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SYNOPSIS

THOUGHTS ON EVALUATION OF INJURY PREVENTION EFFORTS Felix Tang

Key words: TBC

Purpose of your paper: TBC

Synopsis: Compensation for injuries has been a broad but well researched area, and indeed one that actuaries have been involved for some time.

There is often recognition that the prevention of injuries is arguably "more important" than the compensation of the injury after the event. This is particularly true if the effects of the potential injury are irreversible or even fatal. However, in many ways, even with the best intentions, in practice there are often constraints in terms of time, cost, and resources.

On the other hand, for compliance or business reasons, the prevention of injuries is often a high priority for many organisations. Although their basic aims are the same, injury prevention initiatives do vary in scale and in detail, and therefore the associated commitments can also vary.

How should one evaluate the effectiveness of the injury prevention efforts before, during and after its implementation? What are the many dimensions that impact on the "success" of injury prevention initiatives? Is the most expensive always the "best"?

This presentation aims to outline some examples of different approaches to evaluating injury prevention efforts, and draw out the common themes from these studies. It will also explore the key success factors, and how these can be measured and monitored in practice. Finally we attempt to emphasise how an actuarial way of thinking can add further value in the process.