



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2018-01 (16 January 2018)

What's Your Rush?



Many extremely serious accidents occurring at marine terminals worldwide are vehicular in their nature. Among those accidents, collisions between moving vehicles present some of the most disturbing outcomes; often resulting in death or permanent disability. It's safe to say, that none of us want to be involved in those types of accidents.

In visits to marine terminals along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, however, representatives of the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee often observe **both labor and management** vehicle operators risking their lives and their families' futures by ignoring stop signs and stop bars.

Some of those operators simply "blow them off", without slowing down at all. Others will artfully reduce their speed a bit and slide through the stop sign/stop bar as if no one's looking. Either way, they're setting themselves (and their fellow workers) up for a potentially deadly outcome.

The ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee, in the strongest terms, urges the operators of yard tractors, straddle carriers, reach stackers, pickup trucks, automobiles, top loaders, empty handlers, and all other industrial trucks... to make a statement each time they approach a stop sign/stop bar. Let that statement be, ***"I care and respect myself, my family and my fellow workers enough to come to a complete stop and proceed again only when I see it's safe to do so."***

And while we have the utmost respect for industry productivity and efficiency goals, we also appreciate that all vehicle operators truly know what's safe and what's not... and when they're pushing the limits too hard. We also appreciate that most are paid by the hour... So why rush around unsafely, when so many others (including the ones who care for you the most) depend upon you to do the right thing for them... and for yourself?

Got an OSH-related question? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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