

# Working Groups Monthly Roundup

**September 2024**

## **Digitalisation & ECG Tech Board**

A dedicated project on invoicing processes in Finished Vehicle Logistics was launched with around 20 interested members. We will look into the invoicing processes, analyse what issues our members have and understand what causes long payment times. The first goal is to capture all information related to invoicing procedures enabling us to determine the key issues to address. As a later step the OEMs will also be included in the process as their input is equally necessary in order to work towards improved invoicing processes in the FVL sector.

We are waiting for the contributions from our members, partners and the OEMs to our [online form](#) in order to generate new projects for the [Tech Board](#) and new sub-group initiatives for the Digitalisation Group. Please seize this opportunity to shape the digital agenda of ECG and fill in the form.

For any enquiry about the Digitalisation and Tech Board activities, please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

## **Health & Safety**

The last meeting of the delivery at retailers subgroup was on 6 September. The group will present an escalation process to help resolve safety issues and also propose a legal clause at the Industry Meeting in Hamburg on 24 October. As a next step the process will be published and communicated to all ECG members who are operating trucks.

We would like to kindly remind you to keep reporting on your severe incidents and near misses during loading/unloading in truck operations for 2024 and help us to improve drivers' safety. Our Online Incident Reporting website is available [here](#).

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

## **Maritime & Ports**

The latest Maritime & Ports meeting took place in Rostock, Germany on 26/27 September, kindly sponsored by Autolink Germany, Musco Lightning and Rostock Port.

On 26 September participants had the opportunity to meet in an informal environment during the networking dinner. The meeting took place on 27 September with a very engaging agenda and excellent speakers. Danique de Jonge, Senior Policy Advisor, European Sea Ports Organisation (ESPO) presented the latest study on port investment needs and main challenges for the European ports. After the meeting, participants had the opportunity to attend a port tour.

The next meeting will be in Valencia on 7 March 2025. More information will be available closer to the meeting.

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

## Quality

September has been busy as the VDI Guideline on loading vehicle transporters was published at the beginning of the month. ECG knows that this is a challenge for our members, therefore we organised a webinar on 24 September, with the participation of the VDI and TÜV SÜD, who contributed to the creation of this updated version of the Guideline. Kässbohrer, Lohr, RIMO and Rolfo also spoke at the webinar and answered all the questions the participants had. Based on the questions received we are preparing an FAQ document for road transport operators.

We are glad to share the [recording of the webinar](#) with you in case you could not attend. We have also [published a press release](#) on this very important subject in which we emphasise that there should have been a transition period to permit vehicle logistics transportation companies to certify their trucks ahead of implementation. Now many thousands of trucks still need certification as, according to the trailer manufacturers, at the time of the webinar less than half of the trucks had received their certificate. Another bottleneck highlighted during the webinar was that of supply of the equipment needed to be compliant, such as new types of lashing belts. It is likely to take months before all certifications are issued and all trucks are equipped with the necessary lashing belts.

If your drivers encounter any issues during police inspections or at loading/unloading places [please inform ECG about it](#).

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

## Sustainability

Registrations are open for the training course [Sustainability and carbon emissions accounting for vehicle logistics](#) taking place on 19-20 November in Brussels (Tangla Hotel). The training will support ECG members in the implementation of the ECG-VDA [guideline](#) on emissions calculation and reporting for automotive supply chains and their decarbonisation journey. More information about the training including learning objectives, a detailed schedule and the target audience can be found [here](#). The training is free of charge for ECG Members. Register [here](#).

If you work on emissions accounting and/or sustainability, you are welcome to join our project and the Sustainability Working Group.

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

## Regional Meetings

### *UK & Ireland*

The end-of-year meeting will be held, as usual, in London. The date is 21<sup>st</sup> November and it will once again be an afternoon meeting with the annual dinner in the evening. Registrations are now open.

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

### *Eastern Region*

The latest Eastern Regional Meeting took place on 12 September in Budapest, Hungary and was kindly sponsored by ECG member Hödlmayr International.

More than 50 participants joined this second meeting of the year to discuss the latest developments within the finished vehicle logistics sector and the market situation in this part of Europe. After the meeting participants had the opportunity to network in an informal environment during the social dinner.

The next meeting will take place in Kaunas, Lithuania on 10 April 2025. More information will be available closer to the meeting.

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

### **EU Affairs**

The Eurovignette Directive governing truck road tolling in the EU was last modified in 2022, and Member States needed to transpose it by 25 March 2024. Member States imposing road tolls on their national territories must follow the new requirements of the Directive. ECG published a report showing the implementation status of the Directive in the EU including useful links to calculate new tolls where applicable. Take a look at the report [here](#).

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

### **FVL Legal Network**

The FVL Legal Network will work on gathering different information on transportation law in various European countries. As a next step the group will decide common topics that participants will address in the overview.

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

### **Women in FVL Network**

The next meeting of the [Women in FVL](#) network will be on **24 October, 12:00 – 14:00** ahead of the ECG Conference 2024 in Hamburg. If you are a woman and attending the Conference, register now at this [link](#).

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

### **ECG Quarterly Survey**

The Quarterly Survey for Q3 2024 was launched on 1 October and will be open until 31 October. We have introduced some minor changes by taking out several questions to make it more concise for all ECG members participating in the Survey. Our latest results are available on our [website](#).