



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2022-10 (05 October 2022)

Staying Out of “*The Bight*”



Credit: “Longshore Safety” FB Page - Use is exclusively for non-profit educational purposes

Reviewing several dozen fatal accidents occurring to global marine cargo handling industry workers thus far in 2022, The ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) would like to impress upon its labor and management constituents the importance of all employees taking great care to avoid exposure to crushing hazards while in “*The Bight*.”

What, Exactly, is Meant by The Terms “*In The Bight?*”

In general, “*The Bight*” is any space formed by a fixed object and a moving (or potentially moving) object.

In example, of the many 2022 fatal accidents the JSC has reviewed, several were noted to be aboard Ro-Ro ships wherein employees were crushed between pieces of rolling stock (mounted containers, trailers, mafis, wheeled construction equipment, etc.) and other pieces of Ro-Ro deck-stowed cargo, internal structures of the vessel or moving vehicles being used to transport stowed cargo.

In other-than-shipboard locations, examples of “*The Bight*” will include any area between any moving object (such as a yard tractor/bombcart combination) and any fixed object (such as the legs/trucks of any container-handling gantry crane).

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

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

ILA-USMX OSH Circulars are devised to reflect the best possible information and guidance, and are products of diligent research and the most up to date subject matter knowledge. Consequently, while the information contained herein is believed to be accurate, owing to a host of factors ILA-USMX can convey no direct or implied warranty relative to the reliance of parties upon content.