

*9 April 2011*

## **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.

This Antwerp Course was prepared and managed by Luiz Goncalves, Vice-President, Technical & Operations, Florens Container Services. He was assisted by Marc Weidemann, Senior Manager, Container Engineering/Maintenance & Repair, Hapag-Lloyd.

The Course began with an introduction to the history of the three interchange standards that presently exist: the Common Interchange Criteria (CIC), IICL 5 and UCIRC. It then explained the benefits of the CIC, with details of the results of recent industry studies. There was a technical review of CIC and UCIRC standards and measurements, followed by an explanation of the CIC & UCIRC “envelope” concept, together with a discussion on ISO criteria and how to properly measure components

After lunch, there was an outdoor “Field Session”, during which participants were able to inspect four damaged containers, permitting a practical explanation of the topics that had been under discussion in the morning.

The Course then concluded with a question/answer session, enabling participants to clarify points that had been raised in the presentations during the day. There was then a feedback session, when the attendees were asked for their views on the Training Course, relating to the content of the presentations, the Course management and the overall arrangements.

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