

Frigoríscope



News from Transfrigoroute International – Issue 14 – October 2012

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this new edition of the Frigoríscope, with this month a look back on TI's 2012 AGM. Every year

I am impressed by how successful and incomparable each event is. This year again it was clear that Transfrigoroute France has put all its heart in an exclusive event with a magnificent closing ceremony that took place in the Trinity Chapel.

But the event was also very much dedicated to business with an exhibition area and stands that looked like a major international fair and statutory meetings reduced to their minimum. This allowed the meetings



More than 200 participants at the TI 2012 AGM in Lyon, France.

to focus on day to day problems our operating members face and to outline the solutions for the future.

The feedback we have received from participants so far confirms the success of this event, and it seems that all very much appreciated the good networking opportunities.

We now look forward to our 2013 event in Potoroz Slovenia. If you

haven't already, remember to reserve 19/20 September 2013 in your agenda.

But we are not there yet and we have a lot of immediate priorities on our agenda. The Secretariat is making sure that you get the minutes of the meetings as soon as possible in your inboxes, we are fixing the meeting dates for the EC and CCT next year and have had to spend much time again on the statutes as the AGM decided to consider further comments to the document.

On a political level we are liaising with our FCI and CCT experts on preparing our position on the biggest dossier for the year to come, the revision of the F-gas Regulation, and are also coordinating the work on TI's contribution to the EU's urban logistics consultation.

Many thanks again to all those who made the 2012 AGM a success and in particular to Jean-Marc Platéro, Valérie Hammer and Michelle Masson!

With best wishes,
Russell Patten
Secretary General of TI

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AGM 2012 — A busy meeting agenda combined with excellent networking opportunities

This year's Annual General Meeting of Transfrigoroute International from 25-26 October in Lyon, France, brought together participants from business, politics and academia coming from eleven different countries. The first day was dedicated to the TI statutory meetings as well as to a discussion forum at the joint FCI/CCT meeting debating the most relevant policy topics discussed at EU level. The second day focused on the theme "urban deliveries".

Planning TI's internal agenda for next year

The meetings of the FCI and the CCT Management Committee took place in parallel and focused mainly on determining TI's 2013 work agenda. The FCI meeting was very well attended and it was confirmed that a majority of members would prefer the FCI to focus on refrigerated transport specific subjects, as opposed to broader transport issues, and it was decided to continue the work which was started in 2012, by focussing on the '3Ps', i.e. on political, private/internal and practical aspects.

The CCT Management Committee gathered to discuss the latest developments on the on-going projects in all three Working Groups. In terms of work priorities, the CCT will continue to focus on collaborating with the UNECE working party (WP.11) to develop and update the ATP rules and on progressing the multi-temperature calculation as well as energy savings tool. In addition, Joe Grealy gave an update on the latest WP.11 meeting, which he attended on behalf of TI.

Road transport priorities on the European Commission's 2013 agenda

At the joint FCI/CCT session amongst other presentations, Joe Grealy provided members with a short update on the state of play in the F-Gas revision and the anticipated major difficulties for our business sector. It will be crucial for TI that all members start engaging with decision-makers on the proposal as it greatly affects refrigeration manufacturers and hauliers alike. By the time of writing, the official revised proposal has been published by the European Commission and, as a first step, TI is in the process of formulating a position towards it (*Please see separate article on page 7*).

Following TI's invitation, the European Commission's Deputy Head of the Land Transport Unit joined our

meetings in Lyon. Bearing a great responsibility in coordinating the Commission's road transport policy, Rémi Mayet provided insights into the Commission's working priorities for the upcoming year while also noting TI's views with great interest.



Deputy Head of Unit Rémi Mayet, DG Move, European Commission speaking at the TI AGM.

Mr Mayet emphasised in particular the three following policy areas:

- Cabotage — The Commission aims to get rid of the current cabotage restrictions and to introduce a more harmonised and cost-effective enforcement. This is currently under discussion;
- Weights & Dimensions — To encourage innovation in the field of aerodynamics the Commission is reviewing the rules on the maximum weights and dimensions;
- Trans-European networks: To make progress on the interoperability of the electronic toll systems, the EU has launched a project with seven Member States to work on a harmonised electronic toll system towards 2014. The long term goal is to extend an EU-wide standard to all Member States.

TI AGM 2012—A busy meeting agenda combined with excellent networking opportunities...continued

During his presentation, the representative from the European Commission also called on TI to contribute its position to the on-going consultation on urban mobility. Prior to the AGM, TI decided to set up a joint FCI/CCT Task Force on this issue, which has now started its work. Mr Mayet emphasised that TI is an important stakeholder in the road transport sector and looked forward to our contribution.



Intensive networking and business discussions during the breaks (here taken in the exhibition hall).

Lively thematic discussions and active networking breaks

Given the theme of this year's AGM being "urban deliveries" Transfrigoroute France planned a very successful and interactive day programme together with various presentations including a short movie to explore the various aspects of problems in this specific field of road transport.

Professor Michel Savy, a member of the EU High Level Group for Cabotage, which is an advisory group to the Commission consisting of independent scientific experts, provided a presentation on freight transport in the city from a political and economic point of view.

A very practical example of how to overcome difficulties related to city logistics was given by the DHL representatives. They presented their experiences from this year's London Olympic Games which proved to be a challenge for business operators but which also led to new innovative thinking in how delivery could be performed by use of alternative methods.

To wrap up the thematic day, two workshops took place in the afternoon which focused on organisational and technical solutions for urban deliveries.

