



**Operational Alerts** inform Signal Mutual Members of serious incidents within the Mutual that resulted in permanent disability, death, or a significant near miss. If you have similar operations, please share this Operational Alert and have a safety discussion with operation managers, supervisors, equipment operators, and all affected employees. It is imperative that management review their operational controls at all levels to mitigate similar hazardous conditions and/or acts.

## INCIDENT: OBSTRUCTED VIEW ACCIDENT

### SUMMARY OF RECENT INCIDENT

Recently, an event occurred at a Member’s facility; an employee was in a pickup truck, stationary in the road, near a stack of shipping containers, waiting for a top loader to come and remove an export container when a mule (UTR) operator, driving toward the front of the pickup truck on the passenger side, made contact damaging the pickup truck (See right picture below).

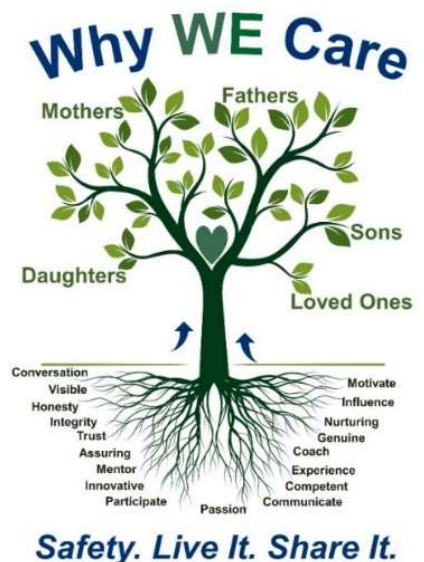


### CONSIDERATIONS

- The Mule (UTR) operators’ vision was obstructed by personal objects that had been placed on the dashboard of the truck obstructing their ability to see. (See left picture above)
- Improper behavior by mule (UTR) operator, driving in between a stack and the pickup truck (passing passenger side to passenger side)
- When parking between stacks, park close to the containers so that other vehicles have more room to get around you.

### PREVENTIVE ACTIONS

- Keep fields of vision free of obstructions and clean. This includes windshields, mirrors, etc.
- Travel between and adjacent to stacks should not interfere with safe passage of vehicles and movement of materials / containers.
- Remember, when you are behind the wheel, your job is driving. Not talking, not reading, not typing, not texting, *driving and being aware of your surroundings.*
- A lot is riding on your abilities and focus as a driver; most importantly, the safety of yourself, passengers, and pedestrians in your area. There is also the risk of damaging equipment and other property.



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