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### Did you know...?

..The UN first adopted performance packaging test standards in the early 1960's?

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Petroleum Packaging Committee  
August 17 - 19, 2013  
Lake Tahoe, CA

IPANA Annual Conference  
October 15 - 17, 2013  
La Jolla, CA

RIPA Annual Conference  
October 16 - 18, 2013  
La Jolla, CA

Chemical Packaging Committee  
September 16-18, 2013  
Alexandria, VA

UN Subcommittee of Experts  
November 25- December 4, 2013  
Geneva, Switzerland

# REUSABLE PACKAGING TODAY

June 2013  
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## 2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL PACKAGING

### A LANDMARK EVENT!

An impressive total of 22 countries were represented by more than 130 attendees at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging held June 5-7, 2013 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

The U.S. fielded a strong delegation of RIPA Reconditioner Members, Supplier Members and staff. Several packaging manufacturers also were in attendance, some being featured on the speakers program.

"The excitement was intense," says RIPA President Paul Rankin. It was the first time in several years that the group was able to come together. "It was great to see all of our old friends, and it was good to make many new friends as well", Rankin added.



*2nd International Conference - Amsterdam*

...See "Conference" page 3

## RIPA GIVES PREVIEW OF PACKAGING LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

RIPA President Paul Rankin and ICS Engineering Vice President Kay Rykowski provided attendees at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging a sneak-preview of the association's life cycle analysis study. The study, which is being conducted by BECO/Ernst & Young, uses data collected from U.S. companies and is expected to be released in final form later this summer.

The primary purpose of the study is to compare the environmental impact of reconditioned steel and plastic drums, as well as IBCs, to new packagings of the same design. Although the report will include data comparing multiple reuse trips with a single-trip container, the preliminary data provides only a single-trip comparison.

...See "Life Cycle" page 5

## UN LOOKS AT IBC TESTING

Sweden's representatives to the UN Sub-committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG) are raising questions about the manner in which IBCs are tested by producers and reproducers. In a paper to be considered at the June UN meeting (SG/AC.10/C.3/2013/11), the Swedish Expert expressed concern that the current UN IBC leakproofness testing requirements are vague and subject to interpretation.

Chief among the Experts concerns are the rules governing the conduct of leakproofness testing at the design, production and re-certification phases. Sweden has found that production testing is conducted at varying pressures and intervals. The Orange book calls for the application of 20 kPa (0.2 bar) for 10 minutes during design testing, but does not specify a different pressure or time period for production testing.

...See "IBC Testing" page 5

## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging was one of those life-time opportunities where, as current RIPA Chair, I was excited and honored to play a visible role.

The conference attracted hundreds of people from all over the world. And it provided dozens of RIPA members many opportunities to branch out beyond the conference program for both business and personal endeavors.

I talked to many members who were capitalizing on their attendance to reach out and visit friends and colleagues across several nations in Europe. Some were networking and collecting business information. Others were simply taking time to see the many sites that Europe affords. And others were combining both business and pleasure during their visit overseas.

The conference itself was packed with useful information, networking opportunities, and enjoyable entertainment.



Spencer Walker



I would like to thank the host organizations, SERRED and ICCR, and in particular Mr. Mike Rooms, Mr. Fritz Janus and, indeed, the whole Janus family. Much time and effort goes into putting together a successful international conference. The result of all their efforts was a landmark event that delivered tremendous value.

I also want to acknowledge JDRA's Executive Director Mr. Isao Hiramatsu for his receipt of the prestigious International Morris Hershson Award of Merit. I was thrilled to attend the award ceremony where Mr. Hiramatsu was honored in comments by several of his colleagues, all leading figures in the international industry. Congratulations!

Finally, I would like to express how exciting it was to see on a global stage such a diplomatic convergence of the various sectors in industrial packaging. ? The conference theme was "Sustainability and Industrial Packaging". Inherent to a sustainable business model are the practices of packaging reuse and recycling. For this reason I am confident that reconditioning will continue to figure prominently in the future of industrial packaging.



