



ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2022-03 (03 March 2022)

Electronic Device Distractions



Every so often, owing to the disturbing on-site frequency we see with our own eyes, the ILA-USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) is obliged to alert our labor and management constituents of the serious hazards created by the unsafe use of electronic devices (mostly, but not always, cellphones).

Whether you're a supervisor, a powered equipment operator or a checker out in the field looking for a box, in a high hazard industrial setting such as ours your situational awareness is critical to your own personal safety and to that of your fellow workers.

In some of the more serious, life-threatening accidents that occur at marine terminals worldwide, the root cause is often found to be a distraction originating from the use of an electronic device. Whether that device is used for speaking, listening, texting or surfing the web, diverting your attention to anything but the heavy industrial activities that can take your life away from you (or life away from others) in a split second makes absolutely no sense.

Wise up.... Help each other out! We all want to go home at the end of our shifts in the same good shape we got to work in. That's Goal Number 1, and we should all try to ensure that each of us achieves that goal.

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

Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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