

IFIA NEWSLETTER

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We intend to provide a wider platform for the representation of our members in the US.

Message from the President

One of the ways in which we seek to provide better support to member companies is by widening our geographic and sector scope. In the US, IFIA's lobbying activities have, until recently, been primarily confined to the Petroleum and Petrochemicals sector. With the reorganisation of the IFIA Americas Committee, we can provide a wider platform for the representation of our members in the US. The IFIA Americas Committee now includes representatives of the Consumer and Industrial Products Committee (CIPC), as well as the Petroleum Committee and, as additional committees have need for representation in the US, the membership will be expanded accordingly.

During the last months we have continued our dialogue with the Brussels-based European organisation CEOC, and have sought ways in which we can co-operate with them on issues of joint interest. These have included a joint approach to the Accreditation Bodies concerning the transfer of the accreditation of inspection issues to ILAC, which, in our view, could lead to the imposition of inappropriate accreditation criteria on inspection bodies.

Richard Nelson, President, IFIA Council

The Director General's Report

The IFIA Risk Management Seminar took place in Cologne in May and was attended by over 50 representatives from a wide range of member companies. Over a two-day period, attendees examined operational risk issues as they affect different business streams. The Seminar also provided the opportunity for attendees to mix, mingle and exchange views with their peers in an appropriate environment. Our thanks to TÜV Rheinland for hosting this event. We plan to hold a further seminar in about 18 months' time. If you have ideas concerning the theme or themes you would like the seminar to address, or would like a copy of the most recent Seminar documentation, please contact Hilary on hre@ifia-federation.org.

I am delighted to welcome two new members to the IFIA family. P T Carsurin and Control Quality Inspecoes, Analises e Servicos were approved as C members by the Council in June. We intend to amend our membership selection process at our AGM in December, via a change to the Articles of Association that will remove the Council's theoretical discretion over the selection of new members who meet the membership criteria. We are also investigating whether there are conditions under which it would be beneficial to the interests of members to allow government controlled bodies to join IFIA. Please contact me on roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org if you have any views concerning this proposal.

Roger Brockway, Director General

Committee Updates

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It is hoped to begin trials of the Agricultural Inspector Certification Scheme (Oils and Fats) in late 2011 or early 2012.

Agriculture

Preparatory work is continuing in relation to a potential Agricultural Inspector Certification Scheme for vegetable oils and fats. We hope to begin internal trials of this scheme in late 2011 or early 2012. The Agricultural Committee is also working on a draft document which will limit the conditions under which member companies will report that consignments are 'free from' or 'substantially free from' such things as pests and toxic substances. We are keeping the main relevant associations, GAFTA and FOSFA, abreast with our thinking in relation to this exercise. The 'Fit for Human Consumption' bulletin has been published on the IFIA website and has received positive feedback. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact hre@ifia-federation.org.

Food

Following consideration of how it should further its objectives and in light of recent food safety related issues, IFIA's Food Committee is preparing a paper to demonstrate the role of the certification bodies at various critical stages of the food supply chain. This document is intended to form the basis for possible collective responses to future food safety crises. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Food Committee please contact hre@ifia-federation.org.

Consumer and Industrial Products (CIPC)

It has been decided to reconstitute this committee at a more senior level so as to engage member companies' commitment across the whole range of the committee's wide scope. The committee will then reconfirm its priorities and, if necessary, establish sub-committees to address issues. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the CIPC please contact maarten.vanderdussen@ifia-federation.org.

Trade Security

IFIA participated in the 2nd World Customs Organisation Capacity Building Committee from 3 to 5 May as an observer. As previously reported, the overall agenda for the Trade Security Committee currently rests with IFIA's new Government Services Committee, until it is judged that an opportunity has opened up for specific action. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Trade Security Committee please contact hre@ifia-federation.org.

