



Issue Update

WCB Announces New Clearance Alert

Attention BCCA members. WCB has just released this information:

For immediate release
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RICHMOND, BC Life just got a bit easier for any firm which hires a number of contractors, thanks to Clearance Alert a new application developed by the Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia (WCB) which is available online at its web site, worksafebc.com.

That's because the new application automatically advises users of any changes in a contractor's status with the WCB.

This information about whether a contractor is registered with the WCB and is current with its premium payments is known as the contractor's clearance status. Anyone hiring a contractor that isn't registered with the WCB or hasn't paid its premium could be charged premiums for any work the contractor performs, so it's important to know about changes in a contractor's clearance status.

Clearance Alert allows firms to submit lists of contractors to the Board over a secured online server. They can add or remove names from the list as desired. The Board monitors the clearance status of contractors on the list on a daily basis and notifies the firm by e-mail if the status of any of its contractors changes.

Whether a contractor goes from in good standing to cancelled or delinquent, or from delinquent back to good standing, firms can rest assured they're getting the most recent clearance status of contractors working for them.

So firms can personalize the information they submit to the Board, Clearance Alert has been designed as a secure application. That means users will have to sign up for online services and access the application using a user ID and password. The one time sign-up process opens the door to all of the WCB's secured online products. These include the Online Reporting and Remitting application, online Rate Information Letters and Incident and Injury Report.

The Board's online roster also includes an application for registering over the Internet and the online Experience Rating Calculator, a tool that lets employers project future claim costs and see the potential impact of those costs on rates.

To learn more about Clearance Alert and the wide range of Internet services available to employers, visit the Employer & Small Business Centre at www.worksafebc.com.

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The mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the representation of, and service to, British Columbia's construction industry.