate your help, patience, and enthusiasm as we implement this exciting new system.

Warm Regards,

Carolyn C. Hall/s.

Carolyn C. Hall, Chairman
Georgia State Board of Workers' Compensation

cc: Stan Carter, SBWC Executive Director
SBWC Division Directors