Government Services

The IFIA List of PSI Programmes has been updated and is now available on the IFIA website. The Government Services Committee is in the process of developing a new Code of Practice for the general service which is offered by member companies under a number of descriptors, but which the Committee has agreed to term 'Consignment-based Conformity Assessment'. It is envisaged that, on completion, this Code of Practice will form a sister document to the PSI Code of Practice. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Government Services Committee, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

Committee Updates

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The IFIA Compliance Code has been updated. The annual external audit of Compliance Programmes can now be provided in the form of a report based on 'Agreed upon Procedures'.

Industrial Services

As previously stated, Accreditation, which was the main concern of this Committee, is now handled by IFIA's Accreditation Committee. A review of the scope for future action of the Industrial Services Committee is underway. This review will be held in association with CEOC in order to avoid duplication and confusion amongst key influencers and other stakeholders. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Industrial Services Committee, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

Metals and Minerals

The Metals and Minerals Committee is working on guidelines with particular reference to sampling.

Petroleum

The Terms of Reference for the Petroleum Committee have been approved and the revised version has been issued. Tom Patrick is now the Chair of the Americas Regional Technical Committee. David Bleser, who is the overall Petroleum Committee Chair, is also the Chair of the Africa, Asia and Europe Technical Committee. The Committee is working on guidelines with particular reference to safety. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Petroleum and Petrochemicals Committee, please contact paul.harrison@melvcon.co.uk.

Legal

The IFIA Risk Management Seminar, which took place in Cologne, Germany on 23rd and 24th May, was held under the auspices of the Legal Committee and the Seminar was chaired by outgoing Committee Chair Jean-Pierre Mean. Andrew Hibbert of Bureau Veritas is the incoming Legal Committee Chair. The Committee has worked on the status of IFIA documents, and has provided guidance on how IFIA should react to external parties that require companies tendering for contracts to be IFIA members. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Legal Committee, please contact hre@ifia-federation.org.

Compliance

The Compliance Committee has issued guidance to IFIA members on the UK Bribery Act 2010, which came in to force on 1st July, the toughest and most far-reaching legislation so far on this topic. The IFIA Compliance Training Guide has been updated and is now available on the IFIA website. The sub group of this Committee, which is considering Social Auditing issues in China, is planning to organise seminars in both Europe and North America, to which representatives of retailers will be invited. The seminars are expected to take place in late 2011 or early 2012. For further information regarding the activities of the Compliance Committee please contact hre@ifia-federation.org.

Accreditation

IFIA's Accreditation Committee is working closely with CEOC in relation to matters of mutual interest and concern. A joint letter was sent to IAF and ILAC in light of the transfer of inspection issues to ILAC. In addition, IFIA is continuing to represent members' interests on

Market Intelligence

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Neither CEOC nor IFIA finds it acceptable that the accreditation process for inspection bodies should extend to include the need for conformity with a suite of documents designed for laboratory accreditation.

CASCO's Working Group 31, which has been considering changes to ISO/IEC 17020. If you would like further details regarding the activities of the Accreditation Committee, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

Market Intelligence

ISO/CASCO – A new database has been created for ISO/CASCO resolutions and is available online via their members' portal. It contains all resolutions since 1997. See www.iso.org for further information.

ISO/IEC - ISO/IEC 17021:2011 (certification of management systems) was published in February 2011 and replaces ISO/IEC 17021: 2006. There will be a 24 month transition period and all management systems certification bodies accredited by IAF member accreditation bodies have to have completed the transition by 1 February 2013.

WG 29 (certification of products) has reached the DIS (draft international standard) stage for ISO/IEC 17065. The ballot for this DIS opened on 26 May and will close on 26 October.

WG 31 (inspection) met in Geneva from 19 -21 July in Geneva in order to resolve comments received on the DIS for ISO/IEC 17020. The agreed revision will now proceed to FDIS for voting. IFIA's major concerns have been taken into account

WG32 (conformity assessment - fundamentals of product certification and certification schemes) will meet from 10-12 October in order to review Working Draft 2 of ISO/IEC 17067.

WG 33 (third-party audit reporting) has progressed ISO/IEC 17022 to DTS (draft technical standard) status. A ballot will run from July for 3 months and the next meeting will be held in Geneva from 24-25 November.