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President.....Paul Rankin  
Editor.....C.L. Pettit



Special thanks go to the organizations SERRED and ICCR for developing and hosting the event. Mr. Brian Chesworth with ICCR, and Mr. Mike Rooms and Mr. Fritz Janus with SERRED deserve particular thanks. Indeed, the entire Janus family was instrumental in every aspect of the conference.

JDRA's Executive Secretary Mr. Isao Hiramatsu was named winner of the prestigious International Morris Hershson Award of Excellence. Mr. Hiramatsu was honored for his many years of dedicated and exemplary service to the reconditioning industry, both in his native Japan and around the world.



*Isao Hiramatsu receives Hershson Award from Brian Chesworth*



*Mr. Pim Janus*

At a special awards banquet and ceremony, special past honorees and luminaries spoke eloquently about Mr. Hiramatsu and his many contributions. Happily, Mr. Hiramatsu's wife and daughter were also in attendance for this special occasion.

Speakers on the Main Program included Mr. Scott Griffen from Greif who gave one of two keynote presentations on sustainability and the future of the industrial packaging industry. Mr. Elliot Pearlman gave the second keynote speech, offering his vision of the future of the industry. Mr. Paul Rankin and Ms. Kay Rykowski from RIPA gave an update on the RIPA Life Cycle Analysis; Mr. Pim Janus presented a report for SERRED (the European reconditioners association); Mr. Teruhiro Obata reported for JDRA on reconditioning in Japan; and Mr. Michael Eigner (SERRED) and Mr. Yukio Ando (JDRA) spoke about direct recycling and its impact on reconditioning.



*Spencer Walker addresses Conference*



*Paul and Debbie Rankin with Brian and Judy Chesworth enjoying themselves in Amsterdam*

A special panel of industry leaders, including ICS President Calvin Lee, discussed the state of container reconditioning and container manufacturing today, noting how the two business models had converged somewhat in recent years. The panel also discussed certain issues related to consolidation and acquisition, as well as the issue of customer demands.

ICCR Secretariat and RIPA Counsel Larry Bierlein presented a set of proposed Conference Resolutions which were approved unanimously by conference attendees. See page 4 for the adopted resolutions, most of which were drawn from issues discussed by the slate of speakers on the program and which express international industry objectives.

Of course, no report on the conference would be complete without mention of the amazing social events! On one evening, guests were ferried by charming canal boats to a windmill just outside Amsterdam. Guest were offered a guided tour of the structure both before and after a marvelous dinner of Mediterranean food, complete with a belly dancer and accompanying music. The next evening featured a boat trip to the nearby Hermitage Museum where guests enjoyed a lovely reception and the Hershson Award Banquet.

After the official close of the conference, a large contingent of attendees journeyed outside Amsterdam for a tour of the Janus Vaten facility in Oosterhout.

North America will be the site of the next international conference, though the exact date and location are yet to be determined. RIPA will play the lead role as organizer and host. More information will be shared as it develops.



*Global Harmonization (or something)*



*Mauser's Elliot Pearlman speaks at Conference*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS**

The industrial packaging reconditioning industry has hosted international conferences approximately every 3 years since Kyoto, Japan in 1970. In 1985, with broad representation from 22 different nations, ICCR began the practice of adopting Resolutions at the end of the conference.

The Resolutions are drawn from the issues raised by the wide range of speakers at the conference. The Resolutions provide guidance to the ICCR Governing Body, reflecting the interests and concerns of the global industry. The Resolutions adopted relate closely to the concept of sustainability, the primary theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference.

In the years until the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Industrial Packaging, to be held in North America, ICCR should:

1. Actively resist the proposed change in the transport of Class 8 corrosive materials, from Packing Group II to Packing Group I.
2. Resist the characterization of emptied industrial packaging being transported for reconditioning as a “waste.”
3. Simplify the transport of emptied Intermediate Bulk Containers with respect to motor vehicle marks, placards, and shipping documents.
4. Insist that all industrial packaging be cleaned before being scrapped for recycling, and discourage the landfilling of steel and plastic industrial packagings.
5. Define “sustainable industrial packaging.”
6. For sustainability in highway transportation, encourage reconditioners to be more flexible when scheduling the collection and delivery of industrial packagings.
7. Develop an ICCR “Empty Drum Certificate” and “Empty IBC Certificate,” to be signed by emptyers describing each load of packaging they send for reconditioning.
8. Promote sustainability through life-cycle analyses, and identify credible benefits for packaging users.
9. Work with the transport industry to reduce in-transit damage to industrial packagings.
10. Actively expand the benefits of and participation in ICCR in more countries and industrial regions of the world.



