



CONTAINER OWNERS ASSOCIATION

COA Members Newsletter: Issue 24 – March 2007

1. COA Repair Working Group Meeting, Rotterdam
2. Australasian Regional Branch Meeting, Sydney
3. 5th COA Members Meeting - Paris
4. Green Light for Coatings Working Group Programme
5. Technical Manager
6. How Long do Containers Float For?
7. New Members

1. COA Repair Working Group Meeting – Rotterdam, 26 April 2007

The COA is arranging a meeting of its *Container Repair Working Group* in Rotterdam on Thursday 26 April 2007. The aim is to review and progress the WG's two specific items:

- COA Recommendations for Data Transfer of Repair Information
- COA Recommendations for Standard Repair Times

Meeting Agenda

At the moment, the structure of the meeting is being kept flexible, as its precise contents and timetable depends on the level of interest and the response from potential speakers and contributors. However, a provisional programme has been prepared (see below).

The primary focus will be to initiate the process which will eventually lead to the preparation of a "COA Recommended Standard for the Transfer of Repair Data".

Also under discussion will be the proposed "COA Recommendation for Standard Repair Times".

If time allows, a discussion period will also be available for two further Depot-related issues:

- the developments of a "COA Depot Operators Code of Practice"
- and the issue of empties and container terminals

Organisations wishing to make a presentation should contact Patrick Hicks at the COA Secretariat as soon as possible – secretary@containerownersassociation.org

The provisional programme for the Meeting is as follows

Part A: Container Repair WG:

Welcome and Introduction

- Highlighting what is happening in the industry and an overview of the key issues facing the Container Repair sector

- What is the purpose of the COA Repair WG? What needs to be achieved today? What are short-term targets of this WG? What are long-term targets?

Viewpoints and opening statements from:

- Shipping lines, Leasing companies, Container repair industry, Surveyors, Other interested parties

Session 1: Standardisation of Container Repair Data for Transfer by EDI

- At present, almost every shipping line uses different systems for reporting container repair information
- A standard system would be more efficient for the industry. While this is unlikely to be achieved in the short-term, there would be a benefit in a COA-recommended format, which would gradually be used by the industry in years to come
- CEDEX is the industry “standard” but how can it be made more industry-friendly and EDI-friendly?
- Time for a COA recommended format – one CEDEX standard which can be translated
- Capital Lease proposal

Session 2: Standard Repair Times

- Is this necessary? Is this achievable?
- Proposals to date

Summary and Agreement about Next Step for the WG

Part B – Container Depot Issues

Session 3: Development of a Depot Operators Code of Practice

- The COA needs to develop a code of practice, in which it envisages the way that a depot has to perform
- It will endeavour to develop Best Practice
- And enable all parties to improve efficiency and save money
- And recognise environmental issues

Session 4: Empty containers

- Port expansion is running behind shipping developments
- Empties are gradually being driven out of container terminals, creating a growing problem for depots
- Depots will need to find more land, but environmental and planning restrictions will make this a growing problem, especially in Rotterdam, Hamburg and Antwerp

Participation and Registration

The meeting will be open to all interested companies and organisations (members and non-members). It will be free-of-charge to all participants.

All Participants must pre-register – the Conference Programme and Registration Form will be posted on the COA website (www.containerownersassociation.org) on **Wednesday 21 March**

The venue will be the Novotel Rotterdam Brainpark. At this stage, it is anticipated that Registration and Welcoming Coffee will be served at 09:00, with the Conference starting at 09:30

2. COA Australasian Members Meetings – Sydney, 9/10 May

The Provisional Programme of the 3rd COA Australasian Regional Branch is now being finalised and will be posted on the COA website on **Wednesday 21 March**

The dates of the meeting, which takes place at the Amora Hotel, Sydney, have been changed from the 1st Announcement.

The Meeting will now take place on Thursday 10 May with a “Container Cocktails” Welcome Reception on the previous evening (Wednesday 9 May).

We will be joined by a number of special guests who will be presenting and providing relevant industry updates. Presenters will include:

Phil Rosser - Sydney Ports, Senior Manager Trade Development
Outline of current container trends and the latest developments at Sydney Ports

Con Alexandrides (TBC), Pacific National, Intermodal Corridor Manager
Update on inland operations/trends

Peter Creeden, Hamburg Sud, Regional Logistics Manager
Update on shipping lines

Pierre-Jean Bordahandy, University of Adelaide
Thesis findings on legal issues of containers - and suggestions for the industry

For further information, please contact Richard Sykes (Richard@scfcontainers.com.au).

3. 5th COA Members Meeting – Paris, 26/27 June 2007

Final arrangements for the 5th Members Meeting in Paris (26/27 June) are now being put into place, and the full Conference Programme, together with Registration Form, will be published in the April Newsletter.

4. Green Light for COA Coatings Code of Practice

Following the commitment of sponsorship funds from two coatings suppliers, the 1st phase of the COA Coatings Code of Practice has now been given the “green light” to proceed.

As indicated in the last Newsletter, after the Container Coatings seminar in Singapore, Corrosion Specialists Lithgow Associates, were invited to develop a comprehensive “Painting Code of Practice” for the COA.

Sponsorship Funding has now been committed by two coatings companies:

- Hempel
- Chugoku Marine Paints

The CoP will be developed so that it:

- does not increase manufacturing costs
- achieves a 10 year coating performance cycle to first maintenance
- integrates the CoP various international standards, where appropriate

The project will involve

- (i) factory/production appraisal
- (ii) producing a 1st CoP draft
- (iii) Material Testing Programme – Part 1 (Development) and Part 2 (Implementation)

The Part 1 Development will be undertaken in the next few months, with an interim report being presented at the next Members Meeting in June.

On completion of Part 1, Part 2 of the testing programme (Implementation) will involve Independent Laboratory Testing - and will also be funded by individual paint suppliers.

5. COA Technical Manager

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, the COA Board has agreed that – in order to achieve its technical objectives and to better serve its members, the COA will employ a dedicated Technical Manager. The Technical Manager will be recruited as soon as possible, with a view to commencing work within the next few months.

COA Members can read more about this initiative on the Home Page of the COA website (www.containerownersassociation.org)

6. How Long do Containers Float For?

The COA Secretariat was recently asked by a member to provide some information on the question: “How long do containers float for?” Following a survey of members, a short article has been posted on the News Pages of the COA website. To download a copy of the article, please click on: <http://www.containerownersassociation.org/14.html>

7. New Members

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

- **Waterfront Container Leasing** (www.waterfrontcontainer.com) – international lessors of transportation equipment
- **International Intermodal Repairers NZ, Inc** – Association of New Zealand Container Repairers
- **Furniture Industrie Service** (www.fis.fr) – Suppliers of spare parts for containers and trucks

8. Further Information

For further information about anything in this newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to the next issue (April 2007), contact Patrick Hicks – secretary@containerownersassociation.org