



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2020-10 (12 October 2020)

Tank Containers Carried on Bomb Carts



Over the last few years the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) has been made aware of an increasing number of accidents occurring within the global marine cargo handling community, wherein intermodal tank containers being moved by yard tractors and bomb carts have tipped. When these accidents occur, the difference between life and death often rests with whether or not the yard tractor operator's seat restraint (seat belt) was secured.

The JSC is in a position to offer our labor and management constituents the following advice:

- 1). Yard tractor operators (like all other vehicle operators) should always ensure that any provided seat restraint system is engaged;
- 2). Liquid cargoes carried in tank containers (even when the tanks are equipped with internal baffles) have a tendency to shift internally, greatly disturbing the loads' center a gravity; making the stability of the load being moved often very tender;
- 3). It's best to carry only one tank container at a time on most bomb carts;
- 4). Tank containers carried on bomb carts should be placed on the trailing units' center area, so that the tanks' corner fittings are resting on a solid surface; *and*
- 5). Always observe terminal speed limits, making sure that when taking any turns your speed is sufficiently decreased to better contain the load.

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

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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