



It was good to see so many of you attending the general meeting in Dublin and from the feedback we have received from those who attended, they felt it was well worthwhile, even the golf.

Some of the action points from the G.M. have already been done and they are as follows :

1. We have our new improved web-site
2. The manufacturing division has set-up a working committee to deal with the Canadian Transport Authority when they issue their next set of guidelines
3. We have agreed on a reply to Vopak Terminals regarding their proposed Vacuum testing of tanks before loading and Graham Wood will be advising them our suggested procedure in writing
4. John Wilson for the TSP's has written on the reasons for companies to become ITCO members and this is now being published on our web-site.
5. We have agreed to go forward with the next set of trials with Robogrind and Graham Wood will keep you up to date as the second stage of the project gets started.
6. Following the decision at the Dublin meeting, the booking for our next General Meeting February 7 and 8, 2007 has been made at the Meridien (- in front of the Brussels Central station) of which new conference rooms were inaugurated last September



I remind you that in this meeting the allocation of the stands for the ITCO village will be done with lottery and that final details will be agreed upon by the membership present.

Please make your booking with Willy soonest.

One important item still not completed is convincing P&O Terminal in Antwerp that their statement that Beam tanks cannot be stacked 3 high safely is wrong.

We have now taken a stronger stand asking all our members to refuse to pay the additional storage costs incurred because of P&O's misunderstanding

We have ask members to notify the various Shipping lines who they use to also advise P&O Terminals they will not pay this extra storage cost.

We have tried to explain that Beam Tanks have been around for more than 20 years and are as safe as fully framed tanks but P&O Terminal Antwerp refuse to listen.

They have made up their minds without the benefit of input from anybody else.

They believe these are a new types of tank that have just appeared in the last year or so and have been built to save weight at the expense of safety.

This is a wrong and damaging statement and we must make sure that it is withdrawn as the beam tank is an approved container for stacking in accordance with the published designed codes

I attended the EPCA joint Producers and Logistic meeting in Monaco in September which attracted more than 1600 delegates plus many more casual visitors.

ITCO had a booth this year but I am sorry to say it was not well attended ,thr4 I would note recommend doing this again next year.

However the meeting its self was excellent and a great opportunity to have ITCO's name and the names of our members presented to our end user customers.

We have been invited as a guest to attend the ECTA conference 2006 to be held 5th December at the Hamburg Intermodal and the board have agreed that I should attend.

One of our members has advised of a problem in shipping empty (uncleaned) gas tanks out from Argentina. However after a long fight with the Argentina Authorities they have been able to convince them it is safe to ship these types of tanks rather than try to clean them in local untrained depots.

If any member has an interest or would like to know more please contact Laurie Maclachlan at STC

The great summer weather has continued in Europe so I guess we can expect a hard winter,

Regards

Reginald Lee
President ITCO