

Working Groups

Monthly Roundup

May 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 discussions will continue in the course of June until September where the recommendation is expected to be published.

The project on **standard KPIs for Finished Vehicle Logistics** ended in May with the publication of a [joint recommendation](#) between Odette and ECG.

The strategic project on **Digital Vehicle Handover** practices was created to ensure 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. A legal protocol will be issued very soon which could be used in contracts to accommodate the use of the new technical solutions. After a survey among the ECG membership on Artificial Intelligence and discussions within the group informed us that the technology is not mature yet, thus the group is not concentrating on this issue at the time being.

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

Health & Safety

Incident reporting

The incident reporting website is undergoing some technical issues. ECG is working to fix them and hopes to bring the website back online by the end of June. We apologise to our members for this temporary inconvenience.

Here are the WG's publications:

- Yearly incident reports can be found [here](#)
- The ECG Guidelines – Safe Loading Process are available in **13 LANGUAGES**. Use these to train your drivers;
- [ECG Guidelines - Safe Yard Design](#) Are you using these 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.

Are you interested in this WG? Please contact [Andreea Serbu](#).

Maritime & Ports

Maritime & Ports Working Group held its last meeting on 30/31 March in Hamburg, Germany. The next meeting is scheduled for 24-25 October for the Port of Antwerp Bruges.

For more information or to join the Working Group please contact the [ECG Secretariat](#).

Quality

The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) initiated a working group in 2021 to elaborate standards for the carriage of these vehicles both on ferries and on PCTC ships. ECG was an active member of this working group. The 'EMSA guidance for AFVs in Ro-Ro spaces' was published at the end of May after more than a year of intensive work.

The document addresses the safety challenges posed by the transport of these vehicles and it contains two main statements for Finished Vehicle Logistics:

- The document covers the need to visually identify AFVs by fuel types, although it is not stated how this should be done. This is a topic ECG was dealing with in a small working group in 2020 which resulted in the [publication of its own document](#) on the subject: this recommends applying stickers on the windscreen for a better visual identification on ship decks and compounds.
- The minimum state of charge level will be set at 20%, while the maximum state of charge would be 50%. The higher end state of charge is recommended to avoid unnecessary carriage of charge and power during marine carriage, while the minimum charge is needed to ensure minimum basic driving and operation of the vehicle, covering dwell time at port, vessel load and discharge operations, to First Point of Rest. This is also what came out of the discussions in ECG's own Electric Vehicles sub-group which analysed the current OEM practices on the minimum and maximum state of charge levels.

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

ECG, Odette International and VDA initiated a consortium and worked on a project proposal to define a standard methodology to calculate and report on automotive supply chain emissions.

A kick-off meeting was held on **7 April** where this was presented. More than 60 representatives from outbound and inbound logistics joined the meeting showing a remarkable interest for the topic. The project scope and objectives were presented to the participants who agreed on the need and importance of standardisation in the industry in the area of emissions.

Some issues were raised by the participants at the kick-off meeting with regard to external support and resources needed for the project. The temporary Steering Committee formed by ECG, Odette International and VDA worked and did research on these issues during the past couple of months and called for a status update meeting. This will take place on **8 July**.

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

Regional Meetings

UK & Ireland

The next meeting will be on 21 June hosted by DAF Trucks at their premises in Oxfordshire. The group will meet once again in London later this year on 10 November. For more information, or to join the group, please contact the [ECG secretariat](#)

Eastern Region

The next Eastern Europe Regional meeting will be organised in September 2022 (date and location TBC). For any questions please contact [Andreea Serbu](#).