In between the sessions, there were several breaks foreseen in order to give all participants sufficient time to create new business contacts and to discuss the input from the discussions. In the exhibition hall several companies presented their latest product innovations and participants greatly appreciated the opportunity to inform themselves about new developments and exchange business views.



Impressions from the presentations and discussions during the two days.

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F-Gas Regulation review: European Commission officially released its legislative proposal

As was announced during the AGM, the Commission has released its [“Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on fluorinated greenhouse gases”](#). TI recognises that through the inclusion of road transport, this proposal is a good step to achieve the Transport’s White Paper objective to achieve a reduction of the EU’s greenhouse gas emissions by 60% until 2050. However, TI will now have to evaluate whether the proposed bans and phase-downs are doable from a commercial and technical perspective. As such, the F-gas regulation review might well be the biggest policy challenge TI had to face in recent times.

The F-gas regulation review

Emissions of F-gases, which have a warming effect up to 23,000 times more powerful than carbon dioxide, have risen by 60% since 1990, while all other greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced. Therefore, on 7 November, the European Commission released its legislative proposal, which aims to reduce F-gas emissions by two-thirds of today’s levels by 2030.

The proposal introduces a phase-down mechanism, and bans the use of F-gases in some new equipment where – according to the Commission – viable more climate-friendly alternatives are readily available.

Potential threats – for industry and transporters alike!

Although the overall direction of this proposal can only be saluted as it will play a key role in the fight against climate change, some potential threats are stemming from this proposal. First of all, the legal basis – i.e. the Treaty articles setting out the protection of the environment – allows some Member States to go further than the EU rules when they implement the EU measure at national level. This is of course highly problematic in a mobile application

The officially published draft proposal by the European Commission to revise the current is a key priority for TI as a **possible F-gas ban will affect both, the refrigeration manufacturers and hauliers**. A TI task force will lead the work on the internal impact assessment and on an external engagement strategy.

such as transport and can lead to vast problems for operators.

Furthermore, it needs to be ensured that viable refrigerants do exist or can be developed by the time the bans and phase-downs kick in, which presents a major challenge for the industry. Not only do these alternatives have to be climate-friendlier than F-gases, they need to be also usable in mobile applications, meaning that some safety features, regarding flammability, need to be ensured.

Finally, if a ban kicks in in a way which does not allow for the development of viable alternatives or, the value of currently used equipment will drastically be reduced. This in turn might negatively affect operators’ bottom line, thereby having an important business impact.

Next steps – Need for proper evaluation & making sure TI’s voice is heard

TI’s experts, both from the industry and from the operators’ side, will now have to work on an impact assessment in order to evaluate the precise threats and opportunities this proposal entails for our sector. The CCT will kick off its discussions by the end of the month, but a small task force consisting of FCI and CCT members shall take this discussion forward and determine an exact impact assessment.

Based on this, messaging and communication tools, as well as an advocacy plan will be put together by the Secretariat in order to make sure that TI’s voice is being heard by the European Parliament and the Member States in the upcoming legislative discussions.

Changing faces at Transfrigoroute Holland: Erik Runia retires as Secretary General

On 1 November 2012, Erik Runia officially retired as Secretary General of Transfrigoroute Holland after having worked in this position since 2001. After having worked for longer than a decade within Transfrigoroute Holland, he will now enjoy his early retirement from work life.

Bringing Transfrigoroute Holland at the forefront

Though Erik in his modesty would never admit to it, he has with the support of the board put Transfrigoroute Holland on the map of decision makers, experts and partner organisations.

Erik has always been able to attract high level speakers from different fields such as the application of aerodynamics on road vehicles for reducing fuel consumption, certification procedures for respecting driving and resting times of drivers, criminality in road haulage and prevention and the renewal of the Dutch Hygiene code for transport and storage of food stuffs and the optimal functioning of people and equipment in temperature controlled transport.

On behalf of Transfrigoroute Holland, Erik was active as participant in the Coordination Committee for Temperature controlled logistics joining shippers, logistic firms, storage firms, vehicle and trailer constructing firms, the University for Agriculture and food technology and the official representative of the Netherlands in ECE-WP 11. This Committee is of essential importance for discussing legislation and rules for the temperature controlled transport and logistics.



Erik Runia on the occasion of his honours at the TI AGM 2012 in Lyon.

A very active national representative leaves TI

Erik was also much involved with Transfrigoroute International. One of the organisational highlights for him was the 50th Annual General Meeting in the Krasnapolsky Hotel in Amsterdam in 2005. Many Transfrigoroute members have excellent memories of this edition of the annual meeting.

As a national group in Transfrigoroute International, Transfrigoroute Holland actively contributed input to decision making on the European Commission's White Paper "Roadmap to a single European transport area-Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system", the Commission's consultation on adapting Directive 96/53 on weights and dimensions of road vehicles and the consequences of the F-gas regulation.

TI says 'Dank u'

Transfrigoroute International would like to thank Erik for his co-operative attitude and active input during all those years he was active as secretary for Transfrigoroute Holland.

We wish Erik all the best and may years in good health to come.

Calendar of events

calendar of 2013 events

Event	Organiser	Venue
2013		
19 February: CCT Management Committee Meeting	TI	Brussels, BE
20 February: EC & Joint FCI/CCT Meeting	TI	Brussels, BE
25-27 February: 16th ECSLA Cold Chain Logistics Conference & Trade Show	ECSLA	Bruges, BE
4 June: EC, FCI & CCT Management Committee Meeting	TI	Brussels, BE
19-20 September: TI Annual General Meeting	TI/Tr. Slovenia	Potoroz, SI
24-26 September: 5th Cool Logistics Global Conference	Cool Logistics	Rotterdam, NL



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Impressions from the TI AGM 2012



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