



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2021-04 (12 April 2021)

Vehicle Operators: Respect Yourself (And Your Fellow Workers, Too)



Marine terminal operators must devise and implement traffic safety rules and procedures ([See 29 CFR 1917.44 \(f\)](#)).

Marine terminal operators must also require vehicle operators to comply with all traffic safety rules and procedures ([See 29 CFR 1917.44 \(d\)](#)).

OSHA requires stop signs to be posted wherever visibility is impaired ([See 29 CFR 1917.44 \(e\)](#)).

As part of those traffic safety rules, marine terminal operators have posted stop signs and/or stop bars as mandatory reminders for vehicle operators to come to a full stop at those posted locations. If vehicle operators comply with those stop signs/stop bars, the incidence of vehicular collisions would be nil, or nearly so.

Sadly, however, too many vehicle operators choose to ignore the direction provided by stop signs/stop bars and in more cases than we care to remember serious collisions have been the outcome. Some of those collisions have cost the lives of marine terminal workers in this country and at ports elsewhere.

When a vehicle operator ignores mandatory full stop directions, he/she also tells the rest of us that they hold no respect for themselves nor for their fellow workers.

As a workforce (and as an industry) there's nothing more important than providing each other with respect and dignity. For vehicle operators, a good place to start in communicating respect and dignity is observing a full stop whenever encountering a stop sign or a stop bar.

The life you save, may be your own.....

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

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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