

## West Coast MTO Agreement Releases Update on VGM Weighing Procedures

LONG BEACH, Calif., June 2, 2016—The West Coast MTO Agreement (WCMTOA) today provided an update on how the 13 member terminals at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach will address the new verified gross mass (VGM) guidelines scheduled to go into effect on July 1.

The guidelines, which are amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), require shippers to notify ocean carriers of the weight of containers before they are loaded onto a ship.

All 13 member terminals already weigh trucks arriving with containers, to meet safety requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) under 29 CFR.

The terminals recognize that the U.S. Coast Guard will be enforcing the regulation with the ocean carriers. The terminals have notified the U.S. Coast Guard and the ocean carriers that they will continue providing OSHA weights to the ocean carriers, which they can use at their discretion. The terminals are ready to safely load the containers when instructed by the ocean carriers.

Individual member terminals will establish and communicate their own policies for receiving containers without a VGM.

The West Coast MTO Agreement is filed with the Federal Maritime Commission, and comprises the 13 marine terminal operators serving the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports.

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