

ITS launches new positioning system

UK-based International Terminal Solutions (ITS) has introduced a straddle carrier and tractor alignment system, called LoadView. The system is designed to allow the driver of any vehicle feeding the crane to view his vehicle in relation to the required stopping position. In basic terms, says ITS, "it is a computer-augmented bird's eye view."

The driver gets a real-time view of the container or vehicle in relation to the stopping position, instead of relying on a light or series of lights which sometimes make it difficult for him to judge the exact position.

LoadView allows the driver to adjust his speed to suit as he is able to see the exact distance to the stopping point. There is no need to look sideways to the crane; he can look forward with obvious safety benefits, adds ITS.

LoadView is claimed to be cost-effective and easy to implement and can be configured to (un)load any combination of containers, including twin 20s and it can align two empty or loaded chassis side by side simultaneously in the event of a Tandem lift. The system can also position empty chassis with twistlocks. There is no need for additional hardware or an extra operator or complex, expensive software.



Typical in-cab layout with LoadView

The system works by positioning cameras on the crane pointed at the loading area both under the crane and in the backreach. Target markers are overlaid on the image and the composite image is transmitted to the vehicle driver.

The driver has a wireless display and selector enabling him to display the images from the appropriate crane. Patents have been applied for.

Earlier this year ITS announced the successful implementation of its automated trucker identification system (ATI) at APMT's Algeciras facility. The infra-red system allows automatic identification of road truckers, the containers carried and their planned positions in the container yard.

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