



COA Members Newsletter: Issue 35 – April 2008

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1. Focus on Environment at 6th COA Members Meeting in Shanghai

“Containers and the Environment” will be the principal theme of the COA’s 6th Members Meeting, taking place in Shanghai on Monday 16 June 2008. (Practical information about Delegate Registration and Hotel Bookings are shown in Items 2 and 3 below).

The Meeting will comprise presentations, panel discussions and break-out sessions on a number of issues relating to the environmental challenges of container shipping, container ports, container operations and container management.

The first of two sessions focusing on the environment will look at the broader issues affecting the container shipping, ports and logistics industry: Making container shipping more eco-friendly, reducing ships’ emissions, the impact of new container terminals and reducing the environmental impact of container handling operations, dredging, hinterland links and logistics.

The second session will review progress in the development of “environmentally-friendly” containers, including

- Flooring: finding alternatives to tropical hardwoods
- Refrigeration machinery and reefer containers: reducing the environmental impact
- Container paints: reducing solvent emissions

In addition to the sessions on the environment, the 6th COA Members Meeting will also include:

- Reports on Working Group progress and Regional Branch developments
- The 2008 AGM, including the Election of COA officers
- An open discussion forum for members to discuss COA developments

2. Shanghai 2008: Delegate Registration & Networking Receptions

Companies active in the container business (both COA Members and Non-Members) are welcome to register delegates for the 6th COA Members Meeting.

In addition to the Conference Sessions, all participants are invited to a “Welcome to Shanghai” Reception on the evening of Sunday 15 June. After the end of the Meeting on Monday 16 June, an evening reception will be organised.

The **Provisional Conference Programme** and **Delegate Registration Form** can be found on the COA Website (www.containerownersassociation.org)

3. Container Pavilion at Transport Logistic China: few spaces still available

Following the 6th Members Meeting, the COA and ITCO (the **International Tank Container Organisation**) are jointly organising a Container Pavilion at **Transport Logistic China 2008**, taking place in Shanghai, 17-19 June 2008.

Transport Logistic China 2008 is one of the world's largest exhibitions for the container shipping and logistics industry. Further information about the event be found on www.transportlogistic-china.com

Just a few exhibition spaces remain available in the Container Pavilion. An Exhibition Package is available, comprising fully equipped and furnished exhibition stands (sized 4m x 3m and above).

There is also a limited number of Sponsorship Opportunities available for companies wishing to participate in on the COA/ITCO Sponsored Stand.

Further information about the Container Pavilion, including stand packages and the floorplan, can be found on the COA Website. (www.containerownersassociation.org)

4. Practical Information: Venue and Room Reservation

Venue for COA Meeting: Sofitel Jin Jiang Oriental Pudong Hotel

The 6th COA Meeting will take place on Monday 16 June 2008 at the Sofitel Jin Jiang Oriental Pudong Hotel, Shanghai. For further information, click on:

http://www.sofitel.com/sofitel/fichehotel/gb/sof/5062/fiche_hotel.shtml

This hotel is just a few minutes away from the Shanghai New International Expo Centre, the venue for the Transport Logistic China 2008 exhibition. To view a map, click on:

(http://media.nmm.de/11/locationofsniec_update0220_19145011.jpg)

Hotel Booking

Special room rates are available for guests attending the COA Meeting. Further information, including a Hotel Booking Form is available on the COA Website.

5. Alignment of container interchange inspection criteria: Tuesday 17 June

Response to the COA's initiative to facilitate the alignment of existing container interchange inspection/repair criteria has been very positive. In order to progress this project, a meeting for container owners (COA Members and Non-Members) has been scheduled for the morning of Tuesday 17 June, in Shanghai

In preparation for the Shanghai Meeting, the COA will shortly be sending out a questionnaire to Container Owners, the aim of which is to find out where there is presently alignment between the criteria; and, where there are differences, how material they are to individual owners needs. Owners will be asked to respond to this survey, so that the results can be presented at the Shanghai Meeting.

