IMPORTANT OF PROPER BLOCKING AND BRACING

February 28, 2008
IMPORTANCE OF PROPER BLOCKING AND BRACING

Shippers must understand the importance of proper blocking and bracing of all cargos.

Many Shippers fail to block and brace their shipments properly.

This can result in numerous problems such as:
1). Damage to the cargo itself.
2). Damage to the equipment.
3). Accidents that can cause injury or death.
Often, Shippers simply do not seem to fully understand the many forces that any ocean shipments MAY be subjected to. A ship at sea encounters six (6) different motions including rolling from side to side, pitching from front to back, surging forward, heaving up and down, and also yawing (irregular motions).

The following photographs may seem to be extreme. However, cargo is required by COGSA regulations to be able to survive most classes of storms at sea.
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Cargo also is impacted by domestic transport.

Many of the same forces at play on our vessels occurs while the cargo is transported by either truck or railroad.

The following are examples of what can, AND DOES, occur.
DAMAGE TO THE CARGO ITSELF
DAMAGE TO THE EQUIPMENT
DAMAGE TO THE EQUIPMENT
DAMAGE TO THE EQUIPMENT
DAMAGE TO THE EQUIPMENT
ACCIDENT WITH INJURY OR LOSS OF LIFE

From Dallas Station WTFF on CNN, February 27th, 2008

• An 18-wheeler careened off an overpass on Stemmons Freeway in downtown Dallas Wednesday afternoon, crushing a vehicle on a street below.

• Investigators said it was possible that a load of metal bearings or pipe the trailer was carrying shifted as it rounded an elevated ramp from Woodall Rogers Freeway to Stemmons Expressway, causing the massive truck to topple on at least one vehicle traveling below on Continental Avenue.

• Police said two people were killed in the 3 p.m. accident — the male driver of the truck, who authorities said was thrown from the vehicle, and a 20 Year old, female driver in a car below. Texas Land and Air (TXLA) said the truck driver was a contract driver working for them.
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BREAKING NEWS
POLICE ARE ON THE SCENE
OF A DEADLY ACCIDENT
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As you can see from this short presentation, proper blocking and bracing of cargo is essential to the safe transport of cargo.

When cargo is not properly blocked and braced, accidents are likely to occur.

These accidents can cost millions of dollars, as well as result in the loss of life.

Watch out for these loads and educate all Shippers to the need to properly block and brace all cargo.
THANK YOU!