



COA Members Newsletter: Issue 37, June 2008

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1. Shanghai 08: 6th COA Members Meeting on Monday 16th June

Over 120 participants have confirmed their attendance at **the 6th COA Members Meeting**, Shanghai, on Monday 16th June

Open to both COA Members and Non-Members, the Event Programme includes:

- Welcome Reception on Sunday 15th June
- Full-Day Conference Programme on Monday 16th June
- Evening River Boat Trip and Buffet Dinner on Monday 16th June

The updated **Conference Programme, Registration Form** and the **latest Participants List**, can be found on the COA Website (www.containerownersassociation.org)

2. Interchange Inspection Criteria Alignment: Meeting on Tuesday 17th June

As announced in the May 08 newsletter, there has been a positive response to the COA's initiative to facilitate the alignment of existing container interchange inspection criteria.

In order to progress this project, a meeting for all Container Owners (COA Members and Non-Members) has been organised for Tuesday 17 June (morning), at the Sofitel Pudong, in Shanghai

Information, Meeting Agenda and Registration Form: secretary@containerownersassociation.org

3. COA/ITCO Container Pavilion and Conference Sponsors

The Container Owners Association and the International Tank Container Organisation are jointly organising a Container Pavilion at *transport logistic China 2008*, taking place in Shanghai from 17-19 June 2008. (Go to: www.transportlogistic-china.com, for further information)

Many thanks to the following companies, who are Exhibitors and Sponsors of the Pavilion:

Axicon International • Axis Intermodal • Blue Ocean • Asia Pacific • Capital Intermodal • CIMC • DuPont • Environmental Packaging Technologies • Gavan • Girard Equipment • Hempel • IAS • InterBulk Group • Martec • Nantong Tank Container • Real Asset Management • Sea-Axis • Seabox • TAL Container International • Unitas • Valspar • Van Doorn • Xines

For further information, go to: <http://www.containerownersassociation.org/9.html>

4. COA Korea Regional Branch meeting: Seoul, Thursday 15 May

The COA's Korea Regional Branch organised its First Meeting for container companies on Thursday 15 May 2008.

The meeting was opened by BJ Chun, COA Korea Regional Branch Director, who gave participants latest information about the COA.

There were further presentations on: E-seals & RFID; Floors, Coatings and Dry Container Refurbishing; SuperRack Container; Sliding Open Top Container; EQ Interchange; COA Container Specification; and COA Repair.

Further information about the COA Korea Regional Branch, please contact Mr BJ Chun, on bjchun@boxjoin.com.

5. Strong participation at 3rd COA Australasian Regional Branch Meeting

The COA's Australasian Regional Branch organised its 3rd Members Meeting in Melbourne on Wednesday 21st May 2008. With over 40 participants, the Meeting included sessions on a range of issues relevant to COA Members, covering developments in the Container Ports, Shipping, Rail and Trucking sectors.

There was 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.

6. COA Flexitank Meeting and Working Group

A total of 45 participants attended the COA Flexitank meeting in London on Thursday 22 May. The purpose of the COA Flexitank WG has been to establish an industry standard for the safe and reliable operation of flexitanks, by agreement with shipping lines, flexitank manufacturers and operators.

As part of the COA's WG process, Trans Ocean Distribution Limited and the Braid Group, have jointly been working a proposed industry standard for flexitank manufacture and operation. Their plans comprise a 5-part recommendation, with a recognised independent authoritative body being appointed to assist in the compilation and approval of the standards; and also to supervise and approve Flexitank / Container Combination (FCC) and material testing which will form an integral and central part of a formal certification. This will include the activity of continually auditing the standard for all industry participants.

TOD and Braid presented their plans at the Flexitank Open Meeting. In addition, during the course of the meeting on Thursday 22 May, the future structure and organisation of the WG was presented, together with the next stages of the WG programme.

To download the presentation made at the meeting, go to: www.containerownersassociation.org. A report of the meeting will be posted on the COA website shortly.

7. BIC 75th Anniversary Congress: Malta, 6 & 7 October 2008

To celebrate its 75th anniversary B.I.C. (Bureau International des Containers et du Transport Intermodal) is organizing a Congress in Malta on October 6 and 7, 2008.

The theme of the Conference will be "New Challenges to Trade" and will see high level experts addressing the attendance on issues related to Environment, Security, Investment and Infrastructures.

Attendance is free of charge, special rates has been negotiated for hotel and flights. For more information visit www.bic-code.org or mail to malta2008@bic-code.org

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. 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 members to the Association:

- **Archwood Protection** (www.archchemicals.com): Global biocides company
- **OsPack Systems** (www.ospack.com.au): Manufacturers of product-protection packaging for storing or transporting a range of cargoes.
- **RMI Global Logistic Services** (www.rmi.nl): Provider of logistics management solutions in the food and chemical sectors
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- **Royal Wolf Trading**: (www.royalwolf.com.au): Specialists in the hire, sale & modification of new & refurbished shipping containers.
- **SKS Paint** (www.skspaint.co.kr) Supplier of coatings for new and refurbished containers
- **Unedecom Flexitanques** (www.unede.com): Full-service flexitank operator
- **Western Container Group** (www.westerncontainer.com.au) – Specialists in container sales, rental and depot services