

July 15, 1976

Notice No. 25



Notice to Insurance Carriers, Self-Insured Employers
Under the Longshoremen's Compensation Act, and Other
Interested Parties

Subject: Rehabilitation, New Reporting Procedure under the
Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation
Act, as Amended

This notice is to advise interested parties that effective October 1, 1976, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP), Employment Standards Administration, will begin implementing the procedures described herein, and in the attached information paper, concerning rehabilitation under the amended Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act. These procedures will be followed in all instances described below in which an injury of a covered employee was sustained after August 1, 1976. The objective of this procedure is the early identification of permanently disabled employees in need of rehabilitation, and to insure a structured and comprehensive approach to assist them in the swiftest restoration to employment with a minimum residual disability.

It is vital that every Longshore Act claim be reviewed by the insurance carrier or self-insurer as soon as it is filed with them, to determine whether a rehabilitation program is indicated and if so, to promptly initiate the program. A three-part Form, LS-222, "Carrier's or Self-Insurer's Report on Rehabilitation to Deputy Commissioner" (R Form) will be utilized and will reflect the positive steps taken by the carrier or self-insurer toward the consideration and implementation of a rehabilitation program. This form (LS-222) must be submitted in duplicate to the Deputy Commissioner, whose address will be shown in item 14, in all cases in which medical rehabilitation services have been initiated, as rehabilitation services are deemed necessary, but in any event, in all cases in which the injured employee has received compensation payments for more than two months and has not returned to work.

A copy of the Form LS-222 is also attached for your information. A limited initial supply of the forms may be obtained from the district offices of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs. Carriers and self-insurers are authorized to print the forms and are responsible for maintaining an adequate supply to serve their needs.

JOHN E. STOCKER
Associate Director for Longshore
and Harbor Workers' Compensation

Attachments