*JDRA's Y. Yamamoto addresses conference*



*Christina Mata presents at 2nd International Conference in Amsterdam*

Emissions data are being developed for the following new and reconditioned packagings:

- 55-gallon steel open head drum
- 55-gallon steel tight head drum
- 55-gallon plastic tight head drum
- 275-gallon composite IBC

The preliminary data show the following:

- A reconditioned open head drum is more than twice as carbon efficient as a comparable new steel drum.
- A reconditioned tight head drum is about 40% more carbon efficient than its new drum counterpart.
- A reconditioned plastic tight head drum emits about 22% less carbon than does a new plastic drum.
- A 275-gallon composite IBC that is cleaned and the bottle reused is about 85% more carbon efficient than a comparable new unit.

BECO/Ernst & Young are also creating a unique Eco FactSheet that will enable users to compare the carbon "footprint" of various industrial containers, both new and reconditioned.

"RIPA is very excited about the updated life cycle analysis that BECO/Ernst & Young are developing for the association," said RIPA President Paul Rankin. "Not only are they updating and expanding upon the work originally done for the association by Franklin and Associates, they are creating a wonderful new tool that members can use to promote reconditioned packagings," he noted.

RIPA will notify all members when the final report is issued later this summer.

In contrast, U.S. regulations have long distinguished between design type testing and production leakproofness testing for all packagings. The U.S. and UN rules agree with respect to design type qualification tests. However, the U.S. rules authorize an IBC production test at 20 kPa for "a suitable length of time...."

The International Confederation of Plastics Packaging Manufacturers (ICPP) responded to the Swedish proposal with an Informal Paper (INF.43). ICPP states, "[T]here are no safety problems regarding the leakproofness of packagings and IBCs for liquids on the market." This suggests that current industry practices for such testing are "sufficient."

ICPP also observes that several governments have developed regulations or special procedures that enable both IBC manufacturers and reprocessors to test IBCs in production settings in a manner that varies from the UN design type requirements.

A representative of the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR) will attend the UN meeting and voice support for the ICPP positions. According to ICCR Chairman, Brian Chesworth, "The IBC reprocessing industry is global in scope and has been selling literally millions of these packagings annually. As ICPP points out, the industry safety record is superb. As a result, we see no reason to alter UN text at this time."

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## **HOUSE SEEKS SLIGHT INCREASE IN OHMS FUNDING, BUT NO USER FEE**

The House Appropriations Committee has released its version of the fiscal year 2014 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development funding bill, which includes new funding levels for the U.S. Department of Transportation. The legislation proposes a slight increase for the activities of the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS), from \$42.6 million to \$42.8 million. Importantly, the legislation does not include the Administration's request for a user fee to be imposed on applicants for special permits and approvals.

Several weeks ago, the Senate Appropriations Committee also proposed increased funding for OHMS, but included a substantial new fee on applicants seeking special permits and approvals. The Senate bill calls for \$12 million in user fees, with charges ranging from \$700 to \$3,000 per application.

RIPA President Paul Rankin was pleased with the House proposal. "RIPA is very pleased that members of the House Appropriations Committee listened to industry concerns about the deeply negative impact a user fee would have on thousands of U.S. companies," said Rankin. "I hope that House negotiators will prevail in their view when this bill is considered by the Conference Committee," he added.

## **DOT PROPOSES NEW RULE ON PACKAGE OPENING**

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) which would revise procedural requirements governing the opening of packages containing perishable hazardous materials by DOT enforcement officials. Currently, DOT enforcement officers inspecting packages in transportation follow administrative rules adopted several years ago.

