



**THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION
RATING AND INSPECTION BUREAU OF MASSACHUSETTS**
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CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 1637

To All Members and Subscribers of the Bureau:

**REVISION OF CLASSIFICATION PHRASEOLOGY CODE NO. 4273
BAG MFG - PAPER TO BAG MFG - PAPER AND PLASTIC
EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 1993**

The Commissioner of Insurance has approved the above Item to become effective 12:01 A.M., June 1, 1993 applicable to new and renewal policies only.

The purpose of this Item is to add the phrase "... and Plastic" to the phraseology describing Classification Code 4273 so that the revised phraseology reads "BAG MFG - PAPER AND PLASTIC, " rather than "BAG MFG - PAPER" as it read formerly.

It has been a long standing practice of the Bureau to assign Code 4273 to manufacturers of plastic bags as well as to manufacturers of paper bags. There is a great similarity between plastic bag and paper bag manufacturing operations. Rolls of paper or plastic film are placed on machines which pull the paper through to make the bags automatically. In the case of paper, the machine cuts, folds and glues. In the case of plastic, the bags might be heat sealed instead of glued. Plastic might also be perforated and rewound on rolls rather than cut into individual bags. If the bags are to be printed with the name of the customer, etc., the printing is usually done prior to making the bags, that is, while the material is still on the rolls.

Some plastic bag manufacturers will extrude some, or all, of the plastic film used in their bag making operations. Plastic pellets are placed into a machine that automatically extrudes a tube of film which is then wound into rolls. The bag manufacturing operations are conducted in the same manner as described above, as are the printing operations.

A revised manual page will be distributed in due course.

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