

Group programs

By Gordy Van

Group programs are insurance policies for certain specified types of coverage available for purchase by WCIA members. We call these “pass through” policies as WCIA will report the loss to the insurers on behalf of the members, but the investigation, coverage determination and adjustment of the loss is handled by the insurer.

Did you know that the property insurance policy covers scheduled property against most risks but has specific exclusions for mechanical breakdown and for electrical injury or disturbance to electrical appliances or devices caused by artificially generated electrical currents? The costs for repair or replacement of a major piece of machinery can be quite high. We have seen generators, pumps, boilers, etc. sustain damage from mechanical breakdown that would be excluded under the property policy.

Fortunately, there may be coverage for the above causes of loss under a WCIA group program, Equipment Breakdown coverage, sometimes referred to as Boiler and Machinery coverage. Equipment Breakdown coverage is a pass through program provided and administered by the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company (HSB). This coverage can be purchased by WCIA members to protect major city equipment at locations scheduled with WCIA on the property policy. The coverage has a minimum deductible of \$10,000 but may be higher for certain units.

One of our members was able to utilize this coverage when they experienced difficulty with pump motors. It was determined that the pumps were erratically grounding through the bearings of the pump motor, resulting in damage to the bearings and motor. While this type of loss would normally be excluded under the property policy, it was afforded coverage through Equipment Breakdown resulting in a payment to the member of over \$30,000 after application of the deductible.

In the event of a loss, please send an email to claims@wciapool.org detailing the date of loss and what occurred. We will then request HSB assign an adjuster to investigate the claim and determine coverage and damages.

Additional available group programs include Crime and Fidelity insurance and Information Security (Cyber) insurance. Both of these are provided and administered by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA. Crime and Fidelity coverage provides coverage for theft of money, securities or other property as well as losses due to forgery. Cyber coverage provides security and privacy third party liability and first party event management coverage for privacy events or security failures. In the event of losses under either of these coverages, please contact the Claims Department as soon as possible as there are strict reporting time lines that could affect coverage and we will notify the insurer of the event.

If you have any questions about purchasing coverage under the group programs or what these programs may cover, please contact Programs and Information Technology Coordinator Tiffany Woods at tiffanyw@wciapool.org. Tiffany can also answer questions about the following stand-alone policies:

- Airport Liability
- Builders Risk
- Excess Workers' Comp
- Fine Arts
- Hull & Machinery / Protection & Indemnity and Excess Protection & Indemnity
- National Flood Insurance Policy (NFIP)
- Storage Tank Liability Policy