

## Spring 2018 Newsletter



Dear Members and Supporters,

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### New Members

Please welcome the following contractors who made the decision to join the Union Construction Workers' Compensation Program (UCWCP):

**Effective March 1, 2018:**

Modern Electrical Solutions, Inc.

See Bee Glass, Inc.

**Effective April 1, 2018:**

Thelen Heating & Roofing, Inc.

**Effective May 1, 2018:**

Muska Plumbing, LLC

Sheehy Construction Company

Northland Paving, LLC

Quality Manufacturing, Inc.

### New Sponsoring Insurance Provider

**Effective March 1, 2018:**

**United Fire Group (UFG)** was approved as a sponsoring insurance provider, offering a 5% premium credit for our members

**Effective May 1, 2018:**

**Third Coast Underwriters (Accident Fund Group)** was approved as a sponsoring insurance provider, offering a 5% premium credit for our members

## WELCOME ABOARD

You can see our current lists by clicking on the following links:

[Participating Contractors](#)

[Sponsoring Organizations](#)

[Sponsoring Insurance Providers](#)

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## Quote to Note

*"Injury prevention, as well as minimizing the losses of injuries that do occur, is a significant 'profit-center' for any successful company. Although our company has one of the lowest injury rates in our industry, the services provided by the UCWCP have reduced the expected costs associated with our claims. The use of a network of pre-approved treating physicians achieves the best medical outcomes and the dispute resolution facilitator quickly responds when a problem occurs."*

**-Kent Peterson, Owner, Bituminous Roadways; Management Co-Chair, UCWCP; Member since 2002**

To review or print other quotes from our participants please click on the following links:

[Contractor Testimonials](#)

[Union Leader and Member Testimonials](#)

[Insurance Agent and Carrier Testimonials](#)

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## From the Member Relations Director

## Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) Updates

### Reviewed & Updated: Orthopedic Providers

Throughout 2018 our EPO Nominations and Review Committee (ENRC) will continue to review orthopedic providers in the EPO. To date many statewide orthopedic providers, such as Orthopedic Associates of Duluth, Essentia Health Systems and Heartland Orthopedic, have been reviewed and updates completed. Thank you for your help in ensuring our participants have the best work injury care possible.

### Expanded: Western Wisconsin Primary Care Providers

Primary care providers were reviewed and added in the western areas of Wisconsin. We continue to evaluate usability and geographical access to primary care within the EPO.

The updated directories may be accessed at the following links:

[EPO Primary Care Providers](#)

[EPO Specialty Providers](#)

## Upcoming Training Opportunities

**Contractor Trainings** will take place in Bloomington, Duluth, and Rochester in Fall 2018. We will also be rolling out 60-minute webinar based introductory and topic-specific trainings later this year. Watch your email for the schedule, location, and registration information.

Join us for a **Claim Adjuster Training** from the comfort of your desk. We will be conducting Adjuster Webinars bi-monthly for the remainder of the year. Whether you are a new adjuster or haven't been to training for some time, join us to learn more about how to use the UCWCP's unique loss control tools.

**UCWCP Informational Webinars** for insurance agencies and prospective members will also take place in July and October. Find out more about the program and how to present this membership opportunity to your current or prospective insureds. Watch your email for dates and registration information.

### **Digital Tools**

Did you know our website is mobile friendly? We are creating new digital tools for our customers to use whether they are in the office or on the jobsite. You can access all of our information from your desk top, smart phone, or tablet.

Need Help in Controlling your experience modification rating (EMR)? Read our FREE guide [How to Get a Return to Work in 3 Days.](#)

Upcoming Safety Day or New Employee Training? Use our [UCWCP Overview Video](#) to provide an overview of the UCWCP to your employees or to share with a prospective member.

Keep checking our website, [www.ucwcp.com](http://www.ucwcp.com), as additional tools are released throughout 2018.



## **From the Dispute Resolution Facilitator**

The Workers' Compensation Deskbook is a comprehensive reference manual for Minnesota workers' compensation attorneys. The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, updated in 2017, now includes a section on the UCWCP in the chapter addressing practice and procedure for resolving disputes in Minnesota claims.

On April 26, 2018, the Workers' Compensation Institute included a breakout session entitled "Union Construction Industry Claims - Key Practice Tips" to educate attendees on unique rules for claims under the UCWCP's jurisdiction.

### **Case Study: Recommended Surgery Results in a Return to Full Duty**

An employee was cutting block and setting scaffolds when he felt a strain in his back. The employer submitted a First Report of Injury to their

insurer and the claim was accepted. The employer provided light duty as treatment began with an Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) health care provider. Unfortunately the condition worsened and the employer could not accommodate the sedentary restrictions.

Treatment continued, his condition improved and light duty was again provided, but when his condition worsened the sedentary restrictions took him back out of work. This pattern happened several more times until surgery was recommended. All the parties wanted an orthopedic surgeon from the Program's Neutral Physician Panel to review the records, examine the injured worker and render an opinion regarding the surgical recommendation.

A Dispute Resolution Examination (DRE) was performed, and the doctor agreed with the recommended surgery. The insurer immediately approved the surgery which was performed one week following the date of the DRE report.

Following the two months of post-surgical rehabilitation the employee was released to return to full duty work earning union scale and fringe benefits.



## From the Program Administrator

### Trustees in Transition

**Welcome Doug Suchanek, our newest labor trustee.** Doug began his career with IBEW Local 110, attaining Master Electrician in 1997. In 2006 he became a Business Representative for Local 110, and is currently the Assistant Business Manager and President. Doug has volunteered for numerous organizations including Habitat for Humanity, VFW, Disabled Veterans, and Homes for our Troops. He also sits on the Board of Directors at Dakota County Workforce Development and his Credit Union.

**Farewell to Michael Heiden,** who has retired from his position as the Assistant Business Manager of IBEW Local No. 110. He served as a Labor Trustee on the Board since his appointment in 2005 and was the Chair of the Medical and Rehabilitation Committee beginning in 2013. Thank you for your service.

**Farewell to Ryan Mims,** who has left his position with the IUPAT District Council No. 82 to return to the field as a Glazier. He served as a Labor Trustee on the Board since his appointment in 2015. Thank you for your service.

On behalf of the Trustees and UCWCP staff, thank you for supporting our 20 year mission: "Making Workers' Compensation Work Right for Minnesota's Unionized Construction Industry".

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Be safe and stay cool during these busy summer months,



Kevin Gregerson, Program Administrator

*Making Work Comp Work Right*

[www.ucwcp.com](http://www.ucwcp.com)

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