The new proposals (HM-258B) will impact shippers whose packages are considered suspect by DOT officials inspecting carriers. Packaging manufacturers and reconditioners are not impacted by the proposed rule.

Following adoption in 2011 of extensive requirements related to the management of suspect packaging in transportation, DOT was directed by Congress to look more closely at the way the Agency deals with perishable hazmat (e.g. radiopharmaceuticals) and packages that present an imminent hazard.

The rule does not alter existing rules governing the manner by which DOT must close packages that are opened and found to be compliant. Comments on the proposed rule are due by July 23, 2013.

A copy of this rule may be found [here](#).

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## **DOT VEHICLE REGISTRATION FORM MCS-150 - UPDATE**

Businesses operating commercial motor vehicles apply for and receive a U.S. DOT registration number which is displayed on the vehicles. In an effort to keep its database on commercial motor vehicles up to date, the U.S. DOT's Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) requires a re-submission of the MCS-150 form every two years.

Re-submission of data is staggered in a two-year cycle. The final digit in existing DOT numbers indicates the month in which renewal of the form must be made ("0" for October; no submissions in Nov. and Dec.). The next-to-the-last digit indicates whether renewal is required in odd-numbered or even-numbered years.

Members will note that in the MCS-150 Form, item number 25 asks the registered carrier to check those DOT Hazard Classes that it transports.

Of course, reconditioners transporting emptied non-bulk packagings enjoy an exemption from the requirements for shipping papers and placards. However, unless all hazards have been fully purged from the containers, the emptied packagings *technically* remain hazardous materials.

In filing out the form for the purposes of updating carrier information, members should make a good faith effort to identify those Hazard Classes previously contained in the packagings had held. Identifying those Hazard Classes does not trigger any other requirements or change the carrier's status. Of course, carriers cannot always anticipate (or may not remember) every Hazard Class transported. However, you should endeavor to be as accurate as possible.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

RIPA has received an application for membership as a Reconditioner Member from:

Recon Services, Inc.  
2255 Via Cerro  
Jurupa Valley, CA 92509  
951-682-1400

[www.reconamerica.com](http://www.reconamerica.com)

Mr. William Mitchell, President, CEO

Under RIPA's Bylaws, a 30-day period of review will end July 20th. Members with any questions or concerns about the application should contact the RIPA office.





Drum It Up!

