

# Working Groups Monthly Roundup

## January 2025

### Digitalisation & ECG Tech Board

The Tech Board will focus on the self-sufficient compounds project between three ECG member and partner companies. More details will follow soon.

The Digitalisation Working Group currently discusses with the members about invoicing practices in FVL and in Q2 we will start a project with Odette on the e-invoices in outbound logistics.

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

### Health & Safety

On **Tuesday, 25 February 15:30-16:30** CET ECG will hold a webinar to launch the Health & Safety Working Group (H&S WG) - Safe Retailers activity. Since 2019 the H&S WG has worked continuously on improving drivers safety and ensuring a safe working environment in finished vehicle logistics for all.

The H&S WG relaunched its 'Safe Retailer' sub group to address the issues at retailer delivery and continue to work towards improving safety standards for all drivers. During the webinar we will present our new escalation process that will be available for all ECG members who operate trucks to request ECG's support if they have been unable to resolve unsafe situations themselves.

You can register for the webinar [here](#).

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

### Maritime & Ports

The latest Maritime & Ports meeting was held in Zeebrugge on 22 January, the first joint meeting with the Quality Working Group. Key discussions included topics of common relevance for both groups such as managing fires in automotive compounds and onboard ships. More information is available on our [website](#).

Next meeting will take place in Valencia in April. More information about this meeting will be available in the coming weeks.

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

### Quality

The first joint meeting of the Quality and Maritime & Ports Working Groups took place in Zeebrugge on January 21-22. The interest in this joint meeting stemmed from the overlapping topics, such as BEV transport, fires on board ships and the transport of cars in containers, amongst others. The event was supported by ECG member and local host Port of Antwerp-Bruges, as well as long-time ECG partner C.A.R. Consulting.

A key topic discussed at the event was the challenge of managing fires on board ships and at automotive compounds. Automotive maritime compounds can engage with local fire brigades to establish procedures and organise drills, which could then form the basis for developing best practices. Further information on this initiative, including the publication of a document from the German delegation to the International Maritime Organization, will be available later this year, and ECG will closely follow these developments. ECG's Quality Group will also work on more detailed guidelines for vehicle loading and handling in terminals this year, aimed at improving safety and boosting confidence in the sector.

C.A.R. Consulting provided an update on the development of AI technology for digital vehicle inspections, on which ECG published a document in 2022. The technology has significantly improved over the past few years, but the results will never be 100% accurate.

The next meetings of the Quality Working Group will soon be planned for 2025. In case you need any further information on the Quality Group and its activities please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

## **Rail**

ECG has launched a Working Group on rail as this mode of transport has not yet had a circle where related topics can be discussed. Details on the next steps and concrete actions of the group will be shared in February. Until then, if you are interested in joining, [please let us know](#), explaining where your interest lies and exactly what challenges your company has with rail transport.

With any questions or suggestions please contact [Szilvi Kiss](#).

## **Sustainability**

ECG, VDA and European car manufacturers are currently finalising the revision of the [Emissions calculation and reporting guideline for automotive supply chains](#). Version 2 of the guideline will be published in Q1 2025. A new workstream was created in January 2025 to address emissions calculations and reporting at compounds.

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

## **Regional Meetings**

### *UK & Ireland*

The next meeting of this regional group will be in Solihull on 13<sup>th</sup> March. Registrations are now open.

The other 2025 meetings will both be held in London. The mid-year one is planned for 30<sup>th</sup> June in conjunction with an ECG board meeting which will allow members of both to come together for a joint dinner on Monday evening.

The end of year meeting will follow the usual format and be held in London on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November in the afternoon and be followed by a dinner for those who wish to stay on.

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

### *Eastern Region*

The next Eastern Regional Meeting will take place in Kaunas, LT on 10 April, kindly sponsored by ECG member Hegelmann Transporte. This meeting is open to ECG members and partners who are operating in Eastern Europe. [Registrations](#) for the meeting are now open.

The full agenda will soon be available on our website. During the meeting, participants will have a brief market update on the situation in this part of Europe and also share insights on the latest challenges in the industry. The second part of the meeting will be dedicated to a discussion on eCMR.

More information is available on our [website](#).

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

### **EU Affairs**

ECG will organise its annual Dinner Debate in the European Parliament on **Tuesday, 18 March 2025** hosted by MEP Alexandr Vondra, a member of the ECR Group and the Committee on the Environment, Climate, and Food Safety in the European Parliament. Save the date. Registrations will open soon.

### **FVL Legal Network**

No further update since the last month's report.

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 22 May 2025 (11:00 – 13:00), Cascais, Portugal ahead of the [ECG General Assembly and Spring Congress](#). Registrations will open soon.

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

### **ECG Quarterly Survey**

The Quarterly Survey for Q4 2024 was launched on 1 January and the latest results will be available in second half of February.