



Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau

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CIRCULAR LETTER 2974 – JANUARY 18, 2006

PROCEEDINGS OF THE WISCONSIN RATING COMMITTEE

TO: Members of the Bureau

FROM: Donna Knepper

RE: Proceedings of the Wisconsin Rating Committee
Circular Letter 2973 – December 15, 2005
Item Number 3880 Mechanized Logging

Pursuant to ch 626, Wis. Stats., the State of the Wisconsin, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance has advised that the action taken by the Rating Committee has been approved effective October 1, 2006, applicable to new and renewal business only.

This filing amends language for Class Code 2702 Logging or Lumbering – Non-mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers and establishes Class Code 2709 - Logging or Lumbering – Mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers. Data for these codes will be collected to determine the feasibility of calculating separate rates for codes 2702 and 2709, which will take approximately five years. In the meantime, data reported for both codes will be combined to develop one rate. The Wisconsin Basic Manual will be amended as follows:

Code 2702

Logging or Lumbering: Non-mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers – Code 2702 is applicable to the operations at any logging site which does not meet the qualifications for Code 2709. Equipment used in non-mechanized logging operations include, but is not limited to, chain saws, buck saws, axes, horses, farm tractors, cable skidders, winches and other home made equipment that requires the operator to be in physical contact with trees and raw forest products while harvesting them. Code 2702 is available for division of payroll with Code 2709

Logging or Lumbering: Mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers provided

CIRCULAR LETTER 2974 – JANUARY 18, 2006 – PAGE 2

proper payroll records are kept for those employees when operating qualifying equipment. If a separate legal entity is established for haulers of raw forest products, assign to Code 7228 or 7229. Assign Code 0108 to timber cruisers. When a logging contractor engages employees who furnish trucks, tractors or horses, the following percentage of payments to such employees shall constitute payroll for premium determination. Contracted Work % of Gross Payment: Skid only - 40%; Cut and skid logs or pulpwood - 55%; Mechanized felling or processor - 33 1/3%; Slashing operations - 33 1/3%; Haul logs or pulpwood - 33 1/3%; Cut, skid and haul logs or pulpwood - 60%.

CLEARING OF RIGHT-OF-WAY-ELECTRIC, POWER, TELEPHONE, BURGLAR, OR FIRE ALARM LINES TREE REMOVAL-NEW RIGHT-OF-WAY & DRIVERS DAM OR LOCK CONSTRUCTION TIMBER CUTTING AND REMOVAL & DRIVERS (Includes incidental brush cutting and removal.)

BARK PEELING IN CONNECTION WITH LOGGING-CHIPS ALSO

BOARDING HOUSES-IN CONNECTION WITH LOGGING

BRUSHING AS PART OF LOGGING

LOG & PULPWOOD LOADING AT SIDING

LOG (DEAD HEADS)-SALVAGING FROM LAKE OR RIVER BOTTOM

POST PEELING IN CONNECTION WITH LOGGING

SALVAGING LOGS FROM LAKE & RIVER BOTTOMS

Code 2709

Logging or Lumbering: Mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers – Code 2709 is restricted to only those employees who operate equipment that includes, but is not limited to, feller-bunchers, harvesters, processors, grapple skidders, forwarders, de-limbers, slashers and loaders where the operator does not leave the cab of the machine in the performance of his/her duties in the logging operations except for repair and maintenance of equipment. Code 2709 is available for division of payroll with Code 2702 Logging or Lumbering: Non-mechanized Equipment Operations & Drivers provided proper payroll records are kept for those employees when operating qualifying equipment. If a separate legal entity is established for haulers of raw forest products, assign to Code 7228 or 7229. Assign Code 0108 to timber cruisers.