FOREWORD

Foreword
This publication, which was developed by the Loading Dock Equipment Manufacturer Industry Group ("LODEM") of the Material Handling Industry ("MHI"), is intended to provide useful information and guidance for owners, users, designers, purchasers and/or specifiers of loading dock levelers. It is advisory only and should only be regarded as a simple tool that its intended audience may or may not choose to follow, adopt, modify, or reject. The following information does not constitute a comprehensive purchasing or safety program, cannot guard against pitfalls in operating, selecting and purchasing such a system, and should not be relied upon as such. Such a program should be developed, and an independent adviser should be consulted in doing so.

Voluntary
The use of this document is completely voluntary. Its existence does not in any respect preclude anyone, whether it has approved the brochure or not, from following procedures and assuming responsibilities not conforming to this brochure.

Contents
Foreword .................................................................2 Application Instructions..................................................4
Disclaimer ...............................................................2 Safety Signal Words.......................................................5
Introduction .............................................................3 Precautionary Label Placement Guidelines.................6

For Questions Contact: LODEM of the Material Handling Industry
8720 Red Oak Boulevard, Suite 201 Charlotte, NC 28217-3992 Telephone: (704) 676-1190 www.mhi.org/LODEM

Disclaimer
DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY. LODEM and MHI assume no responsibility and disclaim all liability of any kind, however arising, as a result of acceptance or use or alleged use of this brochure. Anyone using this document specifically understands and agrees that LODEM, MHI, their members, officers, agents, and employees shall not be liable under any legal theory of any kind for any action or failure to act with respect to the proper selection, purchase, placement, application or use of Dock Seals and Shelters or any other activity covered by this brochure.

DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY. MHI, LODEM and their members make NO WARRANTIES of any kind, express or implied, in connection with the information in this brochure and SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIM ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND OF FITNESS FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

INDEMNIFICATION. By referring to or otherwise employing this brochure, its user agrees to defend, protect, indemnify, and hold LODEM, MHI, their members, officers, agents, and employees harmless from and against all claims, losses, expenses, damages, and liabilities, direct, incidental, or consequential, arising from acceptance or use or alleged use of this brochure, including loss of profits and reasonable attorneys' fees which may arise out of the acceptance or use or alleged use of this document. The intent of this provision is to absolve and protect LODEM, MHI, their members, officers, agents, and employees from any and all loss relating in any way to this document, including those resulting from the user's own negligence.
Safety is a prime consideration in the design, manufacture, installation, use and maintenance of loading dock levelers. It is well-recognized that in many instances, precautionary labels can increase operator and maintenance personnel awareness of hazards that may be involved in loading dock levelers. Installation, operation and maintenance of dock levelers should be performed by trained personnel only.

The purpose of this publication is to provide voluntary guidelines for the selection and application of precautionary labels. As part of the owner's comprehensive safety program, dock levelers should be periodically inspected and precautionary labels reviewed to ensure their integrity and to maximize their effectiveness in avoiding accidents.

**Relation to America National Standards**
This brochure refers to the following ANSI standards:

- **ANSI Z535.1-2006 (R2011):** Safety color code
- **ANSI Z535.2-2011:** Environmental and facility safety signs
- **ANSI Z535.3-2011:** Criteria for safety symbols
- **ANSI Z535.4-2011:** Product safety signs and labels
- **ANSI Z535.5-2011:** Accident prevention tags
- **ANSI Z535.6-2011:** Product safety information in product manuals, instructions and other collateral materials
- **ANSI MH30.1-2007:** Safety performance and testing of dock leveling devices

For copies of ANSI Z535 Series of Standards:

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association**
1300 North 17th Street
Rosslyn, Virginia 22209
Telephone: (703) 841-3200
FAX: (703) 841-5900
www.nema.org/standards/

For copies of ANSI MH30 Series of Standards:

**Loading Dock Equipment Manufacturers Industry Group of MHI**
8720 Red Oak Boulevard, Suite 201
Charlotte, NC 28217-3992
Telephone: (704) 676-1190
FAX: (704) 676-1199
www.mhi.org/publications
Proper procedures should be used in applying labels to equipment.

