



I cannot believe that it is December already, what happened to the last 11 months they seemed to have flown past.

I wish a warm welcome to our new members in ITCO and I hope you will take an active part in our organization, WELCOME TO YOU ALL.

### **Pre Load Tests at Vopak Terminals**

Graham Wood has now written back to Vopak Terminals and advised them of ITCO's recommendation for pre load tests that should be carried out to avoid Vopak carrying out a vacuum test on your tanks before they are allowed to load certain products at their terminals.

### **Beam tank problem in Antwerp**

We are still having a problem to convince P & O Terminals in Antwerp that Beam tanks have been in use for over 20 years and are as safe to handle as fully framed tanks. We have now decided its time to go public with this information and I used the opportunity at the Hamburg show to state our case and I hope will be listen to by the port Operators in Antwerp thereby allowing us both to reach the correct outcome.

We will keep you updated as soon as we hear further on this issue.

### **The prevention of falls from Tank Containers**

I have been speaking to the HSE in England asking them to advise when and if they are prepared to push this issue with their E.U partners.

As you know ITCO has issue a protocol on

working at height and we would like this accepted on a European basis as soon as possible. I am sorry to say that it is going to take a little longer than we had first expected but we will keep you updated on our progress.

### **Hamburg Intermodal show Dec 5/7**

As approved by the board I attend this meeting and agreed to speak on the subject of "Hazardous Cargo In Tank Containers By Sea"

I used the opportunity to press home the point about beams tanks being as safe as fully framed tanks and also pushed our protocol for working at height on tank containers.

I am sorry to report the conference was not well attend only about 30/40 people turned up but this was mainly because of very bad logistic's on the part of the organizers.

I am very please that ITCO members in general agreed not to exhibit as I feel this would have been a waste of your time and would not have given value for money.

### **Munich 2007**

I would like to remind you that at our General Meeting being held in Brussels in February 2007 we will be finalizing the arrange for our Munich tank village and will be drawing lots for the position each company will have in the Village.

Please let Willy Freson have your booking early for Brussels as he must make a commitment to the hotel for the number of people attending.

I would like to wish all our members and their families a Merry Christmas and A Happy and Peaceful New year.

Regards

**Reginald Lee**  
**President ITCO**