

REUSABLE PACKAGING TODAY

June 2014
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Did you know.....?

.....RIPA's website includes a searchable database of member companies' contact and product information? Visit the [website](#) and click on "Find a Member". You can even search by simply pointing to a particular state or province.

UPCOMING EVENTS

RIPA Board of Directors
July 21, 2014
Chicago, IL

RIPA Annual Conference
October 15-17, 2014
New Orleans, LA

IPANA Annual Conference
October 14-16, 2014
New Orleans, LA

15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging
June 3 - 5, 2015
Vancouver, B.C. Canada

PLAN TO BE IN NEW ORLEANS THIS FALL!



Save the dates for RIPA's 73rd Annual Conference October 15-17, 2014 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Don't miss this opportunity to visit one of the most amazing cities in America!

The conference will be held at the stunning [Interncontinental New Orleans Hotel](#) located just steps from the French

Quarter across Canal Street.

As in recent years, the conference will be held in tandem with IPANA's Annual Conference scheduled for October 13-15, 2014. The two associations will share in certain social events as well as several program sessions. Significantly, each group also will have adequate time and space to conduct their own unique business and policy sessions.

The conference will include a fascinating tour and luncheon for Accompanying Persons, as well as the Suppliers Exhibition to be held both in tandem to meetings and as part of the popular Chair's Reception. This formula for the exhibition has proven highly effective over the last couple of years.

AND DON'T MISS VANCOUVER IN 2015, EITHER!

The 15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging will be held June 3-5, 2015 in the astounding Canadian city of Vancouver, British Columbia. RIPA is the host organization and Mr. Rod Stewart, Great Western Containers and The Bodtke Group, is serving as Conference Chair.

Located on the northern Pacific coast, Vancouver is sure to attract numerous attendees from all over the world. The location also will afford attendees the opportunity for additional touring, perhaps to include plant tours in adjacent areas.

RIPA looks forward to hosting attendees from ICCR's other constituent associations - JDRA and SERRED – as well as attendees from every part of the global industrial packaging industry.



CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Just six months into my term as RIPA Chair and I can see clearly how much can be accomplished in a short time – and how much still lays ahead of us.

We at Buckner Barrels are proud and happy to have hosted the 2014 Technical Conference here in Alabama this past April. By all measures, the conference was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who turned out! We hope everyone enjoyed their visit and left with a greater understanding of our shared business interests.

Coming up, we have the 74th Annual Conference in New Orleans October 15-17, 2014. This premiere event will be coordinated once again with IPANA's Annual Conference. The Conference will feature the popular Suppliers Exhibition, as well as an exciting Accompanying Persons tour, a Board of Directors meeting, Product Group Meetings, a Main Speakers Program, and several social events and networking opportunities. New Orleans in October is not to be missed!

Also on the horizon is the 15th International Conference on Industrial Packaging. This global event will be held June 3-5, 2015 in Vancouver, British Columbia. Mr. Rod Stewart is serving as Conference Chair and will work with RIPA staff and a select committee of members to make sure this is an unforgettable gathering.

Closer to home, RIPA will be meeting in July with key U.S. DOT personnel to discuss requirement for new IBC bottles. A special delegation of RIPA members will convene in DC to hold these important talks.

Also in July, RIPA is attending the UN meeting of international experts on the transportation of dangerous goods (hazardous materials). Through the International Confederation of Container Reconditioners (ICCR), RIPA provides input and recommendations on many proposals for regulating hazardous materials in transportation. Look for a full report from RIPA in the near future.

In August, RIPA staff will be attending a DOT education symposium on hazmat compliance and enforcement issues. The two-day session will cover a wide variety of issue and is expected to draw up to 450 attendees.

On a somewhat related note, RIPA recently secured from DOT a number of training materials used in outreach to local police, fire and highway officials. The materials were released following a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. RIPA will review the materials and offer comments on their usefulness and accuracy. Further developments will be reported soon.

These, of course, are just a few of the many issues we will tackle in the weeks and months ahead. I thank everyone for their support and participation. Together we can accomplish great things.



Ricky Buckner

Ricky Buckner



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UN DEBATES IBC LEAKPROOFNESS TESTING ISSUES

Once again the UN Sub-Committee of Experts is wrangling over requirements affecting leakproofness testing of intermediate bulk containers. The latest proposal, coming from Sweden, would effectively eliminate requirements to utilize specific test pressures – currently 20 kPa – in either design or production testing.

The Swedish proposal comes on the heels of nearly two years of effort by that nations transport experts to convince the Sub-Committee that existing Orange Book provisions governing the leakproofness test do not adequately cover production testing. Most Experts agree that the current rules can be read to require a 10-minute test for each production unit, but it is also true that no competent authority has ever attempted to enforce such a stringent requirement. The U.S. Hazardous Materials Regulations address production testing; they require the use of 20 kPa for a “suitable” time on each unit produced.