Sizes of labels that are referenced are exemplary. Actual sizes may vary from manufacturer to manufacturer and may be affected by mounting areas or design constraints.

**NOTE: Use labels provided by your OEM (original equipment manufacturer).**

1. Ensure that the surface to which labels will be applied is free of dirt, dust, grease and moisture.

2. Place all new labels in the same positions as the labels being replaced. Refer to OEM manuals for proper location.

3. If the surface is freshly painted, ensure that the paint is dry.

4. Press the label firmly after applying it to the surface. One or more passes over the label with a sponge or rubber roller will ensure that the adhesive is in good contact with the surface.
Loading Dock Equipment Manufacturers Precautionary Labels

The following labels were developed for LOBOM to conform to ANSI Z535. Labels may contain safety alert symbols and signal words. To aid in understanding such symbols and signal words, the following has been excerpted from ANSI Z535.4:

**Safety Alert Symbols**

A symbol which indicates a potential personal injury hazard. It is composed of an equilateral triangle surrounding an exclamation mark. The safety alert symbol shall not be used to alert persons to property-damage-only accidents.

- ![Symbol for use with DANGER signal word](image)
- ![Symbol for use with WARNING signal word](image)
- ![Symbol for use with CAUTION signal word](image)

**Signal Words**

The meaning of different signal words as defined by ANSI Z535.6 and Z535.4 standards may be provided in collateral materials. The following artwork may be used for this purpose.

- **DANGER**
  
  Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury. (Color per Industry Standard ANSI SAFETY RED Pantone 485)

- **CAUTION**
  
  Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided may result in minor or moderate injury. (Color per Industry Standard ANSI SAFETY YELLOW Pantone 109)

- **WARNING**
  
  Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury. (Color per Industry Standard ANSI SAFETY ORANGE Pantone 152)

- **NOTICE**
  
  Notice is used to address practices not related to personal injury. (Color per Industry Standard ANSI SAFETY BLUE Pantone 2945)

- **SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**
  
  Safety Instructions (or equivalent) signs indicate specific safety-related instructions or procedures. (Color per Industry Standard ANSI SAFETY GREEN Pantone 3415)
For horizontal storing dock levelers

1. **DANGER**
   - Use only dock levelers designed for horizontal storage.
   - DO NOT use dock levelers in selected conditions.

2. **CRUSH HAZARD**
   - DO NOT enter PTU unless dock leveler is securely supported by maintenance prop.

3. **DANGER**
   - DO NOT enter PTU unless dock leveler is securely supported by maintenance prop.
   - Place washers on aluminum and deck floor to indicate service work being performed.

4. **DANGER**
   - DO NOT enter PTU unless dock leveler is securely supported by maintenance prop.
   - Failure to comply will result in death or serious injury.

5. **DANGER**
   - DO NOT enter PTU unless dock leveler is securely supported by maintenance prop.
   - Failure to comply will result in death or serious injury.

(Mechanical models only)

See page 13.
1. **Size:** 9-1/8" wide x 3-1/4" tall  
**Purpose**  
This label is specified as part of the labeling recommendation. It should be applied to each side fixed working range toe guard. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the dock leveler of possible bodily hazards.

2. **Size:** 8" wide x 1" tall  
**Purpose**  
This label is part of the labeling recommendation. It should be applied to the maintenance support. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the dock leveler to securely support the dock leveler with the maintenance support before work is done under the dock leveler.

3. **Size:** 5-7/8" wide x 2-7/16" tall  
**Purpose**  
This label is part of the labeling recommendation. It should be applied to the dock leveler sub-frame near the driveway end. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the leveler to securely support the dock leveler with the maintenance support and to place barriers on the drive surface and dock floor before working on or under the dock leveler.

4. **Size:** 2-1/2" wide x 4" tall  
**Purpose**  
This additional label is part of the labeling recommendation for mechanical dock levelers only. It should be applied on or near the counterbalance mechanism visible from the driveway. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the leveler to securely support the dock leveler before working on or under the dock leveler, before working on the counterbalance system and about the possible hazard of energy being stored in the main springs.
For Edge-of-Dock levelers (EOD)

1. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS
   - Do not operate without the proper protective equipment.
   - Use caution when adjusting the leveler.
   - Do not allow unauthorized personnel to operate the equipment.
   - Keep a distance from the equipment when in operation.

