



## CONTAINER OWNERS ASSOCIATION

### **COA Members Newsletter: Issue 49, March 2011**

1. CIC/IICL-5 alignment on cross-members and fork-pockets
2. COA Container Inspectors Course
3. COA/IICL Project: Sustainable Container Floor/Understructure System
4. Invitation to participate in IICL Container Floor Audit Project
5. 5<sup>th</sup> Flexitank Meeting: London, Thursday 19 May 2011
6. 8<sup>th</sup> COA Members Meeting: Shanghai, 20/21 June 2011
7. New Member

#### **1. CIC/IICL-5 alignment on cross-members and fork-pockets**

The IICL has recently published four new important Technical Bulletins (TBs). The new TBs address the following topics:

- Cross-member/Fork-Pocket Member Lower Flange Downward Bow Criterion (**TB 009**)
- Downward Bowed Criterion for Reefer Undercarriages( **RTB 002**)
- Repair Manual – Materials Used For Repair (**TB 008**)
- Reefer Cleaning Issues (**RTB 001**)

The technical bulletins are available to view and download at [www.IICL.org](http://www.IICL.org)

Companies using the Common Interchange Criteria (also referred to as the “Amended Version of IICL-5”) have revised the CIC to match the parameters set out in IICL TB 009.

This means that there is now one more alignment between the IICL-5 criteria and the Common Interchange Criteria, with tolerances for downward bows on gooseneck tunnels, fork lift pockets, outriggers and cross-members now aligned.

The updated Common Interchange Criteria document is available to download from the COA website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org)).

#### **2. COA Container Inspection Course**

The COA is this year launching a Container Inspection Course, focusing on the CIC and UCIRC container interchange inspection criteria.

The Course will provide Classroom and Container-based Training on CIC and UCIRC, and is intended for container shipping lines, leasing companies, repair depots and survey companies.

The first COA Training Course will take place in Antwerp on Wednesday 16 March, when the COA Training Material will be presented. Following this Course, a Training Management structure will be established, enabling Courses to be delivered in Europe and around the World.

A report of the 16 March Course, together with further information about the Training Programme, will be published in the April COA Newsletter.

### **3. 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)).

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

Registration is now open for the 8<sup>th</sup> COA Members Meeting, taking place in Shanghai on Monday 20 June and Tuesday 21 June.

Conference themes will include:

- 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
- Container Re-sale
- Flexitanks

The Provisional Conference Programme and Registration Form can be downloaded from the COA website.

### **5. 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))

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

## **7. Middle East Liner Shipping Conference 2011**

COA Members wishing to participate at the Middle East Liner Shipping Conference (Dubai, 20/21 April 2011) can benefit from a 20% discount on the delegate fee.

Hosted by DP World and supported by DMCA, the conference will focus on key questions facing the market including “can the Middle East cargo growth spiral continue and what factors will drive the region’s trade potential?” It will also look beyond MENA to ME-NEWA to discuss the role of the Middle East to help promote and develop Africa’s trade and infrastructure.

Further information on: [www.globallinersshipping.com/KT0194COA](http://www.globallinersshipping.com/KT0194COA)

## **8. New Member**

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

- **Australian Antarctic Division ([www.antarctica.gov.au](http://www.antarctica.gov.au))**  
Management of container fleet to support the Australian Government stations based in Antarctica.