

# CELLY SERVICES, INC.

Environmental, Health and Safety Services

## DEALER ALERT

**TO:** EHS Coordinator  
**FROM:** Sam Celly, MS JD CSP REA  
**SUBJECT:** **First Aid Or Recordable Injury**  
**DATE:** November 10, 2008

The Workers Compensation (W/C) premium paid by your dealership depends upon payroll, work function of the employee and the X-Mod. The X-Mod is computed upon the severity and frequency of injuries reported. Some dealerships have entered into programs with their insurance company where the first \$250 expense for the treatment is paid by the dealership aka a deductible. While this financial agreement may be acceptable, it does not relieve the dealership to record the injury that later will reflect in their premiums! California Department of Insurance wrote a memo (a copy is attached) on this matter sometime ago notifying employers of their obligations. We seriously recommend that you discuss the matter of **WHAT INJURIES NEED TO BE REPORTED AND WHICH ARE EXEMPT** with your W/C insurance company. Some general guidance between recordable injuries and first aid as follows:

**Injuries requiring any of the following treatments are almost always recordable:**

- Treatment of infection
- Application of antiseptics during the second or subsequent visit to medical personnel
- Treatment of second or third degree burn(s)
- Application of sutures (stitches)
- Application of butterfly adhesive dressing(s) or steri strip(s) in lieu of sutures
- Removal of foreign bodies embedded in eye
- Removal of foreign bodies from wound; if procedure is complicated because of depth of embedment, size, or location
- Use of prescription medications (except a single dose administered on first visit for minor injury or discomfort)
- Use of hot or cold soaking therapy during the second or subsequent visit to medical personnel
- Cutting away dead skin (surgical debridement)
- Application of heat therapy during second or subsequent visit to medical personnel
- Use of whirlpool bath therapy during second or subsequent visit to medical personnel
- Positive x-ray diagnosis (fractures, broken bones, etc.)
- Admission to a hospital or equivalent medical facility for treatment.

**The following are generally considered first aid treatment if the employee does not lose consciousness, have restriction of work or motion, or transfer to another job:**

- Application of antiseptics during first visit to medical personnel
- Treatment of first degree burn(s)
- Application of bandage(s) during any visit to medical personnel
- Use of elastic bandage(s) during first visit to medical personnel
- Removal of foreign bodies not embedded in eye if only irrigation is required
- Removal of foreign bodies from wound; if procedure is uncomplicated, and is, for example, by tweezers or other simple technique
- Use of nonprescription medications and administration of single dose of prescription medication on first visit for minor injury or discomfort
- Soaking therapy on initial visit to medical personnel or removal of bandages by soaking
- Application of hot or cold compress(es) during first visit to medical personnel
- Application of ointments to abrasions to prevent drying or cracking
- Application of heat therapy during first visit to medical personnel
- Use of whirlpool bath therapy during first visit to medical personnel
- Negative x-ray diagnosis
- Observation of injury during visit to medical personnel.

*Since 1987, Sam has been helping automobile dealers comply with EPA & OSHA regulations in California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii, & Idaho. Your comments/questions are always welcome. Please send them to [sam@cellyservices.com](mailto:sam@cellyservices.com).*