



# AULTCOMP MCO

A WORKERS' COMPENSATION MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION

## AultComp MCO's Lifeline

November, 2016

*Don't Learn Safety by Accident!*

### A Season of Thanks.

During Fire Prevention Month in October, we held a contest to raise awareness and to test your knowledge about fire safety. We are excited to announce that the winners of the contest are Steven Penrod from P. Graham Dunn and Debbie Kayle from Solmet. Congratulations!

We also wanted to announce an exciting opportunity for you to attend an educational seminar. The Ohio BWC and AultComp MCO are presenting "Controlling Costs Through Claims Management." During this training, you will: understand how the BWC calculates the employers' premiums, learn about the benefits of the timely reporting of claims, and understand

the importance of the initial accident investigation and analysis.

Below is all of the seminar information. We hope to see you there!

- Date: Wednesday, November 16
- Where: Aultman North - Entrance A (6046 Whipple Ave. North Canton, OH 44720)
- Time: 8:00 a.m. (Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.)
- RSVP: Please RSVP by November 9 to 330-830-4919 ext. 103 or [aultcompmco@aultcompmco.com](mailto:aultcompmco@aultcompmco.com)

**- AultComp MCO**

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### AultComp MCO is on Facebook!



### Management Tip\*:

#### Practice the golden rule from the start

You can find a way to handle health-related employment disruptions by actively supporting the person standing before you – and your company. Respond to the employee in the same way you would want someone to respond to you if you were feeling vulnerable – kindly, helpful, and firmly. Your employee may remember it forever, and tell others what you did. Make those stories good ones!

\*information from **BWC Tips for Supervisors**

## Ohio BWC NEWS

### System Update

Columbus, Ohio -

The BWC is modernizing operations and improving customer service by replacing their core claims and policy management systems this November. The transition to this new system will occur over Veterans Day weekend, Nov. 10 through Nov 14. Beginning the afternoon of Nov. 10, many BWC systems, including web and call center services, will be unavailable. In addition, some employer related systems will have limited functionality beginning at 5 p.m. on Nov. 9. Since the majority of the shutdown will occur over a three day holiday weekend, they expect it will have minimal impact on their customers, partners and staff.

There will be a recorded message about the outage on their toll free customer service phone line (800-644-6292). In addition, the website, [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov), will display a static page of information explaining the outage. The BWC anticipates that normal operations will resume on Tuesday, Nov. 15. However, some users MAY experience slower than usual service that Tuesday as they process the weekend's backlog. They encourage you to review deadlines and complete any time sensitive transactions in advance of the transition. The BWC thanks you for your patience as they upgrade to a new system. BWC is committed to delivering quality services to their customers and partners. For information throughout the transition, make sure to follow the BWC on Twitter [@OhioBWC](https://twitter.com/OhioBWC)

# Safety Tip

## Be SAFE on ICE

Walking to and from parking lots or between buildings during the winter requires special care to avoid slipping and falling. Also, be aware of entrance halls and stairs; they can be slippery from tracked in snow and slush.



No matter how well the snow and ice is removed, employees will still encounter slippery surfaces. It is important to constantly be aware of these hazards and walk safely on ice and slippery surfaces.

### Think Prevention

In cold temperatures, approach with caution and **assume that all wet, dark areas on pavement are slippery and icy.**

### Tips for Walking Safely on Ice and Snow:

- ❄ Walk like a penguin. The waddle keeps your center of gravity over your front leg and will help keep you upright. Spread your feet out slightly, to increase your center of gravity, and take small steps.
- ❄ Keep your hands out of your pockets while walking — that decreases your center of gravity and balance, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. You need your arms for balance.
- ❄ Wear your snow boots! Avoid shoes with smooth soles and heels.
- ❄ Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles. Use the vehicle for support.
- ❄ Walk in designated walkways as much as possible.
- ❄ When walking on steps always use the hand railings and plant your feet firmly on each step.
- ❄ AND ALWAYS GO **S-L-O-W-L-Y!**

### If You Should Fall:

- ❄ Remember to “Tuck and Roll.”
- ❄ Experts say if you feel yourself losing balance, tuck into a ball, make yourself as small as possible and keep your head and face away from the fall.
- ❄ Don’t put out your hands to catch yourself or you’ll risk breaking your arms or wrists.
- ❄ Try to avoid landing on your knees, wrists, or spine. Try to fall on a fleshy part of your body, such as your side.

# DID YOU KNOW?

## What is an "occupational disease?"

Occupational Disease: A disease contracted in the course of employment, where the employment is shown to create a risk of contracting the disease in a greater degree and in a different manner from the general public. The disease's causes and the characteristics of its manifestation must demonstrate a relationship to the work environment, or the condition of the employment environment must be shown to result in a hazard which distinguishes the employment in character from employment generally.

A common occupational disease is carpal tunnel syndrome, which is caused by overuse of the hands in a job that requires extensive manipulative use of the hands such as:

- Typing
- Using a cash register
- Pushing, slicing, or pressing objects without sufficient break or rest

In rare cases, carpal tunnel syndrome may be caused by performing a task for a relatively short period of time.

Date of disease: For purposes of this policy, it is the latest event of one of the following:

- The date the injured worker first became aware through medical diagnosis that he/she was suffering from an occupational disease
- The date the injured worker first received medical treatment for the occupational disease
- The date the injured worker first quit work because of the occupational disease

BWC will consider the following in making a claim determination for occupational disease claims:

- Mechanism or agent causing the disease
- Type of employment
- Employment history
- Medical documentation
- Any other pertinent information required or available

If you have an employee file a claim for carpal tunnel syndrome, here is some helpful information you may want to provide to the BWC:

- A detailed job description
- How long has the employee worked in the current position/ prior employment/ position
- How many hours per day is the repetitive task performed
- How often does the employee get breaks from the task?
- Do you know of any outside activities that may have contributed to the carpal tunnel syndrome?

Disclaimer: This is not a guarantee that the Ohio BWC will allow or disallow a claim. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Reminder:

**Don't forget to follow us on [Facebook](#) & visit our new website [AultCompMCO.com](#)**

