



Bookings for our General Meeting In Dublin for September have now exceeded 60 and Willy advises me all the rooms are booked.

I have had a good response for our first golf day on Monday 11/9 in Dublin and we now have 16 people to play which is as we wanted.

We have invited Jos Verlinden (CEFIC) to make a presentation at the General meeting in Dublin on Tuesday September 12 as a way for our members to understand more about our customers own organization.

On the technical side Graham Wood has been kept fully employed reading hundreds of pages of text in an effort to understand why the US railways have just decided to ban certain toxic inhalation hazard (TIH) chemicals from being carried in tankcontainers by the US railways, but they still carry the same TIH products in railtankcars.

This has also baffled the people at Hazardous Cargo Bulletin who have written an article in their May 2006 issue page 65 headed "ADDING INSULT TO INDUSTRY".

We have received complaints from a few members on this subject and would like to hear from other members who have also been affected by this ban.

We believe ITCO members need to enlist the help of the chemical customers if we are to get the US railways to overturn what looks like an unfair discrimination against the use of tankcontainers.

Regards

Reginald Lee
President ITCO

Graham has also had a lot of work reading and amending a draft issued by the CSA (Canadian Standards Ass.) who have decided its time to look at intermodal tankcontainers in Canada. They had produced a draft for their first meeting on May 25th which contained a lot of very old information on ASME 8 and missed out much of the work that UN has done over the past 10/15 years.

Both Graham and Jim Silver have been involved giving advice to the CSA and we hope that they will be taking a lot of the information we have supplied on board before they start to change any Canadian transport rules.

We will keep members updated on this issue.

HBC have advised that they will be running a HCB TANK PAVILION at the Hamburg intermodal show in December 2006 and would like ITCO and its members to participate.

I informed the ITCO board of this invitation and they all agreed that this date is too near Munich 2007 and they could not support same.

They also felt that we should stick to our agreement of supporting only one show every two years in Europe and at this time that show is Munich 2007.

I am pleased to advise that ITACT have rejoined as a member of ITCO. We have also three new members Gascon – South Africa, Gruber – Germany and Singamas - China

I would like to welcome their director and staff and hope they get involved and join our General Meeting in Dublin.