

Editor's Note: Association Newsletter Article—May 2008

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Safety Pays—In More Ways Than One

Maintaining a safe workplace is good for employees—and for your business as well. Not only do injuries on the job decrease productivity and disrupt the flow of work, but they also can stand in the way of your efforts to hold your workers' compensation premium costs down.

Pinnacol Assurance, for the fourth year in a row, is demonstrating that safety pays by returning \$55 million in general dividends to Colorado businesses that have maintained safe workplaces.

With this year's distribution, we will have returned more than \$227 million in general dividends to Colorado's business community. Statewide, Pinnacol is issuing dividend checks to nearly 58,000 qualifying businesses in all 64 counties—about 92 percent of our policyholders.

“Issuing a general dividend for the fourth straight year is a continuing sign of our policyholders' commitment to maintaining safe workplaces and to Pinnacol's financial health and stability,” said Ken Ross, Pinnacol president and CEO.

“We're pleased to be in a position to return this money to our customers who fuel Colorado's economy by reinvesting these funds in their businesses and their employees' safety.”

Dividend checks are calculated based on the size of a policyholder's annual premium compared to claims costs. The average 2008 dividend check will be about \$930.

Pinnacol's policyholders represent the full spectrum of Colorado's industries, including construction, manufacturing, high-tech, transportation, and agriculture, and we provide a variety of free resources to help ensure safe workplaces for policyholders.

Safety consultants and return-to-work specialists are available at no cost to perform worksite inspections and develop customized injury-prevention and transitional work programs. In addition, we host regular seminars on diverse issues ranging from back-injury prevention to safety for non-English speaking workers.

If you have questions about the general dividend, please contact your Pinnacol marketing representative.