



## Mandatory Container Weight Verification

Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) is instituting a mandatory container weight verification requirement on shippers. The requirement making container weight verification a condition for vessel loading will become legally binding on July 1, 2016.

Method No.1: Upon the conclusion of packing and sealing a container, the shipper may weigh, or have arranged that a third party weighs, the packed container.

Method No.2: The shipper (*or, by arrangement of the shipper, a third party*), may weigh all packages and cargo items, including the mass of pallets, dunnage and other packing and securing material to be packed in the container, and add the tare mass of the container to the sum of the single masses using a certified method. Any third party that has performed some or all of the packing of the container should inform the shipper of the mass of the cargo items and packing and securing material that the party has packed into the container in order to facilitate the shipper's verification of the gross mass of the packed container under Method No.2. As required by SOLAS, the shipper should ensure that the verified gross mass of the container is provided sufficiently in advance of vessel loading. How such information is to be communicated between the shipper and any third party should be agreed between the commercial parties involved.

The latter method amounts to the average pack weight. It should also be possible to use Paltrack or Agri-Hub data. Note that the tare container mass may be incorrect if there is damage to the container, allowing moisture to accumulate in the insulation.

Contact: Andy Connell



### **Reefer Container Research Articles**

Quest II produce quality research overview  
Quest II: Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions of Reefer Containers  
Transportation of Fresh Produce  
Container Temperature Control

To obtain these articles, contact: Richard Hurndall

### **Cold Sterilisation - Nigeria**

A process of monitoring whether Nigerian officials were taking records of instrumentation was underway. It was important to provide feedback of this to PPECB. If there were no checks by the Nigerians, PPECB would move a process of 2 portable probes, after which they would migrate to the Reunion process which is easier, takes less time and is more cost-effective.

Contact: Bernard Henning (bernardh@ppecb.com)

### **PPECB Act**

The Act was reported to be an improvement on the old one in that the previous one catered for the single channel marketing system. There is a strong focus on the cold chain, as well as transformation. The new Act makes provision for the use of technology and data bases. Board governance issues need to be dealt with, and clarification is still needed on BEE requirements.

Contact: Andy Connell

### **Inter Pera**

This European based international pear congress will be held in South Africa from 16 – 18 November 2016.

Contact: Jacques du Preez



**PAG Disciplines and coordinators**

Please contact the relevant person if you have any queries regarding the PAG.

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