GENERAL CIRCULAR 414- October 11, 2000

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU:

SPECIAL ATTENTION - UNIT STATISTICAL PERSONNEL

American Cooperative Council on Compensation Technology (ACCCT) Release of BEEP 2.0

The Bureau Entry & Editing Program (BEEP) software update is scheduled for industry release by the end of October. BEEP is an easy-to-use software package, which permits insurers to compile worker's compensation statistical reporting information for submission to virtually any state except for monopolistic jurisdictions. This updated version named BEEP 2.0 allows for extensive editing of unit statistical data in each of the jurisdictions. Refer to the BEEP User Guide for information about ACCCT members.

BEEP 2.0 gives insurers the desktop ability to perform initial validation of data by checking unit statistical data against a jurisdiction's requirements for statistical reporting. Insurers can then bundle these validated reports for electronic filing with the applicable jurisdiction. BEEP 2.0 also allows for data developed by the insurer's own computer system to be imported and error-checked by BEEP using those same data filing requirements.

BEEP 2.0 will be distributed free to all interested licensed worker's compensation insurers, many of whom already use BEEP. Registered users will automatically receive the 2.0 release.

For Wisconsin data suppliers, BEEP will continue to be an instrument to:

- Enter WC statistical data, in either pre-ASWG or ASWG format

- Print hard copy unit reports in either pre-ASWG or ASWG format

- Create and submit pre-edited data filings in accordance with the Wisconsin Statistical Plan Manual to NCCI. Carriers using BEEP to report to NCCI should not experience data quality edit failures on NCCI's database.

Please follow the requirements listed below when submitting data to NCCI via BEEP 2.0:

➢ Use EBCDIC format and compressed.

➢ You may use BEEP 2.O to submit unit statistical data via diskette or e-mail.

➢ If you desire to file Wisconsin unit report data electronically, and have never done so in the past, please contact NCCI, Inc. Customer Service Center for electronic testing procedures. You must pass a certification process before submitting data using BEEP.

NCCI will be releasing an informational Circular Letter to provide further detail.

Enhancements included with BEEP 2.0 are as follows:

- Extensive editing of unit statistical data.

- Allow the filing of all other non-monopolistic jurisdictions, but with more limited validation checks.

- Ability to calculate totals on first reports.

- Improvements in the user interface.

- An "800" telephone line for customer service and support for users.

- Enhanced speed through use of a 32-bit Microsoft® Windows 95/98/NT program. The new program no longer works with 16-bit Windows 3.1.

- The recommended workstation for BEEP has a 200 MHz Pentium processor with 48 megabytes of memory, a CD-ROM drive or 3.5 inch diskette drive for installation, and a 1 gigabyte hard disk drive (for BEEP, the operating system, and other programs). A desktop laser or inkjet printer is also recommended. BEEP 2.0 has been tested for accuracy of Year 2000 operation.

If you have any questions, please contact Kay Higgins at (414) 479-2634, or via e-mail at higgika@dwd.state.wi.us.