

**Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry
Workers' Compensation Division**

Notice of Intent to Adopt Version 3.1 of the Claims Release Standard published by the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions and the corresponding Minnesota implementation guide, to serve and electronically file workers' compensation reports and documents with the commissioner

Notice is hereby given that the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) intends to adopt Version 3.1 of the Claims Release Standard (R3.1) published by the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) and the corresponding Minnesota Release 3.1 electronic filing and implementation guide (Minnesota implementation guide). R3.1 and the Minnesota implementation guide will be used by self-insured employers, insurers and third-party administrators (called trading partners) that are required by law to electronically report workers' compensation claim information to the commissioner on or after August 31, 2020. They will also be used by the trading partners' vendors that facilitate submission of the electronic transactions to DLI. R3.1 and a draft implementation guide have been available in Minnesota for trading partners to review since April 2019.

Statutory authority: The authority to adopt the IAIABC Claims Release Standard and the corresponding Minnesota implementation guide is in Minnesota Statutes, section 176.231, subd. 5 (2019, 1st sp. session). Under this law, the adopted versions of the Claims Release Standard and Minnesota implementation guide are not rules under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, but they have the force and effect of law as of the effective date, which will be Monday, August 31, 2020.

Description of the Claims Release Standard and Minnesota implementation guide:

The national claims reporting standard: The IAIABC electronic data interchange (EDI) Claims Reporting Standard is more than 20 years old. Jurisdictions throughout the country have adopted the EDI format as an electronically secure means to replace required paper forms. It began with Claims Release version 1.0 with 68 data elements, most of which were used for First Reports of Injury (FROI), with a limited set for Subsequent Reports of Injury (SROI). The standard has since grown to include more than 275 data elements in the current version R3.1.

Minnesota adoption of Claims Release 3.1: Minnesota Statutes, section 176.231, requires self-insured employers and insurers to file first reports of workers' compensation injuries and subsequent reports of injury with the commissioner. DLI began its voluntary EDI program in 1993 and mandated FROI EDI reporting in 2014. In 2019, the workers' compensation law was amended to require all companies handling workers' compensation claims to submit workers' compensation reports via EDI as of August 31, 2020. Minnesota mandates the electronic submission of first and subsequent reports of injury data via the IAIABC Claims Release Standard adopted by the commissioner or submission by DLI's web portal, which mirrors EDI. The commissioner is adopting R3.1 because it conforms to the most recent claims reporting standard, which includes data elements important to Minnesota claims reporting. This mandate does not affect the method insured employers use to report injuries to their insurance companies or to the commissioner.

The Minnesota implementation guide: The Minnesota implementation guide describes the transfer of data between trading partners and DLI. DLI mandates submission of data using an XML format, as described in the guide. The Minnesota implementation guide is the Minnesota-specific documentation that technically implements the R3.1 format; it explains how R3.1 is used in the Minnesota workers' compensation system for its FROI and SROI electronic reporting structure. The FROI transaction is used to transmit new and

updated claim information; the SROI transaction is used to transmit payment and denial information related to previously submitted claims. R3.1 defines the types of electronic transactions that can be reported. Each of the transactions is associated with one or more record types with various fields. The fields within the transactions are known by specific data element numbers that identify the type of data contained. For example, DN0031 is the data element number for the date of injury.

Certain fields in the EDI record are validated to enforce database integrity and to inform DLI's trading partners whether the transmission or transaction is accepted or rejected. As the transmission and transaction are validated for consistency and accuracy, acknowledgment transactions are sent back to each trading partner. In the case of a rejected transmission (e.g., a missing header record data element), the acknowledgment record is created and no further processing of that transmission file will take place (i.e., nothing is written to DLI's database). In the case of a rejected transaction (e.g., a missing value for a mandatory field), the acknowledgment record will be created but no further processing of that transaction will take place (i.e., nothing is written to the database for that claim). If rejected, a new transmission or transaction must be submitted.

When the proposed R3.1 standard and Minnesota implementation guide are adopted and become effective, they will be used in conjunction with all applicable Minnesota workers' compensation statutes and rules that are not replaced by the adopted standard and implementation guide.

Contact person and comment period: Interested persons or groups may provide comments about R3.1 and the Minnesota implementation guide. Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m., Monday, May 18, 2020. Written and telephone comments must be submitted to Angela Andresen by 4:30 p.m., May 18, 2020, by: email to campus.ediguide.DLI@state.mn.us; U.S. mail or personal delivery to Department of Labor and Industry, c/o Angela Andresen, 443 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; or phone at 651-284-5011.

Availability of Claims Release 3.1 and the Minnesota implementation guide: R3.1 is copyrighted by and can be purchased from the IAIABC at www.iaiaabc.org. However, any person may arrange to review a paper copy of R3.1 and the proposed implementation guide at DLI by contacting Angela Andresen at the above phone number. The proposed Minnesota implementation guide is also available electronically for viewing and downloading on DLI's website at www.dli.mn.gov/business/workers-compensation/work-comp-electronic-data-interchange-edi-and-efroi-web-portal.

Modifications and process for adoption: After considering all comments received, the commissioner will publish, no later than June 1, 2020, a Notice of Adoption in the Minnesota *State Register* of R3.1 and any modifications to the Minnesota implementation guide. The adopted R3.1 and Minnesota implementation guide will become effective August 31, 2020, which will be at least 90 days after publication of the Notice of Adoption in the *State Register*. The implementation guide will remain available on DLI's website.

Alternative format: Upon request, this information can be made available in an alternative format, such as audio, Braille or large print. To request, contact the agency contact person listed above.

Dated: Feb. 10, 2020

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Nancy Leppink, Commissioner
Department of Labor and Industry