

June 25, 2021

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FEDERATED INSURANCE RISK MANAGEMENT ACADEMY: "EVREYHTIHING IS ENCRYPED — NOW WAHT!?! FIVE THINGS TO HELP PREVENT RANSOMWARE IMPACTING YOUR BUSINESS"

Tuesday, July 20, 2021 1:00 pm

Ransomware is impacting over 51 percent of organizations all around the globe. While it appeared ransomware cases might be decreasing for a brief time, these incidents rose dramatically in 2019 and show no signs of slowing down. This increase in malicious activity has serious business ramifications, from increasing downtime to causing revenue loss to damage your brand and reputation. Being held hostage by ransomware is a scary event to deal with in your organization. It's essential to understand the emerging trends in ransomware, and the recent highly targeted attack vectors, what actions you can take to help prepare before an attack.

The new ways offenders are using ransomware to take control of your network. Five best practices for helping to defend against and recover from ransomware attacks. Actionable steps to take if your organization does become a victim and to how to engage your employees to help them make

the right cybersecurity decisions aka, be a "human firewall".

EMLI (PMLI) REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW

We are excited to announce that registration is open for the Energy Marketers Leadership Institute (EMLI)!

EMLI is new and improved and is designed to make it easier and more affordable for WPMA members to attend. The EMLI programs will be delivered online via Zoom video conference and will include breakout rooms so that the leaders who are attending can interact and learn together.

Special thanks to Lea McCullough for her leadership in working with Meridian to design and deliver the EMLI programs. For more information on how to register go to: <https://emamasters.com/energy-marketers-leadership-institute/>

MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES - YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE!

WPMA welcomes industry-related articles for publication in the WPMA News magazine. All members and associate members of WPMA are eligible to submit items for publication. Articles will be included as space allows, and no self-promoting articles or editorials will be accepted. WPMA reserves the right to edit and make adaption of such contributions to accommodate the magazine's space and style. Please submit articles or content to Jan Roothoff, WPMA Administration/IT Director at janr@wpma.com, or mail to Jan Roothoff, Western Petroleum Marketers Association, PO Box 571500, Murray, UT 84157-1500. Submissions for the Winter edition of WPMA News magazine are due before November 1st. Later submissions will be considered for the Spring issue.

CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

The House is scheduled to vote the week of June 28 on the INVEST in America Act (H.R.3684), legislation that would authorize \$547 billion for highways and surface transportation programs for the next five years. As the legislation is considered on the House floor, members have an opportunity to amend the bill text. Currently, the legislation includes provisions that would allow electric vehicle (EV) charging at rest areas and on the Interstate right-of-way. We urge you to contact your Representative and ask them to support Rep. Rick Larsen's amendments #70 and #71 that would remove these harmful provisions and promote EMA member interest by directing the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a study to determine the effect that commercial services at rest areas would have on off-highway businesses and local communities while also allowing states to offer EV charging at park and ride facilities. Write Congress in support of the Larsen Amendment.

In advance of floor consideration, EMA worked with industry partners and Hill supporters to secure a letter, signed by 17 House members, that urges Congressional leaders to ensure that the policies and incentives put forth to develop a charging network for electric vehicles (EVs) result in a price-competitive and convenient refueling marketplace for consumers and promotes small business fuel marketers who play a critical role in the energy and fuel supply chain.

Yesterday, President Biden and twenty-one bipartisan Senators announced a \$1.2 trillion hard infrastructure framework, of which \$579 billion will be new spending. The two-page framework includes \$312 billion for transportation, including \$110 billion for roads and bridges; \$50 billion for public transit and \$7 billion for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure. The framework also includes tens of billions for broadband and water infrastructure and \$20 billion for an infrastructure financing bank. The framework would pay for the spending by repurposing certain unspent COVID-relief funds; increasing IRS tax enforcement; reinstating Superfund chemical fees; using proceeds from 5G spectrum auctions; selling a certain amount of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; and accelerating public-private partnerships.

While President Biden announced the framework, he also said that he would not sign the bipartisan bill without a broader reconciliation package that included other priorities from the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan. President Biden would like Congress to vote on both pieces of legislation in tandem before the end of the federal fiscal year on September 30. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) agreed, saying that the House would not vote on the Senate's bipartisan package without also advancing a reconciliation package. Senate Budget Committee Chair Sanders (I-VT) is preparing a reconciliation package to include President Biden's social infrastructure proposals, as well as measures on prescription drug pricing and lowering the Medicare eligibility age.

Prospects for passage remain uncertain given the development that Democrats plan to move a bipartisan proposal through regular order and a separate partisan measure through reconciliation. There is no certainty that all 50 Senate Democrats would remain unified to advance a reconciliation package. There is also a risk that Democrats' reconciliation push could harm the overall bipartisan agreement, as Republican Senators may be less likely to go along with the package knowing that a partisan reconciliation process looms around the corner. The Senate left DC today and is scheduled to return July 12. Over the next few weeks, we anticipate staff to further define the framework and prep legislation for consideration in mid-July at the earliest.

EMA COMPLIANCE BULLETIN: 2021-2022 FEDERAL HEAVY HIGHWAY VEHICLE USE TAX PAYMENT DUE AUGUST 31

The 2021 Heavy Highway Vehicle Use (HHVU) tax reporting period runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. The HHVU tax is paid on each commercial motor vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of 55,000 pounds or greater that travels 5,000 miles or more per year. The HHVU applies to most petroleum cargo tank vehicles and transports. Once the HHVU tax is filed and paid, the IRS will send back to filers a stamped IRS Form 2290 Schedule 1, proof of payment within 6 weeks.

