



## SYNOPSIS

### **COMMON LAW AND ORDER – A WORKERS' COMPENSATION SELF-INSURER'S PERSPECTIVE**

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**Key words:** common law damages, claims management strategies, self-insurance, improving outcomes, analytics.

**Purpose of your paper:** The purpose of the presentation is to:

- Discuss effective injury and claims management strategies designed to reduce the number of injured workers pursuing common law damages; and
- Examine how analytics can help to identify injured workers early in the life of the claim who are likely to pursue damages.

**Synopsis:** Recently the Victorian Workers' Compensation Scheme and Woolworths as a large self-insurer have experienced an increase in the number of claims pursuing common law damages. For both the Scheme and Woolworths, common law damages and associated legal expenses account for over 30% of payments made in a given year. In the absence of effective strategies, the risk is that common law costs will continue to escalate ultimately placing pressure on the scheme and self-insurers.

The aim of this presentation to provide a self-insurer's perspective on:

- Early intervention strategies aimed at curbing the increase in damages claims;
- The challenges associated with actively managing claims likely to pursue damages; and
- How analytics can help identify high cost claims and improve outcomes for both injured workers and employers.