



**Risk and
Insurance
Management
Society, Inc.®**

*RTMS NEWS
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THE AWARD WINNING HOUSTON CHAPTER
Advancing the Risk Management Profession

Recovery Planning- It's Not Just For Business Anymore

Given the current Orange High Alert Status, many companies are reviewing and updating their Business Continuity Plans. If your company hasn't reviewed their plans lately, it's a good time to send out a reminder. Technology, business dependencies, processes and especially phone numbers can change over a short time and they will very likely not be reflected in your recovery plans unless you make review and updates a priority. Also critical, is a review of our personal recovery plans. Many of us have not considered a family recovery plan, however each employee's ability to recover personally and their subsequent ability to continue working is critical to your business. One way to assist yourself and your employees in personal preparedness is to provide a guideline for their personal recovery plan which is available through a variety of sources. A few of those sources are listed.

<http://www.fema.org/areyouready/>
www.ready.gov
www.redcross.org

Recovery planning is not only valuable in this difficult time when man made disasters are of concern, but we all know it is just as beneficial in the more common event of natural disasters that may affect our ability to reach our home, our families or our business. Some recommendations taken from these websites include: Creating an alternate meeting place close to home and a second meeting location away from home in the event you can't access your home or neighborhood; choosing a friend or relative living outside of your area as a family contact that everyone can check in with- it is sometimes easier to call long distance in event of a local emergency; checking and restocking your home first aid kit, taking a first aid or CPR class, changing out stored water every 6 months, getting to know your neighbors and their special skills or special needs. All of these ideas can benefit you in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. The quicker you and your employees can gain back control of personal circumstances in such an event, the sooner you can refocus your time and efforts back to your business and your community.

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From the President's Desk

By the time you receive this newsletter we will be in the middle of the 41st RIMS Annual Conference and Exhibition in Chicago, Illinois. For those who are not aware, the Houston Chapter was the recipient of the award for Advancing the Risk Management Profession. I for one, am very proud of the Houston Chapter's continued success. Thanks for all that you do to support the Houston Chapter.

This past month, your Houston Chapter Board had the annual planning retreat at the Woodlands Conference Center. I would like to thank each of the board members and our member at large, Ron Christ for participating in the weekend retreat. We had a very productive meeting on Saturday and you will be hearing about the exciting new ideas we came up with in the near future.

This month Ella Andrews and I have the honor of attending the chartering ceremony of the University of Houston, Gamma Iota Sigma risk management fraternity. We are very excited to have the opportunity to participate in this special event

Finally, don't forget that we do not have a monthly meeting in April. Our next meeting will be May 21st. We will be honoring our staff so please invite them to join us!!

Sincerely,

PAM

Shout Out!!!

Congratulations to Bob Card, Philip Services Corporation who is interviewed & featured on the cover of Risk & Insurance, April 1st issue. His article is called "Out of the Shadows-New Rules Offer Risk Managers More Opportunity"



Regulatory & Legislative Issues

Dear Colleagues:

The California Workers' Compensation Institute released finding that chiropractors are now the major medical cost driver in the CA work comp system.

The report is based on data culled from the Institute's Industry Claims Information System (ICIS)

CWCI says in the report, "With claim frequency down, little change in the unit price for chiropractic services, and negligible shifts in case mix, it appears that growing utilization has been a key factor behind the dramatic increase in worker's compensation payments for chiropractic care."

Using the ICIS database, the Institute isolated a sub-sample of 134,312 cases in which a chiropractor was identified as a medical provider on the claim. Payments to chiropractors on these claims amounted to \$268 million and chiropractic costs rose 153 percent from 1996 to 2001, or \$77 million to \$195 million.

Average payments to chiropractors climbed steadily from \$1,455 in accident year 1993 to \$2,556 in accident year 1998 which is a 76 percent increase, the report says. In addition, the total procedure count per case doubled during the studied accident years, from 58.5 procedures on 1993 claims to 120.2 procedures on 1998 claims.

Most interestingly, though, CWCI found that between 1993 and 2000, the proportion of California workers' compensation claims involving chiropractic care dropped sharply from 8.0 percent of all claims in 1993 to 6.1 percent in 2000 leading the Institute to conclude that increases in the average amount paid per claim had become a key factor driving up total chiropractic costs in the system.

