



## CONTAINER OWNERS ASSOCIATION

### **COA Members Newsletter: Issue 50, April 2011**

1. 8<sup>th</sup> COA Members Meeting: Shanghai, 20/21 June 2011
2. COA organises successful Container Inspectors Course
3. Cargo Incident Notification System project managed by COA
4. COA/IICL Project: Sustainable Container Floor/Understructure System
5. 5<sup>th</sup> Flexitank Meeting: London, Thursday 19 May 2011
6. Participate in IICL Container Floor Audit Project
7. COA establishes South America Regional Branch
8. New Members

#### **1. COA Members Meeting: 20/21 June 2011**

Delegates are now registering the 8<sup>th</sup> COA Members Meeting, taking place in Shanghai on Monday 20 June and Tuesday 21 June.

Conference presentations will include the following

- Economic outlook: Is the recovery sustainable?
- Global trends: What sectors are strong? What growth is sustainable?
- Focus on SE Asia trade development
- Impact of Widening of the Panama Canal on Container Shipping in Asia, North America and Europe
- Intermodal developments in China
- COA Projects (including: Container Inspection Training courses, Cargo Incident Notification System Project, COA/IICL Flooring project, Regional Branches)
- Container Manufacturing
- Container Depots and Interchange Inspection Standards
- Flexitanks

The latest Conference Programme, Registration Form and Hotel Details can be downloaded from the COA website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org))

#### **2. COA organises successful Container Inspectors Training Course**

A total of 34 participants attended the first COA Container Inspectors Training Course, which took place at the ISS-Ancon Depot in Antwerp, Belgium, at the end of March.

The Course was attended by representatives from shipping lines, leasing companies, depots and inspection/surveying companies. Through both classroom and container-based sessions, the aim of the COA Container Inspectors Course is to explain to participants the different container interchange inspection standards that currently exist. This first Pilot course was also intended to show participants how future COA Container Inspector Courses would be run.

A report with photos is available on the COA website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org))

For further information about future COA Container Inspectors Training Courses, please contact: [secretary@containerownersassociation.org](mailto:secretary@containerownersassociation.org)

### **3. Cargo Incident Notification System project**

The COA has recently taken on the management of a new project being developed by a number of major container shipping lines. Designated the CINS (Cargo Incident Notification System), it will be launched in September 2011.

The CINS project has been developed in order to analyse global operational information on cargo and container related accidents. The intention is to allow seaborne carriers to share data in order to establish areas of concern and to review trends, in order to improve safety in the transport chain. CINS will be held on a dedicated website

Its purpose is to collect information on operational accidents and incidents - excluding any commercial information supplied by the seaborne carriers. This will be done by means of a database which will be managed through the COA. Access will be limited to participating carriers, P&I Clubs and the TT Club.

The aim is to highlight risks posed by certain cargoes and/or packing failures in order to improve safety in the liner shipping industry. This will be done by analysing the database and looking for specific incidents which may require immediate action or assessing incident trends.

The scope will be: reported incidents and will be defined as any incident which causes or has potential to cause: Injury or loss of life; loss or serious damage of assets; and environmental concerns.

Further information from: [secretary@containerownersassociation.org](mailto:secretary@containerownersassociation.org)

### **4. Joint COA and IICL Sustainable Container Flooring Project**

The container shipping industry is facing a serious challenge to ensure that sufficient quantities of sustainable flooring – of sufficient quality to pass the ISO standard floor test – are available in the future.

The COA and the IICL have established a Joint Working Group to investigate, research and develop a container flooring system which is sustainable – in terms of the environment, availability and operational requirements. The Working Group will initially comprise representatives from both the shipping line and leasing company sectors. Subsequently, representatives from the container and flooring manufacturing sector will be invited to participate.

As a starting-point, shipping lines have agreed to set up some clear parameters about the project and its objectives. These parameters will be prepared by a group of lines, convened by the Shipping Line Co-Chairman (Hapag Lloyd). The parameters will be based on the results of a questionnaire, being sent to shipping lines (COA Members and non-Members), asking for their opinions and requirements regarding the container floor of the future.

This information will be consolidated and presented to the IICL at a meeting in early May. If your company would like to contribute to this project, or participate it, please contact Marc Weidemann at Hapag Lloyd ([marc.weidemann@hlag.com](mailto:marc.weidemann@hlag.com)).

### **5. 5<sup>th</sup> COA Flexitank Meeting: London 19 May 2011**

The 5th COA Flexitank Meeting will take place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, London Docklands on Thursday 19 May 2011. Prior to the Meeting, there will be a networking Welcome Reception for all participants on Wednesday 18 May 2011.

The final Conference Programme and Registration Form are available to download from the COA Website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org))

## 6. COA Members: Participation in the IICL's Floor Audit Program

As in 2008, the IICL is inviting COA members to participate in its Audit Program of Container Floor manufacturers, which provides important information about container floor suppliers.

Companies interested in benefiting from this program should contact the COA Secretariat for further information ([secretary@containerownersassociation.org](mailto:secretary@containerownersassociation.org))

## 7. COA establishes South America Regional Branch

The COA has recently established a South America Regional Branch – it was officially launched at the recent *Intermodal South America 2011* exhibition in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

The Branch will be managed by the Brazilian Chamber of Containers (CBC - Câmara Brasileira de Contêineres).

As with the COA's other Regional Branches, it will promote the COA's activities and work-schedule on a national and regional level. It will also assist with development of training programmes and it will focus on regional issues of relevance to COA members. Further information from: [cbcdiretoria@cbcconteiner.org.br](mailto:cbcdiretoria@cbcconteiner.org.br) or visit [www.cbcconteiner.org.br](http://www.cbcconteiner.org.br)

## 8. New Members

The COA is pleased to welcome the following New Member to the Association:

- **Evergreen International** ([www.evergreen-line.com](http://www.evergreen-line.com))  
Global container shipping line, covering over 80 countries worldwide
- **Future Box** ([www.futurebox.co.kr](http://www.futurebox.co.kr))  
Provider of sliding-door and open-top containers
- **Mediterranean Shipping Company** ([www.msccva.ch](http://www.msccva.ch))  
International container shipping line, operating 444 container vessels with an intake capacity of 1,925,000TEU
- **Raven Industries** ([www.ravenEFD.com](http://www.ravenEFD.com))  
Manufacturing of flexible film and sheeting
- **Sinspec** ([www.sinspec.com](http://www.sinspec.com))  
Provider of container inspection services, including on/off-hire, in-service and new production