



CONTAINER OWNERS ASSOCIATION

COA Members Newsletter: Issue 21 – November 2006

1. COA at Intermodal 2006
2. Singapore Meeting & Coatings Conference
3. Working Group Programme for 2007
4. Election of Directors
5. Special Members Offer
6. “Container 50” – the Film
7. New Members

1. COA Stand at Intermodal 2006, Hamburg

The COA will be celebrating its second anniversary at the Intermodal 2006 Exhibition in Hamburg next week (5-7 December – see www.intermodal-events.com).

The COA is one of Intermodal 2006’s Supporting Organisations and we look forward to welcoming all Exhibitors, Speakers, Delegates and Visitors to the Stand – Stand Number E32.

2. 4th COA Members Meeting, Singapore Meeting

A total of 86 participants attended the 4th COA Members Meeting in Singapore in early November. A wide range of topics were covered – copies of all presentations can be found on the COA website (www.containerownersassociation.org)

Following the 2-day Meeting, some 35 participants attended the COA’s first technical seminar – focusing on “Container Surface Preparation and Coatings”. Presentations covered issues relating to existing coating technology and inspection systems, together with an in-depth analysis of new technology that could be utilised in the future. Presentations are on the COA website.

Following the Seminar, a new Working Group is being established to cover a number of aspects of coating application, inspection and new technology (see item 3 below).

3. Working Group Programme

One of the principle aims of the COA is to promote common standards for the industry. This work is carried out through a number of Working Groups. During the past two years, Working Groups have completed a number of reports and recommendations – these have been posted on the website and COA Members can access them with their own login/password details.

Current WG activity scheduled for 2007 includes the following:

Container Repair

Standard Repair Times: A COA recommendation for standard container repair times is presently being prepared. This is scheduled to be finalised in early-2007.

Standard Messaging Format: A standard system for sending container damage/repair data was proposed at the COA Singapore meeting. Work on this will progress during the first half of 2007.

Container Coatings

Code of Practice: A COA-recommended Code of Practice for container coatings application has been proposed

New Materials/Hot-Metal Spraying: Research into the use of new materials for container coatings, and for applications of hot-metal spraying for the container business, is now under way

Container Flooring

AQIS study: The COA is continuing to assist AQIS with the Ensis container floor study

Other: Other work includes a quality assurance project in conjunction with biocide suppliers

Containers/Flexitanks

A proposal for a WG on COA-recommended specifications for flexitanks and for containers carrying flexitanks has been put forward.

For further information about the WGs and how to participate in them, please contact Patrick Hicks – secretary@containerownersassociation.org

4. Election of Directors

The election for COA Directors for 2007 took place at the AGM in Singapore. The following were elected to the Board:

- **Bill Brassington** (Manager, Engineering and Technical Services, GE SeaCo)
- **Jim Brennan** (President, Sea Box, Inc)
- **Michael Callus** (VP Container Management, United Arab Shipping Co)
- **Mike Downes** (Global Equipment Maintenance & Repair, Maersk Line)
- **Bernard Isoard** (General Manager, Logistics Asset Management, CMA CGM)
- **Claudio Paiva** (V-P Operations, Capital Lease)
- **Richard Sykes** (Director, SCF Containers)

After two years on the COA Board, Mark Wilkinson (President, Xines GmbH) has stepped down as a Director of the COA. His place on the Board has been taken by Claudio Paiva (V-P Operations, Capital Lease GmbH).

Mark was the “driving-force” behind the setting-up of the COA, and the Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to recognize his vision and achievement in establishing the Association and setting out its initial strategy.

Mark organised the COA’s inaugural planning meeting in Amsterdam in March 2004 and was instrumental in the COA’s launch in Copenhagen in November 2004. His industry insight and expertise will continue to be much appreciated by the COA Board and Members.

5. Members Discount – and a “special gift” from RAM

COA Members are being offered an exclusive 10% discount from intermodal management software specialist Real Asset Management Plc. RAM supplies asset and business management software solutions to container lessors, intermodal operators, shipping lines, rail companies and freight forwarders. The company offers products and services to manage fleets of various sizes and equipment types, including box containers, tanks, swap bodies, reefers, flat racks, flexitanks, rail wagons, trailers and IBCs.

RAM's Series4000 range covers four core products which can be implemented separately or as an integrated system; Rental4000 automates the daily operations and long term business of leasing companies; Monitor4000 automates business activities for intermodal equipment operators, Repair4000 is designed to reduce overheads associated with the maintenance and repair of other intermodal equipment; and Trailer4000 provides complete modular management of trailer leasing

In addition, COA Members visiting the RAM stand at Intermodal 2006 (Stand A4) can collect a special gift. Contact Nicola Byers at nbyers@ramplc.com

6. “Container 50”: The Film – Collect it from Stand E32 or View it On-Line

To mark the 50th Anniversary of Containerisation, the COA commissioned a specially made film, which was shown at the 50th Anniversary of Containerisation Gala Dinner in Antwerp in June.

The film – together with a write-up on “*How the Film was Made*” - can be viewed on line. Just go to the Home Page of the COA Website. <http://www.containerownersassociation.org/14.html>

A limited number of copies of the film will also be available at the COA Stand at Intermodal 2006. Please ask at the Stand.

7. New Members

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

- **Axis Intermodal** (www.axisintermodal.com) – swap body rental specialists
- **Bundesverband der Container-Servicebetriebe** (www.bcsb.org) – association of German container service-providers and depots
- **Herbert Böhm** – materials protection consultant
- **Trans Ocean Distribution** (www.todbulk.com) – global flexitank operator

8. Further Information

For further information about anything in this newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to the next issue (December 2006), contact Patrick Hicks – secretary@containerownersassociation.org