



ITCO June 2020 Newsletter *and Technical Report*

A. ITCO June 2020 Newsletter

This month:

- Tank container fire: no cargo loss, no damage to environment or community.
- ITCO Members Meetings: postponed until 2021
- ITCO Plastic Waste videos: Mandarin version now available
- New ITCO Publication: "Guidance for entering a Tank Container"
- 2020 Tank Container Fleet Survey
- ITCO E-learning Course
- @TCO Depot Audits
- Membership Criteria for new applications
- Follow ITCO on Twitter

1. Tank container fire: no cargo loss, no damage to environment or community.

A T11 tank container transporting Ethyl Alcohol was recently involved in a major fire on the highway in Brazil.

The fire resulted from the transporting chassis. Flames engulfed the tank causing the cladding and insulation to ignite. The tank was heavily damaged by the fire but the vessel remained leak-tight.

After the accident was resolved by the authorities, arrangements were made to transload the cargo into another tank and continue the planned journey.

The cargo was delivered to the plant where it was tested and accepted for discharge.



2. ITCO Members Meetings: postponed until 2021

Recognising the significant and unprecedented impact that COVID-19 will continue to have over the coming months, the ITCO Board has agreed to postpone the two 2020 ITCO Members Meetings - provisionally scheduled for Rotterdam and Singapore - until next year.

In making this decision, the Board has considered both the safety of our Members and the economic reality that we are facing.

For the full message from the President, please click on this link: [POSTPONEMENT](#).

3. Plastic Waste and the Use of Flexibags – Mandarin version of video available

Last month, ITCO launched its *“Plastic Waste and the Use of Flexibags and ISO Tank Containers”* animated video-

The purpose of the project is to highlight that flexitanks, which use about 40kg of plastic, do not meet the high environmental standards achieved by tank containers.

To view or download the ITCO videos, click on these Links:

- English version: [ANIMATED VIDEO ENGLISH](#)
- Mandarin version: [ANIMATED VIDEO MANDARIN](#)

4. Guidance for Safe Entry into a Tank Container

ITCO has published its latest Technical Guidance document – *“Safe Entry into a Tank Container”*.

This document provides guidance for ITCO member companies engaging in activities that require personnel to enter the interior of a tank for purposes such as inspection and maintenance. Tank entry presents inherent risks which require to be managed by implementing a safe entry process.

Where possible, process changes should be introduced to permit tasks to be carried out without entering the tank - for example, by viewing the interior from the man-way or by the use of CCTV.

However, when personnel are required to enter a tank, appropriate safety procedures should be in place to minimise the risk. These are provided in these new ITCO Guidelines.

To download TG05, click on this link: [SAFE ENTRY](#).

In addition to the new TG05 “Safe Entry into a Tank Container” Guidance, Members can also download other ITCO Safety Guidance documents from the ITCO Website. Click on: [PUBLICATIONS](#)

- **TG01: SP386** - Guidance for tank operators transporting polymerizing substances
- **TG02: Sampling** - Guidance for tank operators and service providers



- **TG03: TP6 pressure-relief device:** Guidance for tank operators transporting polymerizing substances
- **TG04 Working on Top:** Guidance for working on top of a tank container

5. Tank Solutions – 5

In the fifth in his series of external perspectives on the work of ITCO, Peter Mackay considers the “human element” as the root cause of many incidents and accidents, especially when it comes to entering confined spaces. He encourages ITCO Members to read the Organisation’s latest Guidance Document for safe entry into a tank container, as a reminder of the risks of oxygen-depleted atmospheres.

To download, click here: [TANK SOLUTIONS 5](#)

6. 2020 ITCO Survey: Available to download from the website

Members are reminded that the 2020 ITCO Tank Container Fleet Survey, published in March, is available to download from the website. Click here: [SURVEY](#).

7. ITCO Tank Container E-Learning – Two Free Courses for Each Member

As announced in previous newsletters, ITCO Members are offered 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

8. @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).

Due to COVID-19 restrictions preventing a safe audit the current certification is extended until the end of December 2020, at which time the situation will again be reviewed.

9. ITCO Membership Criteria: Reminder of application process

Expanding membership is a step towards ITCO’s mission is to promote and represent tank containers as safe, cost-efficient and flexible means of transport. Members are encouraged to support the ITCO Board and encourage membership to relevant industry contacts.

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](#)

New members 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 proposed new member.

10. ITCO on Twitter

ITCO 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

B. ITCO June 2020 Technical Report

This month:

- **UN Transport of Dangerous Goods**
- **RID-ADR**
- **Tank Container Quiz**

Regulatory meetings continue in “virtual” form during the period of COVID-19 restrictions. The UN Transport of Dangerous Goods meeting was held on-line in June 2020. RID-ADR is scheduled for September - as is IMO CCC7.

1. UN Transport of Dangerous Goods

This Meeting was updated with the progress made by the informal WG on FRP (Fibre reinforced plastic tanks) to develop regulations for the construction of UN Portable Tanks made of composite material FRP.

The main work - to develop a new Chapter 6.9 - has been completed. However, discussions to refine the work continue. Possibly a first draft of the formal proposal will be made to plenary in the December session with work continuing in 2021.

2. RID-ADR

A meeting was held by the informal WG on Tank Inspection. Issues relating to tank containers were summarised in the **May ITCO newsletter** - and the debate continues.

Discussion concerning the registration made a degree of progress subject to the agreement of plenary in September.

Proposed amendments to 6.8.1.5.1 require that type approval and inspections during manufacture shall be undertaken by an AIB (authorised inspection body) recognised by the country of the operator’s registration. This is particularly an issue for leasing companies where the operator is often unknown at the time of manufacture.

A revised proposal would allow the operator to be registered in the country that recognised the AIB to undertake the inspections. This if agreed would help resolve the inspection at manufacturer for lease tanks.

3. Quiz questions

- In the scope of **IMDG**, which of the following is the proper regulatory name:
 - a. Tank container
 - b. Isotank
 - c. UN Portable tank
- In the scope of **ADR 6.8** which of the following is the proper regulatory name:
 - a. Tank container
 - b. Isotank
 - c. UN Portable tank

Please email your answers to the Technical Secretary (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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