During discussion over the Swedish proposal, the Belgian and Netherlands Experts proposed a compromise that would eliminate the need for manufacturers or reprocessors to use a specific test pressure on IBCs. Instead, they suggested use of a “suitable” quality assurance program.

The U.S. delegation opposed this concept, arguing that quality assurance programs could vary greatly from country to country, and they generally authorize random testing of production units. In other words, if the Belgian/Netherlands approach were adopted, newly produced IBCs would no longer have to all be leakproofness tested. This, the U.S. believes, raises grave safety concerns.

The UN experts again decided to defer action on this subject until the December Committee of Experts Meeting. Sweden and several other European delegations have agreed to produce a new proposal.

RIPA OFFERS HAZMAT EMPLOYEE TRAINING IN SPANISH

RIPA has updated and re-published a Spanish-language version of its ***Hazmat Employee Training Module***. Like the English version, the Spanish “2014” edition is available as a “Power Point” presentation. As such, it can be tailored easily with graphics, photos and text to suit your site-specific conditions. Also, RIPA staff will keep the module up-to-date with future editions to address any changes in the regulatory or technical landscape.

“*Hazmat Employee Training*” is required under the U.S. DOT’s Hazardous Materials Regulations. Significantly, DOT recently said for the first time that training materials should take into consideration the language in which employees are most proficient.

Both the English and Spanish modules were developed with reconditioners in mind: no time is misspent training on hazmat issues extraneous to reconditioning. Also, both modules are benefits exclusive to RIPA members. For the Spanish version, members are asked to pay a nominal fee to cover the cost of translation: \$95. (English versions are free of charge.) Users are free to copy the material as often as necessary for distribution within the company. However, distribution should remain strictly within the company.

To order either language version (or *both* versions), simply go [HERE](#) and submit the order form to RIPA.



NEW CLASSIFICATIONS FOR LTL MOVEMENTS OF “RESIDUE PACKAGINGS”

The Commodity Classification Standards Board (CCSB) has adopted an amendment to the National Motor Freight Classification (NMFC) that could result in higher rates for shipments of empty non-bulk packagings containing residues of hazardous materials. The new rates are scheduled to take effect in August 2014.

The NMFC is a standard that provides a comparison of commodities in transportation and is one metric used by many common carriers to establish LTL shipping rates.

Currently, most empty non-bulk packagings with residue that are transported to a reconditioner for reuse, reconditioning or remanufacture are exempt from DOT placarding and shipping paper requirements. The DOT rule requires labels and other markings to be retained on the packaging, and applies to containers moved by contract and private carriage. The CCSB proposal would **not** affect private or contract carriers. However, it would impact empty non-bulk packagings transported by common carriers.

In testimony before the CCSB, RIPA President Paul Rankin argued against the proposal. He noted that CCSB provided “no evidence that packagings containing small amounts of hazardous materials residue pose a hazard in transportation sufficient to justify their classification in a manner equivalent to a packaging that is filled.” In fact, said Rankin, RIPA believes that millions of packagings containing small amounts of hazardous materials residue are shipped every year as “empty” and this transportation has been accomplished safely.

Rankin argued that CCSB failed to offer a meaning definition of the term “empty” or “residue” packagings.” As a result, the rule will be subject to varying application at the truckload level, thereby confusing both truckers and shippers.

Rankin also said the proposed CCSB rule change may result in a less safe transportation environment than exists today because the rule eliminates all safety information on the packaging. If shippers do not properly clean and purge containers of hazardous residues and vapor, and such containers are involved in incidents, first responders will have no means to identify the hazard.

CCSB rejected these arguments and decided to move forward with the new classification proposal for packagings that previously held hazardous materials:

No. of pkgs.	Proposed Classification
less than 12	125
12 < 22.5	77.5
22.5 or greater	60

For additional information on this issue, call RIPA.

BEST PERFORMANCE OF A HAZMAT PACKAGING IN A SUPPORTING ROLE.....

In case summer action flicks are your thing (and even if they are *not*), it’s worth noting the prominent placement of empty drums and composite IBCs in the opening sequence of the latest “X Men” movie: “Days of Future Past”. While the plot is murky and the characters largely unknown (to this viewer, anyway), the film might deserve an Oscar nod just for set design. Indeed, composite IBCs must be a set designer’s dream: They are at once futuristic and rather inexpensive (by movie standards).

The movie may have been made in Hollywood, or London, or Canada, so the source of the containers is not clear. In any event, we hope future producers will consult with RIPA on reusing set decorations. Certainly, Hollywood would be “all in” for sustainability.



