



NEWS RELEASE

BIC and ICHCA agree a framework for cooperation

ICHCA International and the Bureau International des Containers et du Transport Intermodal have signed an MoU to provide a framework for cooperation on mutual safety and efficiency related topics

05.12.2016 - [ICHCA International](#), the global cargo handling NGO association, has agreed a framework for cooperation with the [Bureau International des Containers et du Transport Intermodal \(BIC\)](#) in order to work together on matters of joint interest. The two associations signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding on 17th November 2016 at the Intermodal Europe Conference and Exhibition in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Founded under the auspices of the International Chamber of Commerce in 1933 as a neutral, non-profit, international NGO, the BIC today has over 2,100 members in 120 countries. The BIC has played an important role in the growth of containerization, with its long-established and active role in the development of industry standards and its appointment by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in 1972 as the industry's global container prefix registry – a registry further endorsed by international customs conventions. Since 2013, the BIC has also operated the Global ACEP Database under the guidance of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and in 2016 launched the [BoxTech Technical Characteristics Database](#) – a non-profit platform for container technical details built to promote safety and efficiency in the industry.

ICHCA International represents the interests of its voting members, 6,500+ associate members and the global cargo community at large as an NGO with UN regulatory bodies including the IMO, ISO, International Labor Organization (ILO) and UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2017, the Association provides a focal point for cross-party dialogue and knowledge sharing among different members of the cargo handling chain and promotes good practice in safe and efficient operations across sea, land and air, including containerized, bulk and other cargo types.



“ICHCA and the BIC have worked together on an informal basis for many years to improve the safety and efficiency of container operations worldwide,” said Rachael White, CEO of the ICHCA International Secretariat. “This MoU provides a framework to enlarge and extend our efforts over the coming years.”

“The interests of the BIC and ICHCA align in many areas, particularly in areas involving container safety. The two organizations have been providing mutual support in various areas for years and we look forward to strengthening our cooperation in the future”, added Douglas Owen, Secretary General of the BIC.

Ends

Information for the media:

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About ICHCA International

Established in 1952, ICHCA International is an independent, not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving the safety and productivity of cargo handling and movement worldwide. ICHCA's privileged NGO status enables it to represent its members, and the cargo handling industry at large, in front of national and international agencies and regulatory bodies, while its ISP



Technical Panel provides best practice advice and develops publications on a wide range of practical cargo handling issues.

Operating through a series of national and regional chapters – including ICHCA Australia, ICHCA Japan and ICHCA Canarias/Africa (CARC) – plus Correspondence and Working Groups, ICHCA provides a focal point for informing, educating, lobbying and networking to improve knowledge and best practice across the international cargo handling chain.

www.ichca.com

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About the BIC

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With a mission to promote safety, security and sustainability in container transportation, the BIC enables professional dialogue amongst its members, standards bodies, governments and other industry organizations. The BIC holds official observer status as a NGO at both the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO), and contributes regularly as an observer to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and other organizations.

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