INTERMODAL SAFETY BRIEFING

Tire and Rim Handling

The proper handling of intermodal chassis tires is a process that seasoned technicians might sometimes take for granted if they have repeated the process many times without incident. But whether they realize it or not, one slipup could literally cost them life and limb. Incidents are rare but they are not completely unheard of.

Importance

If tires are not handled safely or a component on the rim is compromised, the tire can explode. The explosive force of a tire inflated to the recommended pressure is equivalent to dynamite. Being near the point of pressure when it's released suddenly can cause severe injury or death. The frequency of tire changes, particularly on chassis, means that there is frequently the chance of getting injured, especially if workers get complacent with safety procedures. The safe removal of large tires on big lift equipment is another area where following safety processes are critical.

Stakeholders

This safety briefing is designed to assist :

- **Maintenance & Repair Vendors and Technicians**
- **Intermodal Equipment Providers**
- **Terminal Operators**
- **Motor Carriers**

Safety Tips

Following proper procedures and looking for and mitigating risks are two ways to help reduce the number of accidents and injuries caused when working with tires. Employers need to ensure that workers are thoroughly trained on the correct procedure. Employers should also have little tolerance for compliance issues with these procedures. The severity of injury, or death, that can occur from improper handling is too high a risk to allow workers to cut corners or become complacent when working with tires. Workers should be fully trained before they perform their first repair.

The same is true for working with the large tires found on big lift equipment. The correct tools need to be used to remove the tire, following the correct procedure. In both instances, deflating a tire to a minimal pressure level is an important step in safe tire handling.

IANA
INTERMODAL ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA