



MEDIA RELEASE

WorkCover launches online premium estimator

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WorkCover NSW has announced an innovative new online tool to help businesses estimate their annual workers compensation costs.

Based on a similar concept to the Motor Accident Authority's successful Green Slip Calculator, the Premium Estimator is located on the WorkCover NSW website and enables employers to estimate their workers compensation premium.

WorkCover NSW CEO, Lisa Hunt said the Premium Estimator was designed to provide a service to employers where they were working – online.

“With highly mobile workforces, business owners and workers are spending more and more time working online,” Ms Hunt said.

“As any business owner will tell you, time is money and the ability to easily get an estimate of your workers compensation premium will save both time and money.

“The Premium Estimator makes it easier for start-ups, businesses looking to diversify or those looking to expand, to check their workers compensation premium and is part of WorkCover's customer-focused approach to helping NSW employers.”

Ms Hunt said WorkCover sought feedback from employer groups and businesses during the development of the Premium Estimator.

“We acknowledge that managing workers compensation premiums can be a source of frustration and confusion for many small businesses,” Ms Hunt said.

“Businesses can identify their WorkCover Industry Classification using the Premium Estimator, which will help them to better understand their workers compensation premiums, while giving assurance they are properly classified.

“It also enables businesses to plan for the future by testing what happens to their workers compensation premiums if they add or change business activities, change staffing levels or have a claim.

“The Premium Estimator can also be used by vision or mobility impaired people because it meets the World Wide Web Consortium's *Web Content Accessibility Guidelines*.

“WorkCover worked with an accessibility specialist to ensure people with different levels of vision impairment could use the premium estimator and participants with a range of impairments physically tested the Premium Estimator during development.

“We have ensured the needs of our customers have been incorporated into the Premium Estimator and believe it is an excellent resource that will help employers better understand and manage their workers compensation insurance.”





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General Manager – Workplace Solutions at the NSW Business Chamber, Greg Pattison said the Premium Estimator was an important step in improving business understanding of workers compensation.

“Workers compensation premiums can be complex and difficult to understand,” Mr Pattison said.

“The Premium Estimator gets inside the black box of workers compensation premiums which isn’t generally available to the average employer.

“Providing a simple tool which estimates workers compensation premiums can help employers understand what is happening with their premiums and why, and we will be encouraging our members to use it.”

Darrin Pride from IFE Forklifts at Ingleburn has used the Premium Estimator and said it would save small businesses time and effort.

“The ability to get an estimate of your premium online is a great concept,” Mr Pride said.

“If we hire new staff or any staff leave the Premium Estimator will enable us to see what impact a change in staffing levels will have on our premium.

“The consistency and transparency in premium estimates offered by the system will be welcomed by many small business owners like myself.”

The Premium Estimator can be accessed at www.workcover.nsw.gov.au

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