

# **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PIPE TRADES HEALTH & WELFARE FUND PENSIONERS & SURVIVING SPOUSES HEALTH FUND**

## **SUPPLEMENT\***

To: All Participants

From: Board of Trustees

Date: May 2013

Re: Health Benefits Coverage of Spouses of Same Sex Marriages and Domestic Partners

### **KEEP THIS NOTICE WITH THE SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION**

Effective July 1, 2013, both the Southern California Pipe Trades Health & Welfare (Active) Fund and the Southern California Pipe Trades Pensioners & Surviving Spouses Health Fund are amended to revise the definition of “Spouse” to cover same-sex spouses and to add Domestic Partners of Participants as Eligible Dependents.

“Spouse” will be defined as any individual to whom a Participant is legally married.

Domestic Partners will be provided benefits under each of these Plans to the same extent and under the same terms and conditions as benefits are provided to Spouses of Participants. A “Domestic Partner” is defined as a person who, with a Participant, has established and registered a domestic partnership with the State of California, or who has validly established and registered a domestic partnership, or similar union, in another state that is substantially similar to a domestic partnership recognized in California.

A Participant wishing to establish the eligibility of a Domestic Partner must submit a copy of the applicable domestic partnership registration. If there is any question about the validity of a domestic partnership established in another jurisdiction, either Fund may deny coverage until a valid California domestic partnership registration has been submitted. A Domestic Partner shall lose eligibility upon the dissolution of the domestic partnership. Upon dissolution of the domestic partnership the Participant must promptly notify the Fund Office and provide a copy of the dissolution.

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\* Health & Welfare Fund Supplement No. 1

Pensioners & Surviving Spouses Health Fund Supplement No. 1

Health & Welfare Fund Supplement No. 1 – 2013

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