ILA–USMX Joint Safety Committee

OSH Circular 2020-08   (04 August 2020)

Please Wear Your Mask!

As Covid-19 infection rates skyrocket among the general public in many States, the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) wants all waterfront labor and management employees to understand that one of the most important and effective ways to prevent the viral infection of yourselves and of others is the simple wearing of a face covering.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) have recently updated that agency's website with information that conclusively shows that the wearing of face coverings will significantly aid in the slowing of infection rates. Here's a link to that update:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html

The JSC understands that wearing a face covering is something that takes getting used to. We also appreciate that they can be uncomfortable in warmer weather and may, as a consequence, need to be changed out more often. But we greatly value the lives of our constituent members, and we want to ensure; to the greatest extent possible, that each waterfront labor and management representative (and their families) are safeguarded against Covid-19 infection to the greatest extent possible.

That's why we urge each one of you to put aside all other arguments you may hear which advocate against wearing a protective face covering. We assure you, that each of those arguments will mean absolutely nothing in the event of an infection that impacts you or the ones you care the most for.

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

Working Together For The Benefit Of All