June 2013

PACKAGING NEWS		Winemamking News
<div><div>We Rolled Out Another New Web Site!</div><div><p>The <a href="#">Skolnik web site</a> is internationally recognized as being the most comprehensive packaging reference available, and like our culture, we wanted to make it even better! Last month we rolled out a new site designed to streamline access to all the information available. Check out our <a href="#">Products</a>, <a href="#">Resources</a>, <a href="#">History</a>, <a href="#">Testimonials</a>, and the most popular <a href="#">CFR Cheat Sheet</a>. We have introduced 5 <a href="#">Case Studies</a> of special projects in which we worked with our customers to find solutions to their specific packaging problems. In the new Products pages, individual products are now arranged with their corresponding and printable specifications, UN certifications, and technical drawings. Resources has been expanded to include conversion calculators. Our <a href="#">Closure Instructions</a> include video's for both Bolt Ring and LeverLock Rings, and written instructions are available in English and Spanish. The ever popular Our History documents significant company events that have occurred since the 1930's. On the home page, we added an all new Video Showcase introducing the Skolnik culture. We are breaking ground with new products and services and our new web site is designed to let you see our enthusiasm and commitment to why we should be your packaging resource!</p><div>—Howard Skolnik</div></div></div>	<div><div>DOT, Really?</div><div><p>At a Packaging Roundtable meeting at the recent annual Council on the Safe Transport of Hazardous Articles (COSTHA) conference in San Diego, members were discussing issues relative to the DOT's Test Validation Program, aka Tobyhanna. The DOT submits packagings that they purchase in the public domain and validate, or retest, the packagings performance to the UN markings on the specific package. Over the years, there have been countless comments regarding inconsistent testing procedures and excessive testing demands — sometimes beyond the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations, but a story that I heard at the Packaging Roundtable takes 1st place among the Closure Instruction requirements that, in my opinion, are meaningless to the packaging's performance and the safe transport of dangerous goods.</p><p>A UN certified cardboard box was purchased and sent for testing at Tobyhanna. As a part of the pretest qualification, the weight of the box was checked against the weight of the Performance Test documentation and a discrepancy of a few grams was found. What is curious about this is that the CFR calls out that the metric weight of the box, in kilograms, would have to be identified, however, in this case, they were looking for grams of difference. After reviewing the construction of the box, the test lab determined that the Closure Instructions did not specify the amount and dimensions of tape used for compliant closure and that if they specified the length and width of the tape used to close the box, this piece of tape would make up for the missing grams. To measure the weight, they took a piece of the specified tape, crumpled it into a ball, and weighed it. The final determination was that the Closure Instructions for the box had to be modified to specify the tape requirement for compliant closure. I am not aware if the box manufacturer was dealt a fine for the violation.</p><div>—Howard Skolnik</div></div></div>	<div><div>Natural Cork Vs. Screw Cap Closures</div><div><p>Over the past 10 years we have seen many of our customers who use our <a href="#">stainless steel wine drums</a> for Sauvignon Blanc and other un-oaked whites make the switch from cork to screw cap closures once the wine is bottled. In a recent survey by Wine Business Monthly natural corks continue to be the standard by which all other closure types are measured. The ratings for natural cork remain highest across the board with the exception of the average ratings given for price and ease of removal. In both these categories, screw caps were given slightly higher ratings by respondents than natural cork. In addition, the average rating for the product performance of screw caps has reached parity with that for natural cork. As a general rule, the respondents from midsized and large wineries rated screw caps and technical closures lower than respondents from very small and small wineries. In broad terms, the overarching result has been for respondents to rate natural cork increasingly as “positive”, technical closures as “slightly negative” and screw caps as “slightly positive”. When these responses are compared to previous surveys, we see that they are in line with previously established trends. The overall rating for technical closures and screw caps has trended up very slightly, while the average overall rating for natural cork has seen a bit more steady increase. The average overall rating given by the respondents for synthetic closure has been trending downward for every survey over the past nine years.</p><div>—Dean Ricker</div></div></div>

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## News:

Effective December 3, 2012 Watson Standard acquired certain assets of Delta Coatings Corporation, a privately owned coatings company specializing in the development and manufacturing of coatings for the general industrial and packaging industries.

Acquiring Delta allows Watson to re-enter the general industrial coatings marketplace and add to its existing portfolio of coatings and adhesives. The acquired business will operate as Watson Standard Industrial Coatings.

“We are enthusiastic about this return to an industry that was a facet of our foundation and represents our continued investment in and dedication to the coatings industry,” remarked Jim Lore, President of Watson Standard.

This acquisition provides significant benefits to both companies’ customers, current and prospective. Watson Standard will expand upon Delta’s product offerings through its development capabilities and organizational synergies. Combined, Watson and Delta are able to supply additional general industrial market segments with solvent based, water based, Ultra Violet (UV), and Electron-Beam (EB) products. Watson Standard’s acquisition will also foster additional global growth opportunities.

## Watson: Past . . . Present . . . Future

Founded in 1902, Watson Standard is a privately held specialty coatings and adhesives manufacturer, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, serving the global marketplace.

Watson generates about one third of its business in international markets, which is supported by multi-lingual customer support, a global distribution network with partners in Australia, India and the U.K., toll-manufacturing in Spain and sales and distribution agents in Mexico, Central America and South America. ®

Watson Standard is dedicated to developing the most innovative coatings, adhesives, and related products for the international general industrial, rigid and flexible packaging markets.

## Delta: Strengths and Reputation

Delta Coatings Corporation, located in Melrose Park, IL., has been a vital and innovative member of the industrial coatings community since 1996. Delta is best known for its water-borne coatings for the container and drum industries (interior and exterior), OEM/ general industrial and transportation industries.

Delta’s portfolio includes high solids, conventional solvent-based, HAP’s- free and solvent-free radiation curable coatings for spray, dip, roll-coat, coil, electrostatic and electro-coat applications.

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