

TERMINAL SAFETY

# What OTR Drivers Need to Know.

 South Carolina Ports Authority

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

# Before You Roll Through Our Gate

A few minutes of attention here keeps you, our team, and other drivers safe. Our terminal moves fast, and the equipment around you is bigger than it looks.



### Equipment can hurt you

RTGs, top-picks, and yard trucks weigh tons and travel quietly. A small mistake can cause serious harm.



### You may not be seen

Operators have blind spots. Containers block their view. If you can't make eye contact, assume they can't see you.



### Enforcement is real

Port Police issue South Carolina Uniform Traffic Citations. Repeat issues can lead to a terminal ban.

# Speed Limit



## Strictly enforced.



25 MPH is the maximum on SCPA terminals unless a sign tells you otherwise. Conditions on the yard, weather, congestion, or equipment activity may call for slower speeds. Use your judgment and back off when in doubt.

*Speed sign violations are issued as South Carolina Uniform Traffic Citations.*

## R U L E 0 2

# Rules of the Road on Terminal

*Signs and ground markings look like this on terminal. Treat them the same way you would on a public highway.*

-  Use marked roadways only
-  No U-turns
-  Park in designated areas
-  Yield to container handling equipment
-  Obey signs and ground markings
-  Follow Port Police direction

### K E Y M E S S A G E

**Same rules. Same enforcement.**

*Signs and ground markings on terminal carry the same weight as on a public highway. Port Police issue South Carolina Uniform Traffic Citations for violations.*

## WARNING

# Don't Walk Through Container Stacks



## STAY OUT

Walking between stacked containers puts you straight into the path of an RTG or other equipment.

### What to do

- ✓ **Never walk through openings in container stacks.**  
An RTG or top-pick may be working on the other side.
- ✓ **Never walk or work beneath suspended loads.**  
If a container is in the air, you are not under it. No exceptions.
- ✓ **Stay in your truck cab during loading and unloading.**  
Get out only when the work is complete and the area is clear.

## WARNING

# Don't Drive Through Container Stacks

If you can't see what's on the other side, neither can the equipment operator working that row.

- Use the marked roadway, even if it adds time to your route.
- Cutting between stacks blinds you to RTGs and yard trucks on the next aisle.
- Container handling equipment cannot stop on a dime. You can.

## THE RULE

**Stay on the marked roadway.**

*Take the lane. Even when it adds time to your route.*

## ACCESS RULE

# Empty Yard Access

*The empty yard has one authorized entry. Know which is which.*



**MARSH ROAD CAUSEWAY**

**NO LEFT OR RIGHT TURNS INTO STACKS**

Every row entry off the causeway is posted DO NOT ENTER.



**WAREHOUSE ROAD**

**AUTHORIZED ENTRY**

The only entry to the empty yard. Use this approach every time.

# Stay 40 Feet from Working Equipment

40

F E E T

*in every direction*

**Keep 40 feet of clearance from any working RTG, top-pick, forklift, or yard truck.**

→ **Operators have blind spots.**

Containers and the equipment frame block their line of sight to your cab and to the ground.

→ **Wait for a verbal signal before approaching.**

Only approach when the operator stops the equipment and tells you to come in.

→ **Make eye contact when you can.**

If you can't make eye contact with the operator, assume you are not seen.

# Working Under an RTG

Rubber tire gantry cranes move up and down the stack constantly. When you're being loaded or unloaded, your job is simple: stay where you belong, then leave.

## 1 Stop in the truck lane

The truck lane is the only safe spot under a working RTG. Don't drift. Don't leave the cab.

## 2 Stay in the cab during the lift

No phones, no walkarounds, no chassis checks while the container is being moved.

## 3 Exit immediately when loaded

As soon as the lift is complete, pull out of the work area. Stopping after loading is prohibited.

# No Parking Areas

## Where you cannot park or stop:



### RTG travel pads

RTGs run these lanes constantly. Standing or driving on a travel pad puts you directly in their path.



### Empty container stacks

Stacks are work zones, not parking spots. Equipment moves in and out without warning.



### Anywhere marked 'No Parking'

Painted markings and posted signs apply to OTR drivers the same as everyone else.



**Use designated  
parking only**

*Ask the gate or check the terminal  
map if you're unsure.*

# Out of the Truck = Vest On



If your boots touch the ground on this terminal, your vest is on.

**This applies everywhere on terminal:**

- ✓ Docks
- ✓ Roadways
- ✓ Traffic lanes
- ✓ Container storage areas
- ✓ Warehouses
- ✓ Auto processing areas

*This rule applies to everyone. Drivers, vendors, contractors, visitors.*

## R U L E 0 7

# Put the Phone Down

There are three moments on this terminal when your phone has to be down. No texts, no calls, no scrolling.



### While driving

On gate roads, internal roads, the apron, anywhere you're rolling on terminal.



### While communicating with an operator

Hand signals and verbal direction get your full attention. A missed cue is how people get hurt.



### During mount or dismount of a container

While the box is being placed on or pulled off your chassis or flatbed, eyes up.

# How Enforcement Works

Two paths exist when a rule is broken on terminal. They can run together.



## Port Police Traffic enforcement

South Carolina Uniform Traffic Citations are issued at all SCPA terminals for moving violations, speeding, signage, and other traffic offenses.



## Terminal Corrective action



Motor carriers are notified of violations. Safety Records and keeps all violations.

B E F O R E   Y O U   L E A V E

# The short list.

- ✓ 25 MPH max. Slower when conditions warrant.
- ✓ Use marked roadways. Never cut through stacks.
- ✓ Out of the cab? Hi-vis vest on. Every time.
- ✓ Stay 40 feet from working equipment.
- ✓ Stay in your truck cab during the lift. Exit when loaded.
- ✓ Phone down while driving, signaling, and during mount or dismount.

**Questions or appeals: SCPA Safety & Health Division**

*Drive safe. Get home.*