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For Immediate Release:

December 9, 2008

Accuchex Insurance Services LLC, the recently formed insurance agency in Novato provides a comprehensive choice of insurance products to employers. The managing members of the insurance agency are Lawrence Lipman, formerly with USI of Northern California, and James and Leslie Ruhland, the principals of Accuchex Corporation. The insurance services company was formed in collaboration with the largest independent payroll services company in the Bay Area, Accuchex Corporation, which has been providing payroll, tax and Human Resources with the Time2Pay product since 1990.

Worker's Compensation insurance is mandated by law in most states, and in California has been a hot topic due to increased lawsuits and frivolous claims which have driven the premiums up each year. "Back in the mid-1990 we saw double digit increases in worker's compensation premiums," notes Ruhland who successfully advocates for reform with the Cal Chamber and the Governor's office. "Thankfully we were able to lobby the voters to institute protections to employers and the claims beneficiaries to help prevent abuse and fraud of the system." Last November voters in California rejected two separate measures that would have further cost work comp premiums to skyrocket.

The coverage and benefits of Worker's Compensation do not vary within a particular state but the rates and service do. For California employers it is important to choose a reputable, responsive insurance provider that is able to couple closely with the payroll function. By doing so premium billings can be computed and forwarded automatically from payroll to the agent or the insurance carrier. This process significantly limits the work associated with research and report compilation.

An added feature available through Accuchex Insurance Services is targeted to third party administrators (TPA) and accountants. Accuchex Insurance Services will ease the communication burden between the insurance products, the reporting requirements and state compliance functions for employers by streamlining the workers' compensation coverage and payroll into a more integrated system, and by transmitting premium dollars to the insurer.

For several years insurers have offered a "pay-as-you-go" option for the Worker's Compensation premiums paid by employers. This can be a sound option and attractive for some business classifications. However, it is important to understand the options available, as some times, due to exposure levels and experience ratios, a business would benefit more by agreeing to an annual contracted amount based on estimated growth or decline of payroll expense. There are reasons to consider the traditional policy of estimating the annual premium and initiating the policy with a deposit.

Accuchex Insurance Services LLC is an independent insurance agency located at 365 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Novato and is focused on insurance products for employers. They can be reached at 415-883-7733.