



# ILA-UMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

## OSH Circular 2013-01

### SERVICEABILITY OF INTERBOX CONNECTORS

#### [Semi-Automatic Twistlocks]

At several Atlantic range ports, stevedoring firms have recently reported to the ILA-UMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) that:

- 1). Upon examination, semi-automatic twistlocks being removed from discharged containers have been found to be defective (poorly functioning); *and*
- 2). Bad order twistlock bins are not being supplied on dock, and thus critical segregation of defective twistlocks cannot be properly accomplished.

#### **USMX member ocean carriers are respectfully reminded that:**

- 1). Twistlocks (interbox connectors) are critical components of the container securing process, and thus their serviceable condition is imperative;
- 2). The SOLAS Convention requires that each IMO-registered container vessel carry with it a current and valid cargo securing manual (CSM); *and*
- 3). The CSM must reflect the good husbandry of all components utilized in the container securing/lashing process, including interbox connectors.

#### **USMX member port associations are respectfully reminded that:**

- 1). During vessel operations, every precaution should be taken to ensure that bad order twistlocks are not co-mingled with properly functioning twistlocks; *and*
- 2). Such precautions should include the insistence that bad order bins/receptacles are provided by the vessel and positioned at sufficient locations as may be necessary to ensure the integrity of the cargo handling and securing processes.

## Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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