



TOIRMA Update

By Jim Donelan

TOIRMA Executive Director

Three-Point Contact

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS are providing their communities more and more services each year. Unfortunately, some of these services can be hazardous, sometimes unexpectedly. Accidents can happen in an office setting, let alone while being out on the roads, and operating vehicles and equipment.

TOIRMA provides its members workers' compensation coverage to help protect townships with these work-related injury events. Workers' compensation claims for the 2017-2018 TOIRMA Program year accounted for 47% of total claims incurred.

During a recent claims review meeting it became clear that there was a trend in several of our workers' compensation claims. The injuries could have been prevented, for they occurred when individuals were either getting on or off a vehicle or equipment incorrectly. For example, one employee was dismounting a backhoe without using a hand to contact the equipment. He slipped and lost his footing, grabbed the railing, and tore his shoulder. Not only was this extremely painful, but the employee missed a significant amount of work, and had to have surgery.

Maintaining three points of contact while getting on and off vehicles and equipment will aid in the prevention of injuries. Workers should face the vehicle or equipment when dismounting and mounting and keep either both hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand in contact with the vehicle or equipment. Utilizing three-point contact is an important safety practice that helps maintain a person's center of gravity and helps ensure that they are less likely to lose their balance.

TOIRMA has a new "Three-Point Contact" sticker available for our members to use. The sticker serves as a reminder to persons the importance of safety, and the three-point rule. The sticker is designed to fit on the steps of trucks and equipment.

Also available is a "Mounting and Dismounting" Risk Reminder. This may be downloaded at toirma.org on the "Tool Box" page. Please feel free to print off this reminder and distribute it to your employees and hang it in your work areas.

If you would like to have "Three-Point Contact"

stickers to place on your equipment please contact Debbie Prentice at (217) 444-1204 or dprentice@ccmsi.com, and we will send them to you.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me

toll-free at (888) 562-7861 or by email at jdonelan@toirma.org.



Think Safe... Drive Safe... Work Safe

As of December 3, 2018, the following TOIRMA members have not deposited their 2018 dividend check. If your township/road district is on this list below, please deposit your dividend as soon as possible. Thank you!

Township	County
ATLAS	PIKE
STONEFORT	SALINE



PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

RISK REMINDER

Mounting & Dismounting Equipment

Mounting and dismounting equipment causes many injuries each year. Some injuries are as serious as broken ankles or knees.

3 Point Contact (the Safety Triangle) provides safety for mounting and dismounting equipment, even with hazardous conditions such as mud, snow, or ice.

When you get on or leave the machine, always:

- Maintain a three point contact with the steps and hand holds.
- Face the machine when either mounting or dismounting.
- Never jump on or off the machine. Never attempt to mount or dismount a moving machine.
- Do not use the steering wheel or any control lever as a hand hold when you enter or leave the machine.



3 Point Contact THE SAFE WAY!

For more information, contact your Loss Control Consultant at (800) 252-5059, ext. 1387 or 1384.

CLAIM REPORTING HOTLINE (844) 562-2720 | Available 24/7