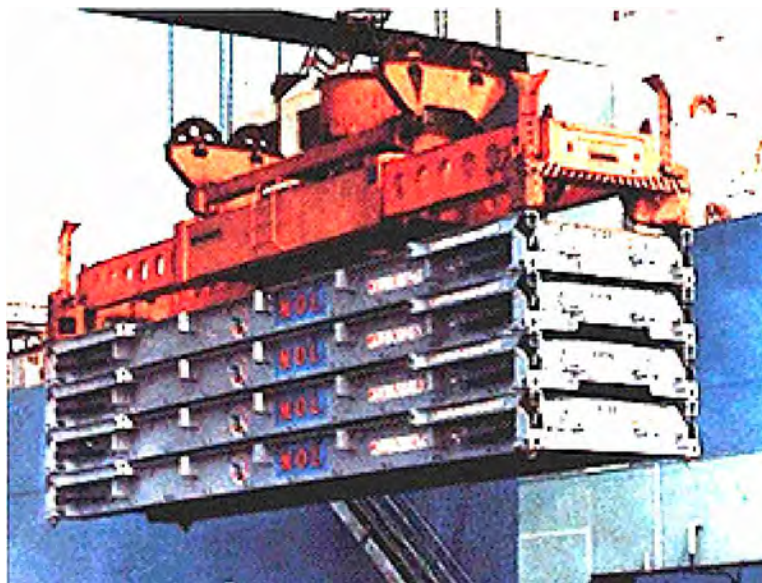




ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2026-08 (03 August 2026)

Lifting of Nested Flatracks



In many (but not all) instances, it can be completely safe to hoist and move interconnected (“nested”) flatracks/platform containers. The two most important factors to be considered when doing so are:

1). The compatibility of the connecting parts of the equipment. Not all flats/platforms are created equal..... The design of connecting components will vary based upon the container owner’s design preferences. So, the lifting of nested flats having dissimilar connecting components is routinely discouraged; *and*

2). The nature/reliability of inspections and examinations. Like all containers, flats must be inspected/examined at intervals prescribed within the [IMO’s Convention for Safe Containers](#). The quality/veracity of some container inspection and examination protocols has, over the years, been the subject of some dispute. Thus, whenever possible, a good eyeballing of the connecting parts of any nested lift is warranted.

ICHCA has published an excellent guidance document on this particular subject, and the ILA-USMX Joint Safety Committee recommends the consideration of that document’s contents. Here’s a link: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:US:bb76b1b1-ef12-4975-b01d-e9bda1ca5866>

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

Working Together for the Benefit of All

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