

# Working Groups

## Monthly Roundup

### November - December 2023

#### Capacity

No further updates since last month's WG Updates edition.

#### Digitalisation

The latest updates to the Odette-ECG FVL message standard was published. The new release includes amendments and updates which take account of issues discovered during the practical implementation of the original messages by several European OEMs, including BMW, Volvo Cars and Volkswagen Group Logistics. A new message type included in the standard is Transport Capacity Reservation which covers the situation when it is not possible to assign specific vehicles to transporters prior to loading. More information can be found on the [ECG website](#) and the [article published in ECG News](#).

ECG launched the [Tech Board](#) in Q3 this year with a selection of IT-savvy people who also have a good understanding of the FVL supply chain. This is a sort of think tank which has set forth to analyse the challenges the FVL industry is facing; to monitor the tech trends and to evaluate how the tech development can solve the challenges. This process will lead to projects which will be developed under the Digitalisation Working Group and which will yield tangible developments to the whole FVL sector. The first step was to launch a survey in December to the LSPs and OEMs to understand what challenges they have. The results will be shared in due course and format with the industry.

For any enquiry about this Working Group, please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

#### Health & Safety

No further updates since last month's WG Updates edition.

We would like to kindly remind you to keep reporting on your severe incidents and near-misses for 2023 and help us to improve drivers' safety. Our Online Incident Reporting website is available [here](#). The yearly report will be published in Q1 2024.

For more information, or to join the group, contact [Jovana Vancevska](#).

#### Maritime & Ports

The latest Maritime & Ports meeting took place on 9/10 November in Cuxport, Germany. This meeting was kindly hosted by Rhenus Cuxport, DFDS and Mosolf. ECG Members and Partners gathered in Cuxport for the last meeting of the year.

On 9 November participants had the opportunity to meet in an informal environment during the networking dinner. The meeting took place on 10 November with a very engaging agenda and excellent speakers. Find more about the meeting [here](#).

For more information about this group contact [Jovana Vancevska](#).

## **Quality**

The last meeting of the Quality Working Group was [held on 30 November](#), where the dedicated document on the transport of cars in containers was adopted. It has been added as a standalone new chapter to the Operations Quality Manual (OQM) of which version 10 is now [available on the ECG website](#). The translations to the usual 10 languages will follow in due course.

Many other topics were touched upon at the Quality meeting in November: one resulting activity will be the discussion on the information shipping lines and other operators would like to receive on the booked vehicles. The [parking requirements](#) of the OEMs and ways to standardise them will also be looked at in Q1 2024. And the dedicated group on the transport of used cars will start in January.

Besides this, the ECG Board has decided to establish a way to report on fire incidents in the new vehicle supply chain involving Electric Vehicles. We will have more information on this in the course of January.

In case you need any further information on the Quality group and its activities please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

## **Sustainability**

In December, the project on standardisation of emissions calculations and reporting from automotive supply chains has come to an end. The project produced the first standard methodology for automotive supply chain emissions calculation and reporting.

The methodology to report and calculate emissions from Ro-Ro operations published in July has been updated in November regarding the section on Fuel emissions factors and correspondent sample calculations.

The guidelines are available on ECG's [website](#).

There will be a second phase of the emissions project in 2024. Relevant information will be sent to interested parties in due course.

For more information, contact [Andreea Serbu](#).

## **Regional Meetings**

### *UK & Ireland*

The latest meeting was held in London on November 16th, drawing a commendable attendance and fostering meaningful discussions. Howden once again took the role of sponsor/speaker, contributing to the constructive dialogue. Most of the participants opted to continue the conversations over an evening dinner. The next meeting is planned for 27 February, which will be hosted by Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) at the Motor Museum in Gaydon. Details will be announced soon.

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

### *Eastern Region*

The next Eastern Regional Meeting is planned for 25 April 2024 in Istanbul, Turkey. More information will be available on our website closer to the meeting.

If you wish to know more about this meeting, please contact [Jovana Vancevska](#).

## **EU Affairs**

The Council and European Parliament are entering negotiations on the Weights & Dimensions Directive on which ECG is focussing to promote harmonisation of loaded length of vehicle transporters to 20.75m at EU level. ECG published a [paper](#) summarising its position on this topic. We very much welcome support from members on this file. Contact [Andreea Serbu](#) to let us know if you would like to support us in your own countries.

For more information and any questions, contact [Andreea Serbu](#).

## **ECG Quarterly Survey**

Since 2010 ECG is conducting our Quarterly Confidence & Cost Trend Survey across members of the Association. The latest results for Q3 2023 are available on our [website](#).