month or six weeks, by the number of Class 3 injuries reported during the same period of time

4 Calculate the average amount of supervisor's time required per case, where possible, by observing the activities of representative supervisors in connection with-first aid cases

When a sufficient number of cases has been studied to be representative both of the activities of supervisors in different departments and of different types of first aid cases, the average time spent by a supervisor is computed by adding all the time intervals recorded and dividing by the number of cases

If it is impossible to make a time study of the supervisor's activities in connection with first aid cases, the only alternative is to secure from each supervisor an estimate of the time he spends on the usual first-aid case, and to average these estimates by adding them and dividing by the number of supervisors

The average total uninsured cost of a case in Class 3 is estimated from the data accumulated above as follows the average amount of time lost for a trip to the dispensary (1, above) is multiplied by the plant's average wage rate, secured from the payroll department, to get the average cost per trip for the worker's time lost To this figure is added the estimated cost of providing medical attention for a single visit (2) This figure is then multiplied by the average number of dispensary visits per medical treatment case (3), and to this result is added the average amount of supervisor's time required per case (4)

This method of recording costs is designed to provide estimates of the average uninsured cost per case for accidents causing localized property damage or, at most, a few injuries

The method of cost investigation for accidents resulting in deaths, permanent total disabilities, or extraordinarily extensive property damage is the same as for others, but the difference is that every one is investigated separately and should be included in the final cost estimate as a separate item In estimating the cost of a fire, the investigator should bear in mind that the company's fire insurance may cover property damage that would appear as an uninsured cost in other work accidents

Development of final cost estimate

Once the average for each class of case has been established, costs for any period in which a sufficiently large number of accidents has occurred to be representative can be estimated with considerable accuracy by multiplying the average uninsured cost per case for each of the four classes by the number of cases occurring in that class during the period

If any deaths, permanent total disabilities, or extraordinarily extensive property damage accidents have occurred, the specific uninsured costs of these should be added to the estimated costs of the four classes of accidents

To these uninsured cost totals should be added the cost of workmen's compensation and insured medical expense For companies which are self-insured, this will be the total amount paid out in settlement of claims plus all expenses of administering the insurance For companies not carrying their own insurance, it will be the amount of their insurance premiums

The method will have to be modified in accordance with the record-keeping systems of different companies For example, most self-insurers will find it impossible to separate compensated medical expense from dispensary care In that case, these items should be combined into one, and the dispensary cost omitted from the analysis of noncompensated costs on the data sheets

For an illustration of the development of a final cost estimate, see the example in Tables 12-B and -C

References

American Standards Institute, 1430 Broadway, New York, N Y 10018 *Standard Method of Recording Basic Facts Relating to the Nature and Occurrence of Work Injuries*, Z16 2

National Safety Council, 425 N Michigan Ave , Chicago, Ill 60611 *Self-Evaluation Guide and Inspection Sheets Based on OSHA Standards*, 1972