If you would like details of IFIA's engagement in any of these activities, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

IAF/ILAC – Following the decision at the IAF/ILAC November 2010 General Assembly that responsibility for the scope of inspection would be transferred from a common IAF/ILAC ownership to that of ILAC alone, a joint letter was sent by IFIA and CEOC to both IAF and ILAC. Neither CEOC nor IFIA finds it acceptable that the accreditation process for inspection bodies should extend to include the need for conformity with a suite of documents designed for laboratory accreditation, and this was dealt with in the joint letter. Subsequently, IFIA Director General Roger Brockway met with Peter Unger, Chairman of ILAC. Both IFIA and CEOC will be present at the first meeting of the ILAC Inspection Committee on 5 November and will support one another in their joint stance, which is that the new 17020 should start to be implemented without guidance, but that the role of the ILAC Inspection Committee should be to develop whatever guidance is found to be needed through experience of its use.

IFIA will participate in the series of IAF/ILAC meetings that will take place in Bangkok from 2-11 November.

CEOC held its General Assembly in Warsaw from 28-31 May. Simo Hassi (Inspecta Group, Finland) has succeeded Hugo Eberhardt (TUV Austria) as CEOC's President. CEOC will hold its 2012 General Assembly in Madrid from 12-15 May. For further information please visit the CEOC website at www.ceoc.com.

New Members & Admin Update

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Neil Hopkins has returned to the IFIA Council as Bureau Veritas' second representative.

New Members

P T Carsurin (Indonesia) and Control Quality Inspecoes, Analises e Servico s Ltda (Brazil) were admitted to IFIA as 'C' members, with effect from 1 July 2011. For more information about these companies, please visit their websites at www.carsurin.com and www.controlquality.com.br respectively.

Administration Update

Council Membership - Following the purchase of Inspectorate by Bureau Veritas, Inspectorate has ceased to be an independent member of IFIA and Neil Hopkins, Inspectorate's CEO, left the IFIA Council. He has now returned as Bureau Veritas' second representative.

Amendment to IFIA membership selection process - IFIA's Council has decided to give up its theoretical discretion over the selection of new members, and will be recommending to members that they approve a change to IFIA's Articles of Association to this effect at the AGM in December.

Government controlled companies and IFIA membership – At its meeting in Chicago in June, IFIA's Council decided to investigate whether there are conditions under which it would be beneficial to the interests of members to allow government controlled bodies to join IFIA. IFIA is currently investigating the extent to which it could require government controlled bodies to influence their governments to open up any monopolies from which they benefit within an agreed timescale in return for IFIA membership. We welcome any views (or questions) on this proposal that members may have. Please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org for further information.

New IFIA logo- the new IFIA logo is now registered as an EU Community Collective mark and we are looking into appropriate forms of registration in other territories. Please contact hre@ifia-federation.org for further information about the ways in which members can use the new logo.

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Accreditation Committee	8 September, London
Agricultural Committee	14 September, London
CEN/CENELEC TC1	15 September, Brussels
Compliance Committee	15 September, London
Legal Committee	16 September, London
ISO General Assembly	21-23 September, New Delhi
Government Services Committee	29 September, Paris
Food Committee	5 October, Stuttgart
ANEC Chemicals Conference	5 October, Brussels
CASCO Plenary Meetings	6-7 October, Geneva
CASCO WG 32	10-12 October, Geneva
ISO/IEC World Standards Day	14 October
EA Advisory Board	20 October, Brussels
Electrical Products Safety Conference	26 October, London
Petroleum AAE RT Committee	27 October, London
ILAC/IAF Annual Meetings	2-11 November, Bangkok
Petroleum Committee	3 November, London
FOSFA Annual Dinner	3 November, Milan
GAFTA Dinner	15 November, Geneva
CASCO WG 33	24-25 November, Geneva
IFIA Council	1 December, Cologne
IFIA AGM	1 December, Cologne
FOSFA Oils & Fats Dinner	1 December, London
CASCO WG 30	5-7 December, Geneva
WCO Capacity Building Committee	27 Feb-2 March 2012, Brussels
CEOC General Assembly	12-15 May 2012, Madrid