

ICHCA's Headlines

News from the ICHCA International Secretariat and Panels

November 2011

Misdeclaration of the weight of loaded containers.

ICHCA International was at DSC/16, where the meeting agreed generally that verification of the gross container weight was needed and that SOLAS should be expanded to place that duty on the shipper. WSC also suggested that SOLAS should require that the verified weight should be provided to the terminal and the ship.

The outcome was an invitation to DSC members to provide proposals for text for both SOLAS changes and guidance for DSC/17 and WSC agreed to head up an informal group to develop such provisions. ICHCA International has joined that group and has taken steps to set up its own correspondence group to feed into this.

If you would like more information on this please contact mike.compton@ichca.com or richard.brough@ichca.com

Timber Deck Cargoes

The IMO's Timber Deck Cargo Code has been revised recently and the revised text approved by MSC/89. Certain specific considerations requested by MSC were dealt with by DSC/16 and the new Code is expected to be approved by the Assembly in November and then published.

Dangerous Goods

The revised pocket cards from ICHCA International and TT Club ILL/1 and ILL/2 which reflect the changes in Amendment 35 have been published.

DSC/16 completed its two year cycle in revising the IMDG Code- the revision will go to MSC/90 next May and be published as amendment 36 in October/November 2012. Its transitional year will be 2013 and it will come into mandatory effect January 2014.

To purchase the Pocket Cards and for more information on the Series and our other publications please contact the ICHCA Secretariat on publications@ichca.com. Further Dangerous Goods advice, pocket cards and other publications are freely available to ICHCA International members.



Compressor ruptures in reefer containers leading to several fatalities.

A number of bulletins have been issued by various shipping companies and others in recent weeks concerning refrigerated containers (reefers) that had refrigeration system work undertaken on them at a repair facility in Vietnam in Cat Lai port since the beginning of 2011. This work has involved adding refrigerant, repairing leaks, replacing a compressor or replacing a filter drier etc.

To date it is known that there have been four units where the compressor system has ruptured and one where the unit's refrigerant spontaneously combusted when exposed to the atmosphere.

Sadly three persons have been killed in these incidents.

As yet there is no definitive cause but it is suspected that the refrigerant gas used is contaminated.

Technical Question.

Q: Is there any guidance available on the Safe Handling of Wood Pellet Cargoes?

A: ICHCA International's International Safety Panel (ISP) approved the development of such a paper and it is being written by Staffan Melin of the University of British Columbia and should be available shortly. This is a major trade with 179 vessels with an average dwt of 52,000 tonnes being involved in its carriage and there are safety issues on board and ashore.

ICHCA International members can use ICHCA's Technical Advisor service for free; any question that is sent in will be answered. Please contact mike.compton@ichca.com or richard.brough@ichca.com

Solid Bulk Cargoes

Now that the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargo Code (IMSBC Code) is mandatory and reviewed every two years (as with the IMDG Code), DSC/16 started the process of developing the edition which will be published in 2013. The first mandatory edition was 2009 and the 2011 edition is to be published in December. ICHCA International is involved in contributing into a formal group that has been set up by IMO.

Accidents

22 accidents of a various nature have been reported on in **ICHCA's Cargo World the Newsletter**. Accidents are a key feature in the ICHCA International Newsletter. The newsletter has the reports of the accidents and uses them to provide a prevention message. The accidents are drawn from all over the world and include press reports.

Accident: Fatal accident to ship's officer whilst involving the use of a mobile phone

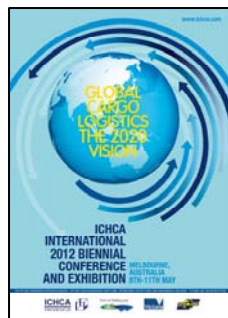
A lasher, signalman and crane driver were working together on a ship. Due to the fact that the signalman was on his mobile phone at a crucial part of the operation and did not properly inform the crane driver, two containers were lifted together and swung across the area striking the 2nd officer.

Commentary: There was a lack of communication between the three persons and the use of the mobile phone contributed to that. Furthermore, the 2nd officer was standing in a dangerous position being very near to the crane operational area. ISP has recently revised its "Statement on Mobile Phones" and the revised text called "Statement on the use of Portable Electronic Devices" is available on the website.

Calling all Cargo Handling Professionals..

ICHCA International's 'big event' for 2012 is the Biennial Conference which is being held in Melbourne Australia 8th – 11th May.

The conference is the 'must attend' event for all cargo handling professionals, it will be packed full of information and expertise. Please have a look at the website for all the information including major sponsors and the top speakers. Alternatively contact the Conference Coordinator Ian Lovell ian.lovell@bigpond.com



Supply Chain Security

ICHCA International's Carina Dixon and the TT Club, who specialise in the insurance liabilities and equipment for multi modal operators, have worked together on a joint publication "Supply Chain Security". Published in 2010, it is the first in a new series of ICHCA International publications SS#1. The booklet shows the benefits of investing in supply chain security, an overview of contemporary supply chain security initiatives, and measuring the value of supply chain security plus much more. The key focus of the booklet is ISO 28000, and how businesses can benefit from its systematic approach to security and sound management logistics.

"ISO 28000 is an internationally accredited Security Management System that will maintain and continually improve the company's effectiveness at identifying security risks and enable it to control and mitigate their consequences". – Carina Dixon Madam Chairman of the International Security Panel (ISeP) and a Consultant at Newmarket Partners.

A Security presentation was recently delivered at the Canaries Africa Regional Chapter (CARC) 6th Assembly which was written and produced by Carina Dixon.

These meetings are a great catalyst for good practical advice; approximately 90 attendees from 20 different countries attended the meeting in Burkina Faso. "The response to the seminar was extremely positive.

Highlighting security awareness can only benefit CARC members companies. Information like this is imperative in the augmentation of CARC." Sergio Galvan, Secretary General of CARC. For more information on the Security Panel and publications contact the ICHCA Secretariat on security@ichca.com

Please take a look at the [ICHCA Blog](#) and the [Website](#). The Blog includes recent relevant Cargo Handling reports and stories, if you would like a story or a report 'blogged' please don't hesitate to send us an email to blog@ichca.com

For membership enquiries please send an e-mail to membership@ichca.com

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