



## ITCO March 2020 Newsletter and Technical Report

### **Message from the ITCO President**

*Due to COVID-19, the World is currently experiencing extremely uncertain times, in every walk of life. We know that ITCO Members have significant business challenges, helping to maintain the bulk liquid supply chain, on a global basis – as well as health concerns to deal with, both for staff and sub-contractors. However, our Organisation is continuing to work on the agreed technical and operational projects - and to serve our members, wherever possible.*

To read the full message from the President, click here: [PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE](#)

### **A. ITCO March 2020 Newsletter**

#### ***This month:***

- **2020 Tank Container Fleet Survey**
- **Leasing Division Vice-Chairman elected**
- **@TCO Depot Audits**
- **2020 ITCO Members Meeting, Rotterdam – New Provisional Date**
- **Tank Container Village at *transport logistic China 2020***
- **E-learning Course Reminder**
- **Membership Criteria for new applications**
- **Follow ITCO on Twitter**

#### **1. 2020 ITCO Survey: Tank Container Fleet reaches 652,350 units**

This year's ITCO Tank Container Survey estimates that, at 1 January 2020, the global fleet had reached 652,350 units worldwide, compared to the figure of 604,700 on 1 January 2019, a year-on-year growth of 7.88%.

Reflecting the downturn in trading conditions experienced by many sectors of the container shipping industry last year, the number of tank containers produced in 2019 was lower than the year before. In 2019, a total of 54,650 tank containers were built, compared to 59,700 in 2018, a decrease of some 5000 units over the previous year.

The complete Survey can be downloaded from the ITCO website <http://www.itco.org>

#### **2. Leasing Division Vice-Chairman elected**

The Elections for the posts of Vice-Chairmen of the TSP and Leasing Company Divisions took place recently.

As reported in the February Newsletter, in the TSP Division, Mike Tunstall (Sahreej) had the highest number of votes and was therefore elected to the position of Vice-Chairman of this Division

In the Leasing division, after the second round of voting, Mike Broadhurst – Vice President, Tanks, Triton International, received the highest number of votes and was therefore elected to be the Vice-Chairman of the Division.

### **3. @TCO Depot Audits: postponed due to COVID -19 virus outbreak**

The current certification of a number of @TCO approved depots in Asia is due for renewal this year (each approved depot must be re-certified every 2 years).

The health and welfare of the inspectors who carry out these @TCO depot audits must be safeguarded – and the further spread of the COVID-19 virus must be prevented.

For these reasons, it has been decided that any @TCO audited depot - that is due to be re-audited during the course of 2020 - will have its current certification extended until the end of December 2020, at which time the situation will again be reviewed.

### **4. 2020 Members Meeting – New Provisional Date**

As announced earlier this month, the Corona Virus outbreak means that the next ITCO Members Meeting, scheduled for end-April in Rotterdam, has now been postponed to September.

The new provisional date of the Meeting is Wednesday 9 September, but we will continue to monitor advice concerning COVID-19. The venue (Hilton Hotel Rotterdam) remains the same.

Further information, including Conference Agenda, Registration Booking Link, will be circulated to Members in due course.

### **5. Tank Container Village at *Transport Logistic China***

At the time of writing this Newsletter, ***transport logistic China 2020*** is currently scheduled to take place in Shanghai from Tuesday 16 June to Thursday 18 June 2020, with ITCO organising its **Tank Container Village** at the Exhibition. The Exhibition Organisers and ITCO continue to monitor COVID-19 advice and will reconfirm dates in the coming weeks.

As far as the Village itself is concerned, there are just two exhibition stands still available. Members of ITCO who wish to have a stand (but have not yet made a reservation) should download the Information Pack and Booking form - click here: [ITCO VILLAGE](#)

Further information about ***transport logistic China 2020*** can be found on this link: <http://www.transportlogistic-china.com/>

### **6. ITCO Tank Container E-Learning – Two Free Courses for Each Member**

As announced in previous newsletters, ITCO Members are offered to TWO FREE E-LEARNING COURSES each. Companies who have not yet taken up this offer, but who wish to benefit from it, should contact the Course manager, Exis Technologies – contact: [Melanie.Stephenson@existec.com](mailto:Melanie.Stephenson@existec.com)

### **7. Ecotrans 2020 – Moscow: postponed to September**

As with many events, the Covid-19 risks has resulted in the Ecotrans 2020 Conference - being organised by ITCO Member Havila OÜ - is being postponed until later this year (17 September).

“Ecotrans 2020” is an international conference dedicated to innovation in container transport, including new types of tank containers, composite tank-containers - as well as to problems of ecology and safety/security for this mode of transportation.

