



Pacific Maritime Association

Accident Prevention Department
555 Market Street, 3rd Floor
San Francisco, California 94105

SAFETY BULLETIN 05-2013

02 August 2013

Customs & Border Protection – Terminal Safety / PPE
Los Angeles/Long Beach

INFORMATION

At West Coast Marine Terminals there is a long history of reported intermittent compliance by Customs & Border Protection (CBP) officers with PPE requirements. On March 25th, 2013 the PMA sent letters to all West Coast CBP Port Directors to express concern regarding CBP officers who fail to wear high visibility personal protection safety vests while performing their duties on West Coast marine terminals. The West Coast CBP Port Directors have responded that they will enforce CBP policy on the importance of appropriate PPE while working vessels or while working in vehicle traffic areas on marine terminals, and that they will address any safety deficiencies.

For the Southern California marine terminals Mr. Carlos Martel, CBP Port Director LA/LB, has requested that observed safety deficiencies by CBP officers be reported directly to the CBP LA/LB Watch Commander for Port Director review and action. The Port Director further requests only the details (location/time/operation/etc.) of the observed behavior are reported to the CBP Watch Commander. The Port Director specifically requests no marine terminal (employer) confrontation with his CBP officers or any photos/images of CBP officers.

Recommended Action

For the ports of LA/LB, marine terminals employers are requested to report any observed non-compliance with PPE requirements by CBP personnel to the CBP Watch Commander (24/7 live watch) by email LALB-Watch-CMDR@CBP.DHS.GOV and/or telephone at 562-366-5591.

It is further recommended that any phoned in reports be followed up with an email report. Please copy PMA with emailed reports at gswanson@pmanet.org.