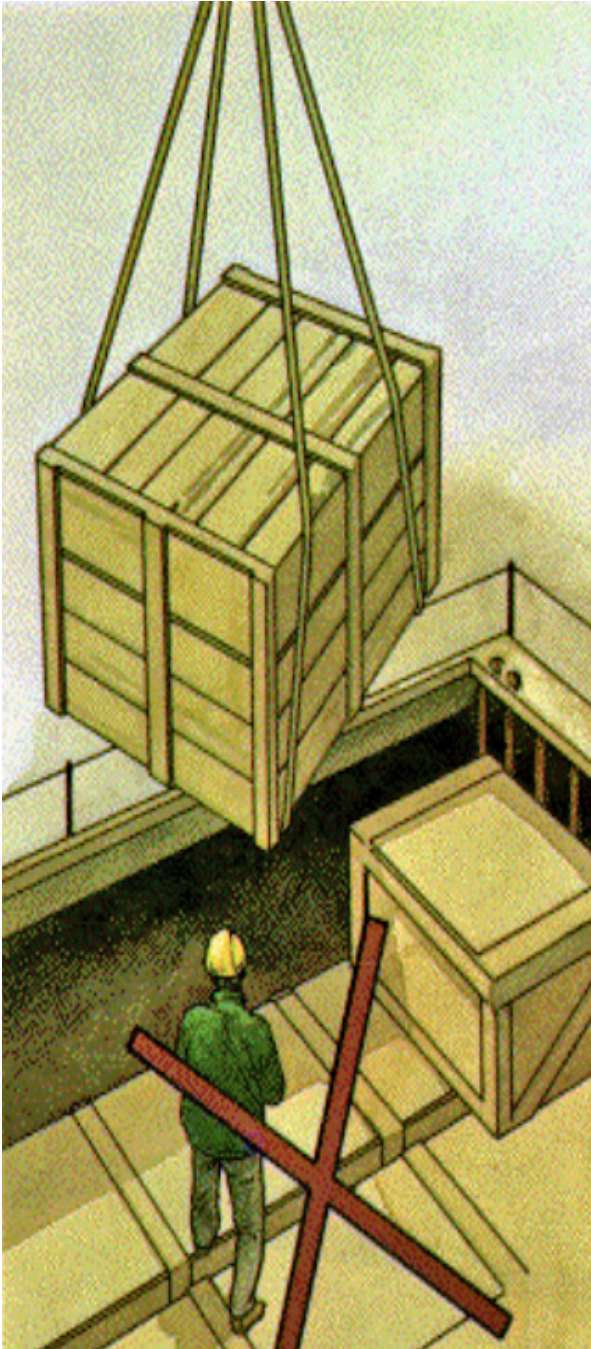




ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2015-05 (20 May 2015)

DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE BIGHT!



In Container, Ro-Ro and Break Bulk marine cargo handling operations, serious injuries can be avoided by always being alert and by declining to be in a position wherein you (or another worker) may be caught between a fixed object (such as a bulkhead or another piece of cargo) and a moving object (such as a draft being lowered or swung or a maneuvering industrial truck). The space between those two objects is known as “the bight”, and it’s important to keep away from that space and/or to coordinate any nearby presence you may have to it.

Individual longshore workers should keep in-the-bight hazards in mind, and to constantly scan and focus within their immediate work environment so that any caught in-the-bight hazards may be effectively avoided.

Supervisors and Foremen, too, should be constantly on guard to spot any caught-in-the-bight potentials and to provide effective and timely direction to workers under their care.

We are each responsible to each other, but supervisors and foremen have a unique leadership role in assuring, to the extent possible, that all employees (management and labor alike) are given the ability to arrive safe at home at the conclusion of their work shifts.

The JSC asks supervisors and foremen to discharge that leadership role responsibly. Care for, direct and warn employees whenever a potential hazard exists or may exist. Saving a life is a noble thing to do!

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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