



## **COA Members Newsletter: Issue 36, May 2008**

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### **1. Shanghai 08: Members Meeting and Container Pavilion**

Over 90 participants have confirmed their attendance at **Shanghai 08: the 6<sup>th</sup> COA Members Meeting and Container Pavilion** at *Transport Logistic China 08*

Full information, including details of the **Conference Programme**, the **COA/ITCO Container Pavilion**, **Networking Receptions** and the **latest Participants List**, can be found on the COA Website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org))

### **2. Container Interchange Inspection/Repair Criteria Alignment**

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

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

### **3. COA Korea Regional Branch meeting: Seoul, Thursday 15 May**

The COA's Korea Regional Branch is organising a Meeting for container companies on Thursday 15 May 2008. The meeting will take place from 4pm to 7pm, followed by dinner. The venue for the meeting will be the Ibis Myeongdong Hotel, Seoul.

Companies wishing to participate should contact Mr BJ Chun, Korea Regional Branch Director, on [bjchun@boxjoin.com](mailto:bjchun@boxjoin.com)

### **4. 3<sup>rd</sup> COA Australasian Regional Branch Meeting: Melbourne, 22 May**

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, Shipping, 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.

Further information from [christy@scfcontainers.com.au](mailto:christy@scfcontainers.com.au)

## **5. COA Flexitank Working Group Open Meeting - Thursday 22 May 2008**

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

The meeting will include presentations on a proposed Recommended Code of Practice for Flexitanks.

Companies wishing to participate in this meeting need to register for the Meeting. Further information on the COA website or contact [kate@containerownersassociation.org](mailto:kate@containerownersassociation.org)

## **6. Container Liner Services on the Danube**

The development of container liner services on the River Danube continues to be a topical issue.

Via Donau, the Austrian Ministry of Transport's company which was established to preserve and develop the Danube waterway, has recently published two documents of interest to container owners looking to develop their business in this region.

- a) "COLD - Container Liner Service Danube". This is an assessment of the opportunities and risks of container transport on the Danube River between Austria and the Black Sea
- b) Report summary, in presentation format, prepared by Gerhard Gussmag, Via Donau's Team Manager Transport Development.

The reports can be downloaded from the COA website – [www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org)

## **7. BIC 75<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.bic-code.org) or mail to [malta2008@bic-code.org](mailto:malta2008@bic-code.org)

## **8. AQIS Changes**

The Sea Cargo Unit of the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service has published a new Industry Notice (26/2007-08: Update on Changes to Permanent Immunisation Treatment Certification Requirements for Commodity Timber and Timber Packaging and Dunnage).

This can be downloaded from the COA website – [www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org)

## **9. 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](mailto:secretary@containerownersassociation.org)

## **10. MSC Napoli Report**

The UK Department for Transport's Marine Accident Investigation Branch (MAIB) has published a report following the completion of their investigation into the structural failure of the hull of the MSC Napoli.

The MAIB found that the failure to the hull in the region of the ship's engine room was due to the vessel's design rather than her material condition or construction. It concluded that this, along with the ship's speed and her loading, had caused the vessel to break her back as she headed directly into high seas. It has therefore recommended a review of the technical rules used in container ship design.

As part of the on-going investigation, the MAIB identified that container ships of similar design could potentially have the same design flaw and have identified that out of 1500 vessels screened, 12 require work to bring them up to acceptable safety standards.

## **11. New Members**

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

- **ARCE (Asociacion Espanola de Depositos Reparadores de Contenedores)** ([www.arce-nacional.com](http://www.arce-nacional.com)) – Spanish Container Repair Depot Association
- **Hexion Specialty Chemicals Trading Co** ([www.hexion.com](http://www.hexion.com)) - Providing epoxy materials to coatings manufacturers who supply container manufacturing plants
- **Ravian International Agencies** ([www.ravian.com](http://www.ravian.com)) – offering cargo services by sea, land and air
- **Style Limited** ([www.stylelimited.com](http://www.stylelimited.com)) – suppliers of bamboo flooring