



## **COA Members Newsletter: Issue 41, November 2008**

1. Common Interchange Criteria Forum on 4 December 2008
2. CIC Meeting: Registration, Practical Arrangements and Documentation
3. Flexitank Code of Practice: Status Report...
4. ...and Meeting on 4 December 2008 in Hamburg
5. COA Stand at Intermodal 08, Hamburg
6. COA participation in the IICL Plywood Floor Audit Programme
7. New Members

### **1. Common Interchange Criteria Forum: Hamburg, Thursday 4 December**

The Container Owners Association is organising an Open Forum to discuss the implementation, progress and benefits of CIC – the Common Interchange Criteria. CIC is the common interchange inspection criteria for dry freight containers, endorsed by the COA earlier this year.

The Forum will consist of a series of short presentations, together with plenty of time for discussion and questions. Presentations will explain the reasons for the introduction of the CIC, while also providing details of the benefits of standardised interchange procedures for all sectors of the industry.

### **2. CIC Meeting: Registration, Practical Arrangements and Documentation**

The Forum will take place at 09:30 on Thursday 4 December 2008, in Conference Room 4 at the Hamburg Messe (the venue for Intermodal 08). It is open to interested parties from all industry sectors: shipping lines, leasing companies, container surveyors, repairers, manufacturers, etc.

There is no charge for attending the meeting, but companies should confirm their participation by pre-registering. A registration form is available on [www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org)

After registering, participants will be emailed:

1. The CIC document
2. A document comparing the CIC, UCIRC and the IICL-5 criteria
3. A document answering “Frequently Asked Questions”
4. A document enabling participants to submit questions prior to the meeting

### **3. Flexitank Code of Practice: Status Report...**

The Container Owners Association has been working on the development of a Code of Practice for the Manufacture of Flexitanks and the Testing of Flexitank/Container Combinations.

The COA Board requested a Management Implementation Group (MIG) to be formed, comprising two shipping lines, two flexitank companies and a classification society. Following a recent meeting of the MIG, a Draft Code of Practice was prepared. As part of the consultation process, this draft code was distributed to container owners and flexitank companies, for comments and feedback

The deadline for receipt of feedback is now 18:00 on Wednesday 26 November. The MIG is meeting on Thursday 27 November, when it will integrate the Comments into the Draft Document. To receive the Draft Code, contact: [secretary@containerownersassociation.org](mailto:secretary@containerownersassociation.org)

#### **4. ...and Meeting for COA Members on Thursday 4 December in Hamburg**

Following the revision of the Flexitank Code of Practice, the final proposed Code will be presented at a meeting at 11:30 on Thursday 4 December 2008, in Room 4 of the Hamburg-Messe, the venue for Intermodal 2008. This meeting is open to COA Members only.

In addition to the presentation of the Code of the Practice, there will be time for questions & answers and a general discussion.

There will also be a presentation by the TÜV Süd Rail Testing Facility (Görlitz, Germany), with details of the testing procedures for flexitanks.

There is no charge for attending the meeting, but companies should confirm their participation by pre-registering. A registration form can be downloaded from the COA website ([www.containerownersassociation.org](http://www.containerownersassociation.org))

The intention is that this Code of Practice will, subject to any final revisions made in Hamburg, be agreed and endorsed by the COA Board of Directors and by the COA Membership.

Naturally, there may be further refinements to the Code thereafter, and the Management Implementation Group will be maintained, to process future amendments. But the main focus will then turn to implementation of the Code as widely as possible, so that it is adopted by all sectors of the industry.

#### **5. COA Stand at Intermodal 08, Hamburg**

The COA will again be exhibiting the Intermodal Exhibition, which this year takes place at the Hamburg Messe, Germany, on 2-4 December 2008 ([www.intermodal-events.com](http://www.intermodal-events.com)).

Sponsors of the COA Stand at Intermodal 2008 are as follows:

- Axis Intermodal
- Blue Sky Intermodal
- Capital Intermodal
- International Asset Systems
- Intermodal Equipment Associates (Martec International and Van Doorn)
- Lloyd's Register
- Saejin
- Sea Box
- Seateq
- Suraloc
- Unitas Services

The COA is one of Intermodal 2008's Supporting Organisations and we will be welcoming Members, Prospective Members, Conference Delegates, Exhibitors and Visitors to our Stand, number A32. To register for the exhibition, click on: [www.intermodal-events.com/register](http://www.intermodal-events.com/register)

#### **6. COA and the IICL Plywood Floor Audit Programme**

Some 15 COA Members have so far signed up to participate in the IICL Floor Audit Committee project and a COA member has been nominated as a representative to sit on the Committee.

By joining this project, which undertakes audits of plywood floor manufacturers, COA members benefit in a number of ways: instant access to audits of all of the major floor manufacturers; reduced costs of future audits, because these will be shared with the IICL; and a greater ability to influence the quality control of the floor manufacturers, as the audits will be viewed and acted on by more container purchasers. The IICL is providing immediate access to the floor audits already undertaken by IICL members

The IICL will be exhibiting at Intermodal 2008 in Hamburg in December, and there will be a joint display with the COA, providing information about the project and highlighting how the COA and IICL are co-operating on it.

COA Members are invited to join the project. For further information, please contact Nigel Stribley, of Blue Sky Intermodal, who is co-ordinating it ([n.stribley@bsiu.com](mailto:n.stribley@bsiu.com)).

## 7. New Members

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

- **Container Group Technology:** Container design specialists
- **De Rijke** ([www.derijke.com](http://www.derijke.com)): Supplier of international transport, logistics, warehousing and forwarding services
- **M&W Flexitank Supply:** Manufacturer of flexitanks for container transport
- **Shanghai Haihang Spare Parts** ([www.shhaihang.com](http://www.shhaihang.com)): Supplier of door locking equipment and other container components for shipping containers
- **Yunjet Plastic Packaging** ([www.yunjet.com](http://www.yunjet.com)): Manufacturer of bulk container packaging products, including flexitanks and dry bulk container liners
- **Vinashin TGC Container** ([www.vtc-container.com.vn](http://www.vtc-container.com.vn)): ISO container factory, located in Vietnam, with a designed capacity of 60,000 TEU per year