



COA Members Newsletter: Issue 45, October 2010

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1. COA Container Pavilion at Intermodal Europe 2010...

The COA will once again be welcoming current and prospective Members to its Container Pavilion at Intermodal Europe 2010.

As in previous years, the Pavilion is sponsored by COA Members. This year's Sponsors include:

- Axis Intermodal
- Blue Sky Intermodal
- GE SeaCo
- International Asset Systems
- Intermodal Equipment Associates (Gavan, Martec and Van Doorn)
- Lloyd's Register
- Real Asset Management
- Saejin
- SCF Group
- Suraloc
- Trans Rak International/ Domino Flatracks

It has been a busy past 12 months for the Association, during which time it has organised the 7th General Meeting in Shanghai, which was attended by over 150 participants. In addition, there were Regional Branch meetings in Australia and Korea, together with the 4th Flexitank Conference in London in May.

During the course of the year, the Association has also published a number of industry-recognised reports, including its updated survey of Alternative Flooring Materials and its revised Recommended Code of Practice for Flexitanks.

2. ...and announcing COA's plans for 2011

In addition to updating Members on 2010 activities, the COA will be announcing its plans for 2011 at its Container Pavilion at Intermodal Europe 2010.

These plans include the scheduled launch next year of a Training Programme for CIC and UCIRC, further work on environmental initiatives/recommendations for the container industry, the

further development of the Flexitank Code of Practice, the launch of new COA Regional Branches and the organisation of the COA's 8th General Meeting in June 2011.

3. Intermodal Europe 2010, 30 November – 2 December 2010, Amsterdam

IIR Exhibitions, the organisers of the Intermodal Europe exhibition and conference, report that the event is returning to Amsterdam "with a revitalised programme focusing on all areas of container logistics and transport across road, rail and sea. Hosted by the Port of Amsterdam, the event is destined to be a buying, educational and discussion forum for the industry."

IIR continues: "This year's event will feature free-to-attend conference sessions that will explore 'The Future of Intermodalism in a Post Recession World'. During these exhibition-floor sessions, a host of high profile speakers will offer visitors insight into the industry and allow them to take part in debates shaping the future of intermodalism."

For more details of who is exhibiting and to view the conference agenda please visit: www.containerownersassociation.org or www.intermodal-events.com/coa

4. 4th COA Flexitank Meeting at Intermodal Europe: Wednesday 1 December

The COA will be organising its 4th Flexitank Conference at Intermodal Europe in Amsterdam.

The Meeting, which will take place from 10:00 to 12:00 on Wednesday 1st December, in one of the Conference Halls located inside the Intermodal Europe 2010 exhibition, is open to all interested parties.

The provisional agenda includes the following key topics:

- Welcome and introduction
- Status report on the COA Recommended Code of Practice
- Status of Rail Impact Testing and Reporting Procedures
- Feedback from shipping lines on the trends in the carriage of flexitanks
- Cargo compatibility and flexitanks
- Proposed check-list for flexitank materials
- The 'Big Bag Theory': Studying the potential for increased payload and reduced container damage
- Questions and answers

Further information from COA Flexitank Consultant Chris Thornton on flexitanks@containerownersassociation.org

5. Flexitanks and the environment: COA Study Published

Following a presentation on the environmental disposal of flexitanks at the COA Flexitank Meeting in May, the COA has published an in-depth study on the Environmental Disposal of Flexitanks.

The Report has been prepared by Kate Royston of Robbee Smole Sustainable Business Solutions.

This is now available to members and can be downloaded from the COA Website (www.containerownersassociation.org)

6. Members Questionnaire: Feedback appreciated

Thanks to all those Members who replied to the 3-minute questionnaire in September. The answers are now being consolidated and a synopsis of the results will be published next month.

Although the deadline is closed, responses to the questionnaire are still very welcome. A copy is available on the COA website.

7. Important IICL Technical Bulletin Published...

In September, the Institute for International Container Lessors (IICL) released an important Technical Bulletin with changes to the repair manual. Since UCIRC and CIC adopt the IICL repair criteria, this is relevant to all COA Members.

The recent technical bulletin #7 from IICL (TB- 7) is available on the IICL web site <http://iicl.org/techcorner/dryvan.cfm> and provides new allowances for repairs on crossmembers and fork pocket walls.

Bulletin Title:

Limitations on member (crossmembers / forklift pocket side walls) repairs.

Details

This technical bulletin was developed to address the issue of weld cracking in members (crossmembers / forklift pocket side walls) and issue a revised repair policy.

8. ...and register on-line to receive IICL Technical Bulletins

Visitors to the IICL website will note that it has recently been upgraded.

One of the new features of the website is a Technical Corner, where the IICL's latest Technical Bulletins and Information Papers can be downloaded. This technical information covers a range of equipment types, including dry vans, flatracks, open tops, reefers and chassis owned and operated by IICL members.

As an added feature, the IICL has included a blog associated with each of the postings, should website visitors wish to give their opinion or comment on the subject matter.

To sign up to receive the IICL's Technical Bulletins and other Releases as soon as they are published, go to www.iicl.org and click on the "My IICL Login" button on the top of the page, where COA Members can register their details.

9. COA Report on Alternative Flooring Materials: 2010 Revision

As mentioned in the September newsletter, the COA's "New Materials" Working Group has published the 2010 Revision of its "Report on Alternative Materials for Container Flooring".

The publication summarises developments since the WG's last report in August 2009, while also providing information on the current market for alternative floor materials. A comprehensive list of alternative floor materials and suppliers is published. In addition, the report also provides a comparison table of alternative materials.

COA Members can download these Reports from the Home Page of the COA Website (www.containerownersassociation.org).

10. New Members

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

- **Eval Europe (www.eval.eu)**
Producers of co-polymers for flexitanks
- **Shanghai MEGA Coatings Company (www.megacoatings.com)**
Manufacturer of coatings for corrosion protection
- **7 Seas Logistics (www.7seaslogistics.com)**
Specialist provider of container repositioning services for shipping lines, leasing companies and other container owners
- **Trans Rak International (www.trans-rak.com)**
Developer of the innovative Trans Rak Cars-in-Container system