The report concludes that the large supply of chiropractors in California drives up the overall cost of chiropractic service:

"Bottom line: the combined effect of an increase in the number of chiropractic providers servicing fewer injured workers with higher levels of chiropractic services per claim has increased both the average cost per claim and the overall cost of chiropractic care in California workers' compensation." Now this finding "that the large supply of chiropractors in California drives up the overall cost of chiropractic service" seems to contradict that theory that the greater the supply the less cost.

(Note: Permission received from attorney John D. Pringle)

Meeting Notices, Newsletters and other chapter correspondence are now sent out by **e-mail**. If you are a deputy member and are not receiving yours please let us know by contacting Jim Lyon, Membership Director. All others, Associates and Non-Members, please contact Monica Olis. Deputies can update/correct information by logging on to the Society web site: www.rims.org.

Member's Corner

The Houston Chapter has the privilege of welcoming the following new Corporate Deputy members:

- Aramco Services Co.
 - Debra McNamara, Financial Analyst
- Consolidated Graphics, Inc.
 - Gary Wright, Treasurer
- Fort Bend I.S.D.
 - Carol Voelkel, Project Manager
- Lufkin Industries, Inc.
 - Susanne Parker, Financial Logistics Manager
 - Jared Satterwhite, Environmental Health & Safety Manager
- Shell Oil Company
 - Richard Keady, Casualty Director
- Talent Tree, Inc.
 - Sonia Blair, Risk Analyst
 - Pat Harris, Loss Control Specialist

We would also like to welcome our new Affiliate Member:

- Oscar Valencia, Insurance Manager

Additionally, we welcome our new Associate Members:

- Daniel Sloan, Capital Risk, LLC, Executive Vice President
- Kathy Snyder, Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Marketing Director
- Steve England, Resident Vice President, AIG
- Anner Jones, Branch Manager, AIG
- Mark Santos, Regional Vice President, National Account, AIG
- Cindy Coleman, Assistant Vice President, Commerical & Middle Markets, AIG
- Mona McKeon, Underwriting MGR, Primary Casulty & Energy, AIG

Note from Membership Services:

The Houston Chapter of RIMS will be organizing a Membership Committee within the next month. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Jim Lyon, Membership Director at (713) 625-7174 or Victor Pivetta, Associate Membership Director at (713) 871-9365.

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Houston Area Job(s) Listing for April 2003

Associated Building Services - Regional Safety Manager (2/12/03)
Goodman Manufacturing Company, LP - Safety Engineer (03/2003)
Apollo Partners - Career Opportunities in Houston

- ❖ Any job listing descriptions, contacts, etc. can be found at The Houston RIMS website: <http://houston.rims.org/ChapterWebsite/RIMSChapter.cfm?CID=328>
- ❖ For further information regarding positions or to place a job opening for your company in our newsletter, contact Toni Green, Director - Job Placement, via email at toni.green@nli-usa.com or by telephone at (281) 423-3357.
- ❖ For information regarding National RIMS listings, contact Jennifer Berman at RIMS New York at (212) 286-9292 or email: jberman@rims.org.
- ❖ Also, look online at the Houston Chronicle's classified web site under employment. Do a key word search for Safety or Risk Management: www.houstonchronicle.com/classifieds or look online at the Houston Press's classified web site: www.houstonpress.com/classifieds

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Houston Chapter of RIMS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Luncheon Meetings are at 11:30 am

2003

April 6-10, 2003

RIMS Annual Conference-Chicago

No Chapter Meeting for April

May 21, 2003

Staff Appreciation

June 18, 2003

Broker Appreciation

July 16, 2003

August 20, 2003

September 17, 2003

Recognition of those
receiving the ARM
designation.

October

Fall Conference

November 19, 2003

December 17th, 2003

50th Anniversary Celebration

Check the web Site: www.rims.org >chapters
>chapter web sites > Houston.
Watch for event information.

**No chapter
meeting for
April. See
you in May.**

MEETING PLACE

Crowne Plaza Medical Center Hotel.

6701 Main @ Holcomb, Houston, TX 77030.

Phone # 713.797.1110

Parking is available in the hotel garage for \$3.00.

**Bring your parking ticket to the registration table
for a validation sticker.**

**Parking is also available on the surface
lot to the south of the hotel**

