

Get a Consultant

By Chris Miller

If you were going to build an addition to your home or business you would enlist the consultative services of an architect, right? If you needed to know exactly where wetlands were on a piece of property you were going to develop you would enlist the consultative services of a wetland specialist, right? So when you are reviewing, updating, or even creating your safety and health program you are going to utilize your AGC safety and loss control consultant. Great!

A lot of employers just cannot afford a safety and loss control consultant or an industrial hygienist. In the Oregon Safe Employment Act there are provisions for insurers to provide their employers with occupational safety and health loss control services, which are to be provided at no charge or premium increase.

The AGC and SAIF group workers' compensation program gives participants an assigned loss control consultant (LCC), who works with the company much like any other client / consultant relationship. The LCC and company work together to elevate the company's safety program and performance. The returns are huge: reduced injuries and losses, strong safety programs, well trained employees, lower insurance premiums, and retro checks.

AGC LCCs can provide client companies with a wide range of safety and health services from helping an account create a new safety manual to helping create a safety manual for a specific project. LCCs provide OSHA compliance advice, site surveys, and a whole host of employee safety training programs, which can even be provided at the jobsite. There are also industrial hygiene services available, such as air and noise monitoring. LCCs work with AGC accounts to reduce injuries and cost, increase employer and employee safety knowledge, and maintain a strong safety and health program. Again, these services are provided at no charge or premium increase to participants in the AGC and SAIF group workers' compensation program.

LCCs, whether from the AGC/SAIF program or any other insurance carrier, are qualified through experience, education, or both. LCCs bring to their accounts a wealth of experiences; they have the opportunity to visit many different jobsites and facilities. Since Oregon requires insurers to provide loss control services, Oregon has a lot of safety professionals, and like many professions, they share innovative industry information. Therefore, employers have access to excellent safety resources through their LCCs.

In case you are wondering if loss control services from your AGC LCC or other carrier-assigned LCC are the same as those from a hired safety consultant, yes they are; the safety services provided by your LCC are not "safety light." Insured accounts can expect the same high quality service as from hired safety consultants that may charge \$100 per hour and up.

In The Oregon Safe Employment Act there are provisions for Oregon OSHA to provide consultative services at no charge too.

For more information on loss control services, please contact your AGC safety and loss control consultant. For more information on the AGC and SAIF group workers' compensation program, please contact the AGC office, 503-682-3363 or 800-826-6610.