

ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2025-09 (02 September 2025)

Minding Stack Clearances



An important part of RTG operations, is always keeping in mind the importance of considering the vertical clearance that must be maintained when trolleying across the crane's bridge. Globally, despite the advancements offered by anti-collision technologies that have been introduced into our industry, there has been a modest increase in RTG stack displacements over the last few years. Like many technological advancements, anti-collision hardware/software developments have not provided a completely failsafe method of foreclosing upon the potential of elevated stack contact and subsequent collapse. Some of those technologies are better than others, but thus far none have proven to provide Nirvana.....

The advice that the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee can advance to our labor & management constituents then, is that RTG operators should be allowed the time necessary to carefully move containers under their care. Experienced operators can and do perform efficiently, effectively and safely when taking the time to focus on their complete operational area; within an environment that affords the fundamental components of good visibility, effective communications, cab comfort and the mechanical reliability of their lifting appliance.

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