

## **RESULTS OF CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY 5-YEAR DRUG-TESTING STUDY**

- ▶ The average construction company with a drug testing program saw a *51% reduction* in injury rates within 2 years of implementing a drug-test program.
- ▶ Construction companies with a drug-testing program experienced an *11.41% reduction* in the workers' compensation experience-rating modification factor.
- ▶ Drug testing was most effective in reducing the experience-rating modification factor in the first 3 years following implementation of the program.
- ▶ 72% of study participants with testing programs stated that they thought the benefits outweighed the costs of such a program.
- ▶ Participating company officials generally believed that drug testing had a positive impact on the company's image and is an effective deterrent in preventing drug abuse.
- ▶ Majority of study respondents, whether or not they utilized drug testing, thought substance abuse to be a "moderately serious problem" in the construction industry.
- ▶ The study also revealed that larger construction companies are significantly more likely to have a drug and alcohol testing program. This leaves the smaller firms, without testing programs, vulnerable to substance abusers.

*Source: "An Evaluation of Drug Testing in the Workplace: A Study of the Construction Industry", Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. By Jonathan Gerber.*

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