WCRIB
massachusetts

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION
RATING AND INSPECTION BUREAU

December 4, 2002

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 1903

To All Members and Subscribers of the Bureau:

**AVAILABILITY OF EXPERIENCE RATING FACTORS AND
EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY ON THE BUREAU'S WEB SITE**

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The Bureau is pleased to announce that experience rating factors and employer eligibility are available on the Bureau's web site (www.wcribma.org). In order to access this section of our web site, go to Products and Services and select Experience Rating History.

Users may search by Combinability ID or policy primary name. Combinability ID is referred to as Combo ID and was formerly called Bureau File Number (BF#). The Combo ID is the same as the BF# preceded by three zeros. The primary name is that which is shown on the policy information page. This web site application requires the user to know either the policy primary name or the Combo ID; the Bureau will not provide the information on a request basis. The following rating data, as well as a key for the abbreviations, will be displayed:

- Rating Effective Date
- Rating Expiration Date
- Rating Factor
- Massachusetts ARAP Factor
- Rating Status
- Status Date
- Type of Rating

The rating data will be updated weekly. The data displayed will be for the three most recent rating effective dates, effective on or after 1/1/2000. In addition, there will be link to the Frequently Asked Questions page of our web site to assist users.

Below is some general information that will assist you in getting started.

Combo ID Search:

Distributed Bureau rating sheets contain the Combo ID, which was formerly called Bureau File Number. This Combo ID can be used to locate rating information in this application. Upon entry of the Combo ID, the Rating Search Results page will display the primary name and mailing address as it appears on the most current policies in relation to the rating effective period.

The experience for policies that are combinable for experience rating purposes is organized under a single Combo ID. Since multiple combinable policies may be organized under a single Combo ID, a search by Combo ID may result in the display of multiple primary names. If the Rating Search Results page displays multiple primary names, only one of these primary names will appear on the Experience Rating History page.

EXAMPLE:

The Rating Search Results page shows five primary names: Jones, Smith, Foley, King, and Burns. If you click on the primary name of Foley, an Experience Rating History page will appear with either the name Foley or anyone of the other primary names (Jones, Smith, King, or Burns). Even though the Experience Rating History page will display only one primary name (and not necessarily the name on which you clicked), the Experience Rating History will apply to each of the 5 primary names.

Name Search:

The name search looks for the entered phrase from the primary names that appear on the policy information pages that have been entered into the Bureau's system. Upon entry of a name, the Ratings Search Results will return a list of Combo IDs in which the entered name is found as part of the primary name on the policy current to the rating effective period. If a name has not been reported as the primary name on a policy during the last three years, it will not appear in the search results. As explained under **Combo ID Search,** if multiple entities are combinable for experience rating, only one primary name will be displayed with the rating data on the Experience Rating History page.

***Records Last Updated*:**

This is the date that the data on the web site was last updated. The web site data will be updated weekly.

If you have any questions regarding this new enhancement, please contact Mary Lee Casmira, ext. 577, (mcasmira@wcribma.org) or Deborah Dohl, ext. 538, (ddohl@wcribma.org).

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