Drum It Up!

June 2014

PACKAGING NEWS

Winemaking News

You May be Shipping Hazmat and Not Even Know it!	Skolnik Celebrates 29 Years!	Radiation and Wine: Finding the Fakes
<p>Many businesses are surprised to find out that commonly shipped products are often classified as "hazardous" under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Hazardous Materials Regulations. The same is true for reverse logistics operations, including recalls and product returns. Everyday items like cleaning products, compressed air dusters, adhesives, paints and cosmetics are just a few of the products that, depending on the quantity entering transportation, may be considered hazardous materials. Even if you only ship small quantities...the rules still apply!</p> <p>If you are not sure whether or not you are shipping, mailing, or in any way transporting a hazardous material, we have made special arrangements with Mr. Gene Sanders, of W.E. Train Consulting in Tampa, FL to address these questions. At no initial charge, Gene will assist Skolnik customers, and potential customers, for up to 15 minutes to determine if the product they are shipping is a regulated product and thereby subject to the shipping requirements of the CFR. If it is a regulated product, Gene will then charge to assist in package selection and determinations of documentation requirements. The small upfront cost for properly shipping hazardous materials can save you from receiving huge penalties for violation of these regulations. To contact Gene Sanders, you can reach him directly at: 813-855-3855 or gene@wetrainconsulting.com. His web site is www.wetrainconsulting.com.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Howard Skolnik</p>	<p>In April 1985, Skolnik set out to change the market for dangerous goods packaging. It was a time when packaging manufacturers were focused on making large quantities of commodity-type steel drums that would serve the needs of the hazardous and non-hazardous materials community. In addition, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act revealed that there were hundreds of superfund sites which needed to be cleared of their illegally buried contents. Skolnik identified that an entire market of the dangerous goods community was being overlooked. Small quantity shippers, packagings for secondary containment and recovery, and shippers with unique shipping needs had nowhere to turn to meet their shipping needs. Now for 29 years, Skolnik has built a market and family of unique products, over 400 steel drum variations alone, to serve this special needs arena. In addition, the Skolnik staff is uniquely trained to help customers find the right answers to their hazmat packaging concerns.</p> <p>Visit Our History site to see the photos of the afternoon celebration as well as a full history of over 100 slides.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Howard Skolnik</p>	<p>French physicist, Philippe Hubert uses gamma rays to detect radioactivity in wine. "In the wine is the story of the Atomic Age," he says. (C J Walker/Courtesy of William Koch). In a laboratory, deep under a mile-high stretch of the Alps on the French-Italian border, Philippe Hubert, a physicist at the University of Bordeaux, tests the authenticity of bottles of wine. He looks for radioactivity in the wine. Collectors send him bottles of wine because they want to know if it is fake or not. By taking the bottle in the hand and putting it close to a detector, Hubert records the gamma rays. The level of those gamma rays emitted can often tell him something about when the wine was bottled. For example, if it was bottled before about 1945, there shouldn't be any Cesium 137—radioactive evidence of exploded nuclear bombs and the Atomic Age—in the wine. The Cesium radioactivity we find in the wines reflects exactly the history of the Atomic Age. It is a radioactive isotope, which is not natural. It's a fission product. First, you had the development of the nuclear bomb: Hiroshima, Nagasaki. Then in the 50s and 60s, the Cold War between the U.S. and Soviets, and the nuclear atmospheric tests. Then in 1986—the Chernobyl accident, which released a lot of cesium activity into the atmosphere. This radioactivity is everywhere on earth—in our food, clothing, the cells of our body and it is in the atmosphere. And then with rain this radioactivity falls on the grapes. When you make the wine this comes into the wine and stays in the wine. But that's not the only way to do it. Maureen Downey, wine detective and wine appraiser, has a toolkit of items she uses to forensically examine bottles of wine—razor blades, magnifying glasses, jewelers loupes, flashlights, blue light. Downey reports that counterfeit wines have become a much bigger problem of late. In the last year she has written reports for about \$5 million worth of fakes. And as fraud goes up, experts are going to greater lengths than ever before to authenticate wine—the fibers of the label paper, the tiny pits in the glass, the depth of the punt in the bottom of the bottle, all hold clues. And so do the corks. Fraudsters put a lot of work into trying to make their corks look distressed, It's important that the label look like it's been around the block a bit, so they might rub it with a bit of earth or coffee grounds. Counterfeiting wine is nothing new. People have been doing it for centuries, but these new tools give the detectives a leg up in the battle against the fakes. And for stainless steel wine drums, only consider Skolnik originals.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Dean Ricker</p>

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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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