

Working Groups

Monthly Roundup

April 2022

Digitalisation

In 2021 ECG started a joint project with [Odette International](#) on the development of a **standard for the VIN label** in the finished vehicle supply chain, which will be based on ECG's own [recommendation on VIN labels](#). The joint LSP-OEM group is currently discussing issues such as the placement, content and layout of the VIN labels used in the supply chain in its regular meetings. 2D labels, especially QR code will be given special attention in the group discussions.

The project on **standard KPIs for Finished Vehicle Logistics**, is also a joint project under Odette's and ECG's co-ordination. The LSP and OEM members meet regularly with the aim to issue a recommendation by the end of April 2022.

The strategic project on **Digital Vehicle Handover** practices aims to create a recommendation by end of Q2 2022 to make sure that the various available technical solutions on the market are interoperable and yield comparable results. After having touched upon the image outputs of these solutions and on the IT, operational and data-related aspects, the discussions now focus on the legal issues and the deployment of specific processes for Artificial Intelligence used for automatic damage recognition. A legal protocol/schedule is currently drawn up by a transport lawyer and the group will analyse this as soon as we receive the draft.

With any enquiry on this Working Group or its sub-groups, please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

Health & Safety

SG1 – Incident reporting

The incident reporting website is undergoing some technical issues. Therefore, ECG members are currently still not able to upload incidents from loading and unloading operations in truck transportation for 2021 and 2022. ECG is working on getting the website back online. Timely information about the status of the website will be given to members as soon as there are new developments. Due to these technical issues, the publication of the 2021 yearly report on incidents is also delayed to later this year.

SG2 – Loading method

No further updates since last month's WG Updates edition. We would like to kindly remind you that:

- The ECG Guidelines – Safe Loading Process are available in [13 LANGUAGES](#). Use these to train your drivers;
- The subgroup is now working on a training checklist and syllabus to support members with training of drivers on the ECG Guidelines – Safe Loading Process. The next meeting of the SG was postponed to May;

SG3 – Safe yards

There are currently no activities scheduled under this SG. It will be reconvened in Q4 2022.

Are you using the [ECG Guidelines - Safe Yard Design](#) to renovate/modify one of your compounds? Are you planning to open a new compound and you are taking inspiration from our guidelines? Should we update anything in the guidelines? [Get in touch](#) and let us know.

SG4 – Safe retailers

SG4 initiated its work on safe unloading at retailers and will organise visits at retailers to gather best practice and improvement example.

Are you interested in any of the sub-groups activities? Please contact [Andreea Serbu](#).

Maritime & Ports

Maritime & Ports Working Group held its last meeting on 30/31 March in Hamburg, Germany.

The agenda included updates and presentations on the latest developments on the carrying of alternatives fuel vehicles, Ukrainian crisis and material shortages. The meeting was followed by a Boat Tour of Port of Hamburg guided by Axel Mattern, CEO of Port of Hamburg Marketing.

The presentation of the webinar is available here (<https://ecgassociation.eu/event/maritime-ports-working-group-30-31-march/#presentations>)

The next meeting will be organised in Autumn 2022 in the Port of Antwerp. The date will be communicated soon. For more information or to join the Working Group please contact the ECG Secretariat.

Quality

Since the last Quality meeting of 23 February, where version 9 of the [Operations Quality Manual](#) (OQM) for Cars and LCVs and version 2 of the OQM for Commercial Vehicles were approved, these documents got published on the ECG website. Translations to respectively 9 and 4 languages are currently ongoing.

The ECG [General Assembly & Spring Congress](#) on 12-13 May in Malaga will see the presentations on two very relevant Quality-related topics:

- Silvia Freitas and Thorsten Ludwig from TÜV SÜD will present on the forthcoming changes to the VDI standard on load securing on car transporters.
- Sifis Papageorgiou from the European Maritime Safety Agency will brief the audience on the publication of the interim guidance document on handling Alternative Fuel Vehicles in maritime transport.

In case you have any questions on any of these topics or if you want to join the Quality Working Group please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

Sustainability

On **7 April**, ECG, Odette International and the VDA organised a kick-off meeting about the project on automotive supply chain emissions. More than 60 representatives from outbound and inbound logistics joined and discussed the project proposal to develop a common methodology.

The kick-off meeting was hosted by Odette International and supported by International Transfer Center for Logistics (ITCL). The project scope and objectives were presented to the

participants. There was general agreement on the scope and the importance of the project among participants.

Next step is to propose and agree external support and estimate resources and budget needed. ECG, Odette and VDA are looking at different providers which could support. A decision will be made during May.

For more information, or to join the group, please contact [Andreea Serbu](#).

Regional Meetings

UK & Ireland

The latest meeting was held on 19 March in Dublin after which the group went to watch the Ireland-Scotland rugby match. Future meetings proposed for 2022 are DAF Trucks in Oxfordshire in June and back to London once again on 10 November. For more information, or to join the group, please contact the [ECG secretariat](#)

Eastern Region

The first Eastern Europe Regional meeting of 2022 took place on 28 April in Bratislava. Please see here our ECG News [article](#) about it. The second meeting of the year will be organised in September 2022 (date and location TBC). For any questions please contact [Andreea Serbu](#).