

## **SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING OF CONTAINERS**

1. Always make use of suitable, tested and certified spreaders for handling containers.
2. Do not use single or multi legged slings for lifting containers.
3. Do not permit men / workers to ride over spreaders / containers while handling at berth / yard.
4. Also do not permit any person to stand on container or container adjacent to it which is being lifted or handled.
5. Trailers with twist lock facility should only be used for transporting containers, to prevent them from falling off the chassis.
6. Check that containers are firmly secured on the chassis of the Truck / Trailers by means of twist locks before transporting.
7. Use proper lifting equipment i.e. Reach Stacker for handling of containers.
8. Observe corners of containers while lifting, slewing and lowering operations.
9. Better co-ordination shall be maintained between Winch / Crane Operator, Signaller and workers.
10. Use of Personal Protective Equipment is compulsory. Also use retro-reflective jackets during working in container yard.
11. During transporting containers the doors of the container shall be kept in close position and locked.
12. Container's twist locks and lashings should be removed before discharging of containers from vessels.
13. Lashings and twist locks those removed from containers shall be kept in proper way so as to prevent their accidental fall from top of the containers.
14. No person or worker shall sleep or relax in empty container.
15. Loitering in container yard is prohibited.
16. Use of mobile phone is prohibited while handling containers on-board / on-shore / in container yard and driving of Container Trailers / Equipment / other vehicles.
17. Cooking in the cabin of Container Trailer is prohibited.
18. Container Trailers shall be driven only by licensed drivers.
19. Instructions should be issued to drivers not to hand over keys of the vehicles to cleaners or leave the keys at driving seat before leaving the trailer.
20. No employee / worker should sleep or relax below / near Container trailer or Equipment.
21. If a worker has to go on top of container he should not stand at edge of the container.
22. Wherever the containers are stacked, the load bearing capacity of the floor shall be adequate.
23. A special area or road-way or part thereof shall be provided for waiting of the vehicles. No private vehicle other than the container handling equipment and trailers shall be allowed inside the container terminals.
24. All areas where lifting appliances and transport equipment operate to handle containers, shall be kept free of pot holes, open drainage or obstructions.

25. Container handling area and storage yard shall be adequately illuminated as specified under Reg.16.
26. Container terminals shall be equipped with suitable lifting appliances and transport equipment which shall be maintained in good repair and working order.
27. In the case of fork lift trucks employed for handling empty containers, the length of the fork shall be matching with the weight of the container.
28. No fork lift trucks shall be employed for handling container which do not have fork pockets.
29. Container spreader shall be in good working order and has been tested as per the provisions under regulation 47 (1).
30. The weight of the container and the spreader used shall be noted in relation to the safe working load of the lifting appliance or transport equipment used.
31. While loading or discharging, the container shall be hoisted squarely under the plumb to avoid its swinging.
32. The special lifting appliances employed in container handling shall be operated only by the operator possessing adequate knowledge and skill for these operations.
33. Lifting appliances employed in container handling shall be operated under the guidance of a signaler who shall be properly trained.
34. When a container is being lowered or hoisted from a chassis, no person shall remain in the cabin of its prime mover.
35. No person shall be lifted to the top of a container by a container spreader / hook which is being lifted by a crane or any other appliance.
36. When a ladder is used to climb to the top of a container the ladder shall be of sound construction provided with anti-skid devices or suitable securing arrangements and there shall be someone to hold the bottom of the ladder.
37. When workers have to work on top of the containers; it shall be ensured that the surface is dry and clean to avoid slipping and safe means shall be provided to the workers for going on top of containers and attending to lashing and unlashings of containers.
38. Pedestrians, two wheelers and four wheelers (personal car, jeep, van, etc.) shall not be allowed in any part of the container terminal other than the passages marked for their use.
39. All containers employed in dock work shall be tested, maintained, inspected and approved by a competent authority.

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## **DO's**

1. Use trailers with twist lock facility for safe transportation of containers.
2. Check that containers are firmly secured on the chassis of the trailer before transporting.
3. Observe corners of containers while lifting, slewing and lowering operations.
4. Use of Personal Protective Equipment and wear retro-reflective jackets.
5. Check for twist locks in open position before lifting up the container from trailer.
6. Loitering in container yard is prohibited.
7. Drivers should possess valid driving license.
8. Any worker if go on top of container he should not stand at edge of the container.
9. Lifting equipment shall maneuver the equipment under guidance of a signaler.
10. Use ladder of sound construction and someone should hold the ladder at bottom.
11. Pedestrians, two wheelers and four wheelers (personal car, jeep, van, etc.) shall use the passages marked for their use.

## **DON'T's**

1. Do not ride over spreaders / containers while handling.
2. Do not stand on container or adjacent container, which is being lifted or handled.
3. Do not keep the doors of containers in open during transporting containers.
4. Do not sleep or relax in empty container or on top of or near container
5. Do not use of mobile phone during handling containers or driving any vehicle.
6. Do not smoke, cook food in the cabin of trailer or in the yard.
7. Do not leave ignition key in ignition port before leaving the trailer / equipment.
8. Do not use fork lift truck for handling container which do not have fork pockets.
9. Do not liger near lifting equipment or trailer when in operation.
10. Do not interfere with the container handling operation

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