



## ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2020-11 (10 November 2020)

### Safety of Checkers (and other Service Vehicle Users) When in Container Yards



The ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) has, many times in the past, emphasized the fact that pedestrians walking anywhere within a marine terminal are at particular risk of vehicular struck-by hazards. Once a checker (or any other worker) disembarks a pickup truck (or another type of service vehicle) and ventures into container yard locations, he/she immediately becomes subject to extremely serious risks that can only be mitigated by implementing affirmative steps, such as:

- **Prohibiting concurrent pedestrian/vehicular use of the C/Y, by “freezing” specific grids through a system of active oversight/control;**
- **Fitting service vehicles out with flexible, illuminated poles, that make clear the presence/location of each such vehicle;**
- **Ensuring that those workers disembarking vehicles are wearing high visibility work vests (during the day) and retro-reflective work vests (after dusk);**
- **Ensuring that those workers disembarking vehicles within the C/Y place safety cones (or other effective warning markers), indicating the presence/location of their vehicle(s) and themselves; and**
- **Ensuring that those workers disembarking vehicles limit the time and distance spent away from their vehicles and that they do not populate container rows any longer than necessary.**

Got an OSH-related question? Write to the JSC at: [blueoceana@optonline.net](mailto:blueoceana@optonline.net)

**Working Together For The Benefit Of All**

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