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FIATA SECRETARIAT Media Information

FIATA provides Container Weight Verification toolkit

At the FIATA Multimodal Transport Institute held in Taipei on 12th September 2015, Chairman Robert Keen announced to delegates an initiative by the Working Group Sea to provide all FIATA Members with a comprehensive guide to the changes due in July 2016 when the verification of container weights becomes mandatory.

The changes to the SOLAS Convention (Safety of Life at Sea) were agreed at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in 2014 and the implications have been considered in detail by the FIATA Working Group Sea at their regular meetings.

The toolkit is a guidance document covering the background to the changes and an overview of the new legislative requirements. There is a detailed analysis of various contractual scenarios when the forwarder transacts with shipping lines or with other parties and it concludes with a "next steps" section giving helpful advice to FIATA Members in dealing with stakeholders in their own countries.

Robert Keen commented "I am grateful to Working Group Chair, Jens Roemer, and his advisors for their hard work and diligence in producing such a detailed repository of information on the changes to SOLAS. I believe the toolkit will enable each Association Member to prepare the global industry for the massive changes due next year"

FIATA Members can download the SOLAS guidance from the FIATA Document Delivery System (FDDS) in the General Information section.

Note for the editors

FIATA, the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations, was founded in Vienna, Austria on May 31st 1926. It is a non-governmental organisation that today represents an industry covering approximately 40,000 forwarding and logistics firms, employing around 10 million people in 158 countries. FIATA has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (inter alia ECE, ESCAP, ESCWA, etc.), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as well as many other UN related bodies, e.g. the World Bank. It is recognised as representing the freight forwarding industry by many other governmental organisations, governmental authorities, private international organisations in the field of transport and logistics, such as the European Commission (through CLECAT), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Union of Railways (UIC), the International Road Transport Union (IRU), the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), etc.

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