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In certain circumstances government owned or controlled bodies will be granted associated membership of IFIA.

## Message from the President

Some significant decisions were made at the IFIA Council meeting held in late November. The first, an agreement to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with CEOC International (Confédération Européene des Organismes de Contrôle, d'Inspection et de Prévention), marks a landmark in the project to work towards closer collaboration between our two bodies. Brussels-based CEOC operates across Europe and was established with a primary emphasis on safety and regulatory inspection. IFIA, by contrast, operates globally and has a wider focus. The Memorandum of Understanding will allow each organisation to become an affiliate of the other, without subscription or voting rights. Where and when it is considered valuable, the two organisations will operate together through joint committees or other co-ordinated activities.

The Council has also agreed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Supervisors and Controllers Association of Brazil (ASCB), under which ASCB will have Affiliated Body status with IFIA. ASCB has made membership of IFIA a precondition for its own members, which include both local branches of the international inspection companies and certain local Brazilian companies.

IFIA has additionally decided that in certain circumstances government owned or controlled bodies will be granted Associated Membership of IFIA. Details of how this membership will operate will be issued shortly.

These developments reflect the aims of IFIA to defend the interests of its members by watching over and monitoring the introduction of new standards and regulations affecting them, by introducing guidelines and bulletins where they are needed and by strengthening the footprint of IFIA in order to increase its influence.

Richard Nelson, President, IFIA

#### The Director General's Report

I am pleased to announce that Council has re-elected Richard Nelson as President of IFIA for a further two year period. Membership Renewal Declaration Forms have been sent to Member Representatives. Members should be aware that significant changes have been made to the structure of the forms. Members should be alert to this, since submissions of updated 'old format forms' will not be accepted. The Renewal Forms have been updated to reflect IFIA's revised membership requirements (Council Regulation 1). Council Regulation 1 is available on the IFIA website at www.ifia-federation.org .

Roger Brockway, Director General (roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org)

# Committee Updates

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The findings of the 2012 CIPC Product Safety Survey again show extensive failures in products put on the European market without third party testing.

#### Agriculture

Two Bulletins have recently been issued by the Agricultural Committee and are available on the IFIA website. The first of these deals with Phytosanitary Certificates and recommends that IFIA members should avoid issuing these. However if customer requirements dictate that the Member must issue such a certificate, the Bulletin contains wording for inclusion in the certificate which is designed to give some protection to the Member. The second Bulletin deals with circumstances under which IFIA Members are requested to state that goods are 'Sound, Loyal and Merchantable', a statement that has no clear definition. Work continues in relation to the introduction of the Agricultural Inspector Certification scheme on line. It is anticipated this scheme will go live as soon as the Petroleum Committee has satisfactorily completed testing of its on line inspector examination scheme. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact <a href="https://linearchantable">https://linearchantable</a> and are available on the total the deals with Phytosanitary Certificates and recommends that IFIA members should be designed to state that goods are 'Sound, Loyal and Merchantable', a statement that has no clear definition. Work continues in relation to the introduction of the Agricultural Inspector Certification scheme on line. It is anticipated this scheme will go live as soon as the Petroleum Committee has satisfactorily completed testing of its on line inspector examination scheme. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact <a href="https://linearchantable">https://linearchantable</a> activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact <a href="https://linearchantable">https://linearchantable</a> activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact <a href="https://linearchantable">https://linearchantable</a> activities of the Agricultural Committee please contact <a href="https://linearchantable">http

#### Consumer and Industrial Products (CIPC)

Following completion of the 2012 CIPC European Product Safety Study, CIPC Chair Gitte Schjøtz presented the results at the CEOC Safety Seminar in Brussels on 6<sup>th</sup> November. The results of the survey strongly support the findings of surveys conducted in the previous two years. The results show extensive safety failures in products put on the European market without third party testing and highlight the weakness of the self-declaration of conformity process. CIPC members have agreed to approach identified key influencers with the intention of emphasising the greater efficacy of third party testing when compared with self declaration of conformity. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the CIPC please contact maarten.vanderdussen@ifia-federation.org.

