

“Pinnacol stood by me.” — Harley Bowers



Heavy machinery at use in 19th-century Leadville, Colo.

Since the earliest days of workers' compensation, Pinnacol Assurance has been here for Colorado.

Evolution of Workers' Comp Insurance

During the Industrial Revolution, as heavy machinery and assembly lines became commonplace in factories across the nation, work-related injuries began to soar. Civil lawsuits against employers took years to settle and employees often ended up dependent on welfare or the charity of others.

So in 1915, the Colorado General Assembly passed the Workers' Compensation Act. At the same time, Pinnacol

Assurance was created as the assured source through which any Colorado business could obtain workers' comp coverage.

Purpose of Workers' Comp

In the simplest terms, workers' compensation insurance protects employees from financial difficulty and protects businesses from lawsuits.

It creates a pact between employers and their employees: Employers are mandated to cover medical care and provide partial wage replacement for injured workers; in exchange for this protection, workers' compensation is the exclusive remedy for workers injured on the job.

Pinnacol's Impact on Colorado

Pinnacol's financial reliability — five consecutive years of rate reductions, general dividend distributions and “safety net” role to insure any Colorado business, regardless of its size or accident history — make us a stabilizing force in Colorado's business community.

In fact, Colorado has the eighth-lowest workers' comp premiums in the United States, according to the National Council on Compensation Insurance.

Our stability also allows us to remain outwardly focused — on the needs of our customers and injured workers — and to deliver service beyond the minimum requirements of the law.

Maintaining Pinnacol's health and stability, and treating others as we'd like to be treated ourselves, has yielded positive results again in 2009:

Premium Earned: \$398.5 million

Investment Portfolio Yield: 4.8 percent

General Dividends: Approximately \$120 million

Customer Retention Rate: 91 percent