Further information from secretary@containerownersassociation.org

6. Australasia Regional Branch meeting

The COA's Australasian Regional Branch will be organising its 3rd Members Meeting in Melbourne on Wednesday 21st May 2008. The venue will be the Quest Flemington, 600 Epsom Rd, Flemington, Victoria 3031

The Meeting will include sessions on a range of issues relevant to COA Members, covering developments in the Container Ports, Rail and Trucking sectors.

There will be an update on the work being undertaken by the COA through its Working Groups, including Equipment Interchange Inspection Criteria, Flexitanks, Door Locking Gear, CSC and the Environment.

For further information, please contact Christy Kosch at SCF Containers christy@scfcontainers.com.au

7. Flexitank Working Group meeting: Wednesday 21 May

The COA's Flexitank Working Group will be holding an Open Meeting for all interested companies on Wednesday 21 May 2008, at the Excel Centre, London Docklands, to coincide with the London International Wine Fair (<http://www.londonwinefair.co.uk>), which takes place there on 20-22 May 2008.

At the meeting, the Working Group will be presenting its proposed recommendations for Container Selection and for Container/Flexitank testing, together with response from shipping lines to these proposals. Further information from ets.consulting@btinternet.com

8. Convention for Safe Containers: COA Training Programme

Although the Convention for Safe Containers is an integral part of container operations and safety, there are probably many people working in different sectors of the industry who would like to have an update on the Convention.

The COA is making provisional plans to provide a one-day CSC awareness programme which will introduce the attendee into the general aspects of the CSC. The Course will highlight the main areas of the Convention, and would allow participants to gain an insight into the legal requirements of the Convention.

The course would be intended for technical and operations managers from all sectors of the container business, including: shipping lines, leasing companies, intermodal operators, repair depots, port control officers and terminal safety managers

Depending on interest, the course could either be organised as an in-house training session, or it could be run externally for participants from different companies. It is intended that topics to be covered would include:

- Introduction to the Convention for Safe Containers
- Container Approval
- Maintenance Schemes
- Shipper-Owned Containers
- Serious Structural Deficiencies
- Stopping Containers
- Sale and end of life containers

It is planned to launch the courses from September 2008 onwards. Subject to demand, the provisional schedule is:

- Rotterdam: week of 22 September
- Antwerp: week of 6 October
- Hamburg: week of 20 October

If you are interested in arranging an in-house course - or attending an external course - and would like further information and a more detailed programme, please contact the COA Secretariat on: secretary@containerownersassociation.org

9. New Members

The COA is pleased to welcome the following new member to the Association:

- **Cronos** (www.cronos.com) – container leasing company, offering operational and term lease of a range of dry freight and special equipment
- **Global Flexi Systems** (www.globalflexis.com) - With offices in the USA, Europe and a global agency structure GFS is a Total Logistics Company providing flexitank bulk liquid transportation needs. It also offers FIBCs and dry bulk liners
- **iInterchange System** (www.iinterchange.com) – iInterchange System is an IT solutions provider for the shipping and logistics industry.
- **Intermodal Solutions** (www.intermodalsolutions.com) - Intermodal Solutions is an Australian owned company specialising in the design, manufacture and supply of a comprehensive range of freight and storage containers to suit your requirements
- **Kukdong Maritime Equipment Service** (www.usedcontainer.co.kr) - Kukdong MES corporation buys and sells used containers for the purpose of international shipping and sells Flexitanks for the purpose of liquid cargo
- **Liquatrans Industrial Packaging** (www.liquatrans.com) – Liquatrans offers a range of flexitanks and FIBCs
- **ROAM Enterprises** (www.roamenterprises.com) - The primary focus of ROAM is the transport and storage of liquid bulk materials using flexitanks, tank containers, bulk liners and FIBCs
- **Qingdao LAF Packaging** (www.flexitank.net.cn) - LAF is one of the leading manufacturers, suppliers and operators of the Flexitank , IBC and Dry bulk liner

10. Further Information

For further information about anything in this newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to the next issue (May 2008), contact Patrick Hicks – secretary@containerownersassociation.org