ENERGY MARKETERS OF AMERICA TO BIDEN ADMINISTRATION: FIX THE CORN ETHANOL MANDATE NOW *SCOTUS Sides with Small Refiners over RFS Waivers*

This week, EMA sent a letter to the EPA Administrator Michael Regan and National Economic Council Director Brian Deese requesting urgent action to reduce the corn ethanol mandate to 9.7 percent of projected gasoline demand to address the current E15 crisis. The Administration is under significant pressure to provide relief from labor union leaders and Senators from his home state of Delaware. The EPA is currently considering whether to keep RFS blending obligations flat, opt for a modest decrease or to delay compliance deadline for 2021 blending mandates as was done in 2019 and 2020.

"EMA fully believes in renewable fuels and their importance in the liquid fuels market, and we are currently working with Congress to ensure that future federal grant funds be available for small business energy marketers to upgrade their underground storage tank system equipment to safely and legally sell E10 plus blends. However, if the RFS continues to go unchecked, the majority of retail sites across the country will be unable to legally sell the new product due to non-compatible underground storage tank (UST) system equipment. To point out the facts of infrastructure compatibility issues is not being anti-ethanol. To the contrary, we must ensure that ethanol continues to be sold in a safe and legal manner for it to have a promising future," said EMA President Rob Underwood.

Last week, labor union leaders requested urgent action to "reduce the skyrocketing cost" of biofuel blending credits (RINs) "and preserve American union jobs." According to union leaders, the cost for U.S. refiners to pay for RINs to meet annual blending mandates, particularly ethanol credits, siphons off money for refinery upgrade projects that typically employ thousands of union workers. RIN prices hit a high of \$2.00 last week. Democratic senators Chris Coons and Tom Carper of Delaware met with EPA Administrator Michael Regan to discuss broad relief for refiners. The senators proposed options including a nationwide general waiver exempting the refining industry from specific obligations, lowering annual blending mandates, and creating a price cap on RINs credits.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Supreme Court this morning ruled in favor of small refiners seeking exemptions from RFS blending requirements. The 6-3 decision overturns an earlier finding by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that said EPA could only extend existing waivers from the RFS.

EMA JOINS COALITION IN LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR 199A

This week EMA joined other associations in a letter of opposition of any reduction of the 20-percent deduction for qualified business income under Section 199A of the Tax Code, including phasing out the deduction above certain income thresholds.

The letter to the Majority and Ranking members of the Senate and House tax committees outlines that without the 199A deduction, that individually- and family-owned Main Street businesses would pay significantly higher taxes, putting them at a competitive disadvantage and accelerating the economic consolidation taking place in our economy.

EMA opposes proposals to limit or repeal the deduction because it would hurt Main Street businesses and result in fewer jobs, lower wages, and less economic growth in thousands of communities across the country. Such changes would amount to a direct tax hike on America's Main Street employers, a key reason why the tax plan released by the White House in March left the deduction fully intact.

CONSERVATIVE CLIMATE CAUCUS ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK

On Wednesday, Rep. John Curtis (R-UT) announced the creation of the Conservative Climate Caucus, designed to educate House Republicans on climate policies and legislation consistent with conservative values in order to fight against radical progressive climate proposals that would hurt our economy, American workers, and national security.

Curtis and the fifty other members of the caucus know that practical and exportable answers can be found in innovation embraced by the free market, because Americans and the rest of the world want access to cheaper, reliable, and cleaner energy. Further, with innovative technologies, fossil fuels can and should be a major part of the global solution. Finally, caucus members emphasize that reducing emissions is the goal, not reducing energy choices. For the full membership list, go to Conservative Climate Caucus.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

June 29, 2021 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Magic Valley PAC Fund Golf - Canyon Springs GC - Twin Falls, ID
July 25-27, 2021 - Oregon (OFA) Annual Conference - Sunriver Resort - Sunriver, OR
August 4-6, 2021 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Convention - Sun Valley Resort - Sun Valley, ID
August 23-25, 2021 - New Mexico (NMPMA) Convention - Sandia Resort & Casino - Albuquerque, NM
September 2, 2021 - Idaho (IPM&CSA) Teton Valley PAC Fund Golf - Teton Reserve GC - Victor, ID
September 15-17, 2021 - Utah (UPMRA) Convention - Sheraton Park City Hotel - Park City, UT
February 22-24, 2022 - WPMA Convention & Expo - Mirage Hotel - Las Vegas, NV

Be sure to subscribe to all of our social channels for great tips, industry trends, and insider information about association activities and upcoming events!



Petro Pete: "Some people say, "If you can't beat them, join them." I say "If you can't beat them, beat them", because they will be expecting you to join them, so you will have the element of surprise."

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Manufactures Rep Sales Agents Wanted

Southwest (California, Arizona, Nevada) and Rocky Mountain (Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico) territories

Wilson/Rogers & Associates (www.WilsonRogers.com) is seeking **two** entrepreneurial-minded **Independent Agent / Manufacturers Representatives** to join our team! Agents will be responsible for promoting and supporting contractual manufacturers within the Petroleum Equipment Industry in the Southwestern US and Rocky Mountain regions. Agents will be responsible for maintaining existing clients while developing new relationships with key Distributors, Contractors, Engineers and End Users of equipment used for the safe storage, transfer, monitoring and dispensing of petroleum products and related fluids, as well as lighting solutions for such applications.

Ability to work independently out of a home-based office is required, as is the ability to travel approximately 50% of the time.

If you are an aggressive entrepreneur with a positive attitude and excellent social skills, consider joining our team today!

Please contact or submit resume to:

Steve Latimer

President

Wilson/Rogers & Associates

(206) 743-4592

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