2. DANGER
   - Do not stand on the leveler while it is in operation.
   - Do not allow children to play around the equipment.
   - Do not operate the leveler if it is damaged.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
   - Step 1: Check the environment for safety.
   - Step 2: Adjust the leveler to the desired height.
   - Step 3: Operate the leveler slowly and carefully.

6. DANGER
   - Keep a distance from the equipment when it is in operation.
   - Do not allow unauthorized personnel to operate the equipment.

See page 13.
1. **Size:** 9-1/8" wide x 3-1/4" tall  
**Purpose**  
This label is part of the labeling recommendation for EOD levelers. It should be applied to one side of each bumper block. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the dock leveler of possible bodily hazards.

6. **Size:** 4-5/16" wide x 7-1/4" tall.  
**Purpose**  
This label is part of the labeling recommendation. It should be applied to the EOD leveler underneath the ramp. It is intended to warn personnel in front of or under the dock leveler (including service personnel maintaining the dock leveler) of possible bodily hazards.
For vertical storing dock levelers

**DANGER**

CRUSH HAZARD

Before doing any maintenance, repair, or adjustments on the dock leveler, move the leveler in a vertical position with lip extended, and remove the lockout pin in the maintenance slot.

**DANGER**

Do not remove the lock-out pin from the maintenance slot, unless authorized personnel have confirmed that the hydraulic system is in proper working condition. Do not stand in front of the dock leveler while removing the lockout pin.

**DANGER**

Do not use the dock leveler as a rolling platform.

**SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS**

OPERATION

1. Read and follow all instructions, warnings and cautions.
2. Inspect dock leveler before each use.
3. Check pin and lockout pin.
4. Be sure leveler is at dock level position.
5. Operate leveler in a vertical position with lip extended.
6. Do not hold leveler in the horizontal position.
7. Do not allow anyone to stand on the dock leveler or the dock.

**MAINTENANCE**

1. Read and follow all instructions, warnings and cautions.
2. Inspect all moving parts.
3. Check pin and lockout pin.
4. Do not hold leveler in the horizontal position.
5. Do not allow anyone to stand on the dock leveler or the dock.

Failure to follow posted instructions will result in death or serious injury.

See page 13.
7. Size: 3-3/4" x 14"

Purpose
This label is part of the labeling recommendation for vertically storing dock levelers. It should be applied to each side of the dock leveler. It is intended to warn operating personnel using the dock leveler and service personnel maintaining the dock leveler of possible bodily hazards.
8. Size: 4" x 6-3/4"

Purpose
This label is part of the labeling recommendation for vertical storing dock levelers. It should be applied to the under surface of the leveler deck near the maintenance lock-out pin. It is intended to warn service personnel maintaining the dock leveler of bodily hazards associated with maintenance, repair or adjustment of the dock leveler without the maintenance lock-out pin securely in position.

9. Size: 1-1/2" x 4"

Purpose
This label is part of the labeling recommendation for vertical storing dock levelers. It should be applied to the maintenance lock-out pin or to a chain or cable that tethers the pin to the dock leveler. It is intended to warn operating and service personnel of bodily hazards associated with removal of the maintenance lock-out pin without hydraulic support that is properly filled, connected and functioning.
5.
Size: 8-1/2" x 11"
Purpose
This placard should be located in plain sight on a wall surface adjacent to each leveler location. It is intended to warn personnel of potential hazards and to provide operating instructions for the leveler.
For all powered levelers

Label: 10 (3" wide x 1-1/2" tall)
or
Label: 11 (6" wide x 3" tall)

Label: 12 (1-1/2" wide x 3" tall)
or
Label: 13 (3" wide x 6" tall)

Purpose
This label is recommended for all powered dock levelers where space permits. It should be applied on the outside surface of all electrical enclosures which contain contact devices (i.e., motor starters, controllers, disconnects, relays, etc.). The size and shape of the panel should dictate which of the labels is appropriate. It is intended to warn personnel of both electrical and arc flash hazards.