Further information on: <https://www.ecotrans-moscow.com/>

## **8. ITCO Membership Criteria: Reminder of application process**

ITCO Membership is open to companies which are actively involved in the tank container business, and who meet the criteria for the relevant division that they wish to join. To download the criteria, click on this link: [MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA](#)

They must sign a declaration confirming that they will meet the aims of the Organisation. Download the declaration letter [HERE](#). Applications are reviewed by the ITCO Board at the next available Board Meeting. The ITCO Board has the final discretion on accepting any new proposed member.

## **9. ITCO on Twitter**

ITCO now has an active Twitter account. In addition to the more “traditional” method of communicating to Members by email, we also use Twitter to send out relevant news and announcements. To follow ITCO on Twitter, click here: [TWITTER](#)

*For further information on items in this newsletter, please contact [hicks@itco.org](mailto:hicks@itco.org)*

# **B. ITCO February 2020 Technical Report**

## ***This month:***

- **RID-ADR**
- **Periodic inspection**
- **IMO CCC**
- **UN Transport dangerous goods**
- **Safety guidelines**
- **Quiz question**

### **1. RID-ADR March postponement**

The RID-ADR meeting has been postponed to a date to be decided, as a result of COVID-19

It remains possible to continue to coordinate members’ concerns about issues that might adversely impact their business - and to lobby responsible parties.

Members should contact the Technical Secretary ([rubery@itco.org](mailto:rubery@itco.org)) who will assist to coordinate responses to the competent authority of the country where the member is registered.

Key issues that were scheduled to be debated at the RID-ADR meeting were as follows:

#### **19/20 Inspection WG**

- 6.8.1.5.1 Type approval and inspections during manufacture are required to be undertaken by an AIB (authorised inspection body) recognised by the country of the operator’s registration. Without continuation of existing reciprocal agreements to recognise AIB’s, this is particularly an issue for leasing companies where the operator is often unknown at the time of manufacture.

- 6.8.1.5.5 Entry into service verification. This requires each tank entering into service or transferred to a new service in another country, to be inspected by an AIB of the country of the operator's registration.
- 6.8.1.5.6 Intermediate, periodic or exceptional inspection requires the operator of the tank to engage "*a single inspection body for each intermediate, periodic or exceptional inspection*".
- AIB's current reciprocal agreements between countries might not continue in its present form. AIB's accredited in one country would not be free to offer services in another country without obtaining either accreditation or a joint arrangement.

## 2. Periodic inspection and modifications

ITCO members reported to ITCO regarding amended procedures implemented by AIB's (Accredited Inspection bodies) consistent with revised instruction from the competent authorities to whom they report.

It was planned to arrange a WG at the April ITCO meeting with invited AIB's with the intention of clarifying information and working on practical solutions. The meeting has been postponed, due to COVID-19.

Members are invited to contact the Technical Secretary ([rubery@itco.org](mailto:rubery@itco.org)) and outline issues that they have encountered. Subject to feedback, a conference call or webinar may be arranged.

## 3. IMO CCC Technical and Editorial Meeting postponed

The meeting has been postponed to a date to be decided as a result of COVID-19.

The agenda included the proposal to increase the CSC stacking mass from 192,000kg to 213,000kg to align with ISO 1496 (which includes a 10% safety margin above CSC).

ITCO technical consider the current CSC provides a minimum safety level and a change has not been justified. If this proposal is adopted it is expected that there will be a lengthy transition period. However, there remains the risk of a requirement to add a marking to existing 192,000kg units.

## 4. UN Transport of Dangerous Goods Committee meeting

The June meeting date is currently unchanged. One paper has been submitted to date: **2020/5 Section 41 Rail impact test.**

It is proposed to restrict testing during adverse (wet) weather conditions because "it may be difficult to identify sources of leakage".

Depending on the vigour that this proposal might be implemented, scheduled tests could be delayed at significant costs.

ITCO technical is of the opinion that the witnessing inspectors and technicians are experienced and competent to determine suitable test conditions and detect any leaks that might occur.

## 5. ITCO Safety Guidelines

ITCO is planning to publish a series of Safety Guidelines, starting with:

- Working on Top of a Tank
- Tank Entry Permit

Members who are interested to review and contribute to the draft version are invited to contact the Technical Secretary ([rubery@itco.org](mailto:rubery@itco.org))

## 6. Quiz question

There is a requirement to enter a cleaned tank issued with a cleaning document by the cleaning station. To comply with safety requirements, which of the following documents are required?

- Cleaning certificate
- Cleaning receipt
- European tank cleaning document
- Tank entry permit

Please email your answer to the Technical Secretary ([rubery@itco.org](mailto:rubery@itco.org))

*For further information on any of the points raised in this Report, Members should contact the Technical Secretary or the North American Technical/Regulatory Consultant:*

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