R.C. 2379

To the Members of the Board

RE: January 1, 2015 New York State Assessment Rate

The New York State Workers’ Compensation Board (WCB) has released Subject Number 046-738 which announces the New York State Assessment Rate effective January 1, 2015.

In the Subject Number, the WCB announced that the assessment rate effective January 1, 2015 will be 13.2% of standard premium.

A Copy of Subject Number 046-738 is attached for your information and reference. It can also be accessed online at http://www.wcb.ny.gov/content/main/SubjectNos/sn046_738.jsp.

In addition, attached is an updated Loss Cost - Miscellaneous Values page reflecting the revised New York State Assessment Rate.

Very truly yours,

Monte Almer

President
New York Workers’ Compensation Board Announces 2015 Assessment Rate

Date: October 31, 2014

Pursuant to WCL §151, the Chair of the Workers’ Compensation Board shall annually establish an assessment rate for all employers by November 1st of each year, to be effective January 1st of the subsequent calendar year. For calendar year 2015, the rate shall be 13.2% of the standard premium or premium equivalent.

The new rate shall be effective for policies renewing on or after January 1, 2015 and represents a decrease from the 2014 rate of 13.8%. The decrease in the rate is the direct result of the 2013 Business Relief Act, which has cut the assessment rate for employers by a total of 30 percent over the last two years.

Please contact the Workers’ Compensation Board by email at: WCBFinanceOffice@wcb.ny.gov with any questions on the assessment rate.

Robert E. Beloten
Chair
MISCELLANEOUS VALUES (continued)

New York State Assessment Charges

General Instructions and Information

Refer to Rule IX-L., Sections 1. and 2.

Applicable Standard Premium Assessment Rate................................................................. 13.2%

Premium Base

Refer to Rule IX-L., Section 3.

Standard premium is the only premium base to be used in calculating the New York State Assessment policyholder charge.

For policyholder assessment purposes, standard premium is defined as the premium determined on the basis of the insurer’s approved rates, as modified by any experience modification or merit rating factor, any applicable territory differential premium, the minimum premium, any Construction Classification Premium Adjustment Program credits, any credit from return to work and/or drug and alcohol prevention programs, including credits under the Workplace Safety Loss Prevention Incentive Program (WSLPIP), any surcharge or credit from a workplace safety program, including credits under the Workplace Safety Loss Prevention Incentive Program (WSLPIP), any credit from independently-filed insurer specialty programs (for example, alternative dispute resolution, drug-free workplace, managed care or preferred provider organization programs), any charge for the waiver of subrogation, any charge for foreign voluntary coverage and the additional charge for terrorism, and the charge for natural disasters and catastrophic industrial accidents.

For purposes of determining standard premium, the insurer’s expense constant, including the expense constant in the minimum premium, the insurer’s premium discount and premium credits for participation in any deductible program, as well as any premiums providing federal coverage, and coverage under the volunteer firefighter benefit law and volunteer ambulance workers benefit law, shall be excluded from the premium base.

Terrorism and Catastrophe Loss Cost Charges

Terrorism

Applicable only in conjunction with Rule IX-N.1 of the Manual

Terrorism loss cost (NOT RATE) charge per $100 of total policy payroll......................................................... $.038
For non-payroll based classes, charge is % of non-payroll class manual premium................................................. 2.9%

Natural Disasters and Catastrophic Industrial Accidents

Applicable only in conjunction with Rule IX-N.2 of the Manual

Catastrophe loss cost (NOT RATE) charge per $100 of total policy payroll .......................................................... $.008
For non-payroll based classes, charge is % of non-payroll class manual premium.................................................. 0.7%

Workers Compensation Security Fund Surcharge

Applicable only in accordance with Rule IX - M of the Manual

Charge is % of total policy premium......................................................................................... 0.0%

United States Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Coverage Percentage

Applicable only in connection with Rule XII-D of the Manual......................................................... 53.7%
(Multiply a Non-F classification rate by a factor of 1.537 to adjust for differences in state and federal benefits and assessments)