#### **Government Services**

The CBCA (Consignment Based Conformity Assessment) Code is available on the IFIA website and it has been agreed that 2013 will be the first year when members' CBCA programmes will be subject to external audit. If your organisation is involved with CBCA, compliance with the Code and external audit is mandatory for IFIA members. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Government Services Committee, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

#### **Industrial Services**

Following a meeting of this Committee in September, it was agreed that closer co-operation with CEOC would be beneficial for members of this Committee and ways in which this can be enacted are currently under investigation. The impact of the new Shell supplier qualification system is also being considered by this Committee. If you would like further information regarding the proposed activities of the Industrial Services Committee, please contact roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org.

#### **Metals and Minerals**

A sub-group of the Metals and Minerals Committee continues to work on issues relating to sampling and the reporting of results. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Metals and Minerals Committee, please contact <a href="reger.brockway@ifia-federation.org">reger.brockway@ifia-federation.org</a>.

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IFIA membership requirements now include a Health and Safety Programme requirement.

#### Petroleum

The Petroleum Committee is in the process of moving the Petroleum Inspector Certification programme on line. Testing is expected to be completed shortly, with an all on line bookings and test system functioning globally in early 2013. The Committee is in the process of collecting member safety data, with a view to the possible future production of an industry safety benchmark. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Petroleum and Petrochemicals Committee, please contact <a href="mailto:paul.harrison@melvcon.co.uk">paul.harrison@melvcon.co.uk</a>.

#### Legal

IFIA membership requirements have been reviewed and updated by this Committee and now include a Health and Safety programme requirement. If you would like further information regarding the activities of the Legal Committee, please contact <a href="mailto:hre@ifia-federation.org">hre@ifia-federation.org</a>.

#### Compliance

The Compliance Committee has reviewed the annual Compliance Reporting by members, and has overseen the changes introduced to the IFIA Guidelines on Implementation of the Compliance Code. The new Guidelines apply to members' compliance reports for the year 2012. For further information regarding the activities of the Compliance Committee please contact <a href="https://prescription.org">https://prescription.org</a>.

#### Accreditation

IFIA has now taken up its seat on the EA Advisory Board, with Director General Roger Brockway as the representative. The Advisory Board brings together the European Commission, consumer representatives, and colleges representing European governments, European industry and the conformity assessment industry. The IFIA Accreditation Committee is working in close collaboration with CEOC on matters relating to ILAC, IAF ad ISO/CASCO. Please see Market Intelligence below for the latest status of the relevant working groups and standards. If you would like further details regarding the activities of the Accreditation Committee, please contact <a href="mailto:roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org">roger.brockway@ifia-federation.org</a>.

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## Market Intelligence

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The ILAC MRA has been extended to include inspection bodies.

#### Market Intelligence

ISO/CASCO – The 28<sup>th</sup> ISO/CASCO plenary meeting took place in October 2012. IFIA was represented at this meeting. The ISO Survey of Certifications 2011 has recently been published and this was used as a resource by IFIA in a recent Council review of the Management System Certification market. See www.iso.org for further details.

Guides 28 and 53 - A new work item proposal has been agreed to revise Guides 28 and 53, which opened for ballot on 14 November 2012. The ballot closes on 1 February 2013 and if the decision is positive the revision will be carried out by WG 32. IFIA is represented on WG 32.

WG 21 (revision of ISO/IEC 17021:2011) held its first meeting in Geneva in November 2012. Both the scope of the revision and the clauses for revision have been identified.

WG 29 (revision of ISO/IEC Guide 65). Following approval, ISO/IEC 17065: Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies certifying products, processes and services was published in October 2012 . There is a three year transition period for accreditation. Guidance is available on the new standard from ISO.

