

ITCO April 2021 Newsletter

Fatal Incident: Man dies after entering tank container

According to reports from the Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama), one man died and another is in critical condition, after they were believed to have inhaled chemical residue while cleaning a tank container at a vehicle washing centre in Johore, Malaysia. The local fire and rescue station reported that the tank container had previously carried Fatty Alcohol UN 3082, a substance widely used for detergents.

The incident remains under investigation but the information currently available indicates that the event resulted from the non-observance of health and safety procedures.

ITCO notes that this tank was not owned or operated by one of its Members. ITCO is currently making enquiries to establish the current owners of the tank; and to advise them of their legal requirement to ensure anyone working on top of a tank container must be fully instructed in the safe working practices for working both on top of, and inside, a tank container.



12 firefighters, a Fire Rescue Tender engine, an Emergency Rescue Medical Services vehicle and two rapid intervention motorcycles attended the scene

Tanks survive intact after going overboard from containership

In early April, the containership *Baltic Tern* lost five containers on its way from Saint Petersburg to Rotterdam, some 27 km north of Ameland. The ship had to deal with strong winds and 5 meter height waves.

Two of the units lost over board were tank containers which were found after floating in the sea for about 3 days before being recovered by the emergency tug services. One tank contained acetone and the other contained a small amount of spent cooking oil. Although both containers were damaged, they remained intact.



Two containers fell overboard – but were rescued and survived intact

The operator said that “we are convinced that our company policy to pressure test all containers prior to filling and to fit tanktype man-lid seals had a good effect in this incident”.

ITCO Webinar - Rupture Discs

Over 80 participants attended the latest ITCO Webinar – “**Rupture Discs for Tank Containers**”- which took place on Thursday 29 April 2021.

Presented by ITCO Member Continental Disc Corporation, the Webinar reviewed the purpose of rupture discs, when to fit them, technical matters and in-service considerations.

Members may download a PDF of the presentation – click on this link: [RUPTURE DISCS](#)

Next ITCO Webinar: FRP Tanks and Safe Performance Equivalence to Steel

[Registration](#) is now open for the next ITCO Webinar, “**Composite FRP UN Portable Tank Overview and Safe Performance Equivalence to Steel Materials**”, which will take place on Tuesday 11 May 2021.

Presented by ITCO Members **Tankwell** and **CIMC**, the Technical Forum will share knowledge and experience of Composite FRP (Fibre Reinforced Plastic) tanks - and the material’s resilience and safe performance compared with steel.

The Webinar will take place at **12:00 Central European Time on Tuesday 11 May 2021.**

To register, click here – [ITCO WEBINAR 4](#)

June Webinar: ISO Tanks transported by rail and road in China

The following ITCO Webinar is scheduled to take place in June. Further information next month.

This Webinar will consider the transport and use of Isotanks on China Railways. It will also provide details of problems incurred with some road chassis, in some cases causing damage to tank containers.

Transport Logistic Online 2021: 4-6 May 2021

Unfortunately no “Munich” Show this year, of course – and no ITCO Tank Container Village.

But Messe Munich, who run the Event, are organising an “Online Conference” next week – on the same days (4-6 May 2021) that the Exhibition would have taken place.

Registration for the Online Conference is free-of-charge. There will be a total of 88 presentations, covering a wide range of topics, including:

- New business models: platform economy, digital transformation
- Sustainability: alternative drives, supply chain optimisation
- Corona: Impact on the logistics industry

To view the Conference Agenda and register to attend, click here: [TRANSPORT LOGISTIC ONLINE](#).

Promoting Tank Container Sustainability...at the Depot Gate

ITCO and its Members continue to promote the sustainability benefits of the tank container – and last year, the Organisation created the [“Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle” logo](#) for use by Members on their emails and websites.

ITCO Member Pakistan Terminal Operators, based in Karachi, developed the use of the ITCO “Sustainability” image one step further – and painted it on the gate of its Depot.



PTO temporarily painted the gate of its depot in Karachi with the ITCO Sustainability Image

UN Transport of Dangerous Goods

The next session of this Committee takes place in June 2021. There are currently 4 papers concerning UN Portable Tanks

2021/5 Germany – Waiving internal examination during 2.5-yr intermediate inspection and test.

The paper proposes to restrict the waiver to tanks where a single substance is designated in the design type approval. Currently, the waiver can be applied to tanks used for the transport of a single substance but approved for more than one. Since most tanks are approved for a range of substances, the proposal - if adopted - would almost practically eliminate the use of the waiver.

2021/11 UK – Resilience of FRP Composite Tanks

The paper concerns the resilience of FRP tanks to accidental impact and its equivalence to metallic portable tanks and proposes a number of amendments to Chapter 6.9.

2021/24 ITCO Composite FRP UN Portable Tank Safe Performance Equivalence to Steel Materials

The ITCO paper results from discussions of the ITCO Manufacturers division and proposes amendments designed to ensure FRP equivalence to metallic tanks in the event of an accidental impact.

INF.3 Russia – Composite FRP Valves, Relief Devices, Man-way

The paper proposes the acceptance of FRP materials in the construction of UN Portable Tank fittings

RID-ADR

The next session takes place in September 2021 and concerns 6.8 Tank Containers. One paper has been submitted, additional papers are expected in due course

2021/3 Inspection and certification.

The paper provides the formal proposal for the amendment of text to Chapter 6.8.

As ITCO newsletters previously reported, periodic and inspection and test procedures are undergoing review to which the expected outcome is a general overall tightening of procedures including:

- (a) the accreditation processes of AIB's (Authorised Inspection Bodies)
- (b) the reciprocal arrangements to undertake inspections within Europe
- (c) new manufacture inspections requiring the assignment of an AIB accredited to the owners country of registration
- (d) a new inspection requirement for an entry into service verification.

Extra Large Tank Containers (ELTC's)

At the Spring 2021 meeting Information document 23 raised the question of defining ELTC's separately from tank containers. This is because ELTC's which are primarily used on rail are likely to be subject to RID regulatory provisions which would then also impact on the typical tank container used by ITCO members.

One ITCO proposal is to define an ELTC as having a volume greater than 40,000 litre or MGM greater than 40,000kg

ITCO members are invited to discuss any of the papers with the ITCO Technical Secretary.

Technical/Regulatory Quiz Question

Question

When fitting a rupture disc to a "standard" T11, which of the following is correct:

- *Rupture disc as no effect upon the T11 designation of the tank*
- *Modifies the T11 to T12 and requires certification from an AIB (Authorised Inspection Body)*
- *Modifies the T11 to T14 but does not require certification from an AIB*

For further information on items in this newsletter, please contact hicks@itco.org