

## TEXAS AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE PLAN ASSOCIATION

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To: Member Companies

## Introduction of the Electronic Application Submission Interface EASi

The Governing Committee of the Texas Automobile Insurance Plan Association (TAIPA) is pleased to announce that effective in July TAIPA will implement EASi – Electronic Application Submission Interface. EASi provides a third option for Certified Producers to complete and submit application data to TAIPA. Completion of the EASi application will be via the internet. The resulting electronic version of the application will be printed, signed, and mailed to TAIPA along with the premium deposit payment and any other supporting documentation. The Certified Producer will also receive an electronic version of a completed Binder Form that he will print, sign and provide to the insured.

EASi, which is available only to producers that are certified with TAIPA, offers a number of benefits to producers submitting business to TAIPA, including,

- It is easier for producers to enter application information on the EASi application on their computer screens. EASi applications will be more legible than handwritten applications.
- The most recent EASi application form will always be available online. Producers may no longer need to purchase and maintain a supply of paper applications.
- EASi provides an alternative to the Electronic Submission Procedure (by telephone) to obtain immediate binding of coverage for losses for TAIPA applicants.
- EASi has edits built into its application data entry screens, so there should be an appreciable reduction in deficiencies requiring follow up for assigned applications.
- The producer receives a completed binder form for the applicant. Producers do not purchase the Binder Forms for EASi submission applicants.

EASi will be introduced to a "pilot" group of Certified Producers in July, and be available to all Certified Producers on October 1, 2003.

Certified Producers submitting applications under the current methods of submission will continue to use the current versions of the applications. EASi applications will be of a different format to accommodate the nationwide EASi program.

Insurers will not receive a copy of the EASi Binder Form since the date and time of the submission will be shown at the top of each page of the EASi application. Refer to Subsection 6.A.2 of the TAIPA Plan of Operation for the effective time and date of coverage.

In order to allow insurers time to notify your claims offices and acquaint staff with this new additional TAIPA Binder Form, a copy of the new form is attached.

The Binder Form requires the Certified Producers signature.

Blank EASi applications and Binder Forms are not available for downloading. The time and date of the <u>coverage</u> may also be verified by contacting the customer service department in the TAIPA office at 512-444-4441. Effective date of the <u>policy</u> may be verified through our automated system at 1-800-580-8247.

In September, a copy of the brochure introducing EASi to Certified Producers can be downloaded as a PDF from TAIPA's website, <a href="www.taipa.org">www.taipa.org</a>.

If you have any questions, regarding the introduction of EASi, please feel free to contact me at the above telephone number or email address.

Sincerely,

Margaret Alsobrook Operations Manager

Margaret Alsobrook

**Enclosure**