WG 30 (common terminology related to competency of persons) – This group is developing a Technical Specification (TS) and held its second meeting in December 2012 at which over 300 comments were reviewed. The group will meet again in February.

WG 32 (revision of ISO/IEC Guide 67) –The ballot for the Draft International Standard (DIS) closed in December and the document was approved. Ballot results and comments will be addressed in February 2013.

WG 34 (ISO/IEC TS 17021, Part 2, environmental management systems) – A new technical specification was issued in September 2012.

WG 35 (ISO/IEC TS 17021, Part 3, quality management systems) – The ballot for the Draft Technical Specification (DTS) has now closed and the document was approved. Comments on the DTS will be addressed at a meeting of the working group in January 2013.

WG 36 (Revision of ISO/TS 22003, food safety management systems) – Four sub groups have been formed and a new base document was circulated to the whole working group for comment in September 2012. Work is ongoing particularly in relation to the competence of auditors. It is expected a DTS will be submitted to ISO members for ballot later in 2013.

WG 37 (ISO/IEC TS 17023, audit duration in management system certification) – The working group consultation ended in August and collected comments were addressed at a meeting in December 2012. The document will advance to the DTS stage and a three-month ballot is expected to open in February 2013.

IAF/ILAC – The IAF/ILAC 2012 annual meeting s took place in October. IFIA was represented at the key meetings by Director General Roger Brockway. The ILAC Multilateral Recognition Arrangement (MRA) was extended to include the accreditation of inspection bodies. ILAC has published four brochures relating to the accreditation of inspection bodies. For more information please visit the ILAC website at <a href="https://www.ilac.org">www.ilac.org</a>.

CEOC - The 3<sup>rd</sup> CEOC Safety Seminar took place on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012, with an emphasis on the safety of consumer products and industrial installations. All presentations from this seminar can be downloaded from the CEOC website. CEOC has also introduced a position paper relating to the added value of 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspection and certification. For further information please visit the CEOC website at www.ceoc.com. CEOC's annual conference and assembly will take place in London from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

# Membership and Admin Update

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## Membership

A number of companies are engaged in the application process for IFIA membership and a further increase is anticipated during 2013. At the November 2012 Council meeting approval was given to develop new rules for Associated Members of IFIA. This category of membership may be offered to government owned or controlled bodies under these rules.

### **Administration Update**

Presidency – Council has unanimously approved Richard Nelson's continuation as President of IFIA for a further two year term of office.

Associated Members and Affiliates - Since the Associated Member category of IFIA membership is now to be designated for Government TIC organisations (under the safeguards to be included in the rules) other representative organisations that have previously been able to participate in IFIA as Associated Members, will now be able to participate as Affiliates instead. The only example from the past is the IFIA Americas Committee which will transfer from being an Associated Member to become an Affiliate. It will be joined by CEOC and the ASCB (see Message from the President above).



New IFIA rules for Associated Membership are under development.

# Upcoming Events

#### Upcoming Events - please note all IFIA events are shown in blue

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IFIA Accreditation Committee

IFIA Agricultural Committee

IFIA Legal Committee

IFIA Compliance Committee

ISO/CASCO WG 32

**IFIA CIP Committee** 

FOSFA Grain and Oilseeds Summit

IFIA Government Services Committee

IFIA Petroleum Committee

FOSFA Oils and Fats Market Update

**EA Advisory Board** 

**CEOC** Annual Conference

IFIA Council Meeting

ISO/CASCO Plenary Meetings

ILAC/IAF Conference

IFIA Council Meeting and AGM

15 January, Paris

23 January, London

25 January, Geneva

25 January, Geneva

6-8 February, Geneva

25 February, Crystal City, VA

6-7 March, Casablanca

6 March, Geneva

26 March (date and venue tbc)

3-4 April, Kiev

18 April, Brussels

11-14 May, London

27 June, London

7-11 October, Beijing

16-25 October, Seoul

10 December, Cologne