

Hazchem & Liquid Bulk 2022 witnesses captivating & focused deliberation among experts & professionals across verticals

MUMBAI:

A TOP-NOTCH line-up of speakers, panelists, subject experts and trainers facilitated a riveting programme at Exim India's Hazchem & Liquid Bulk 2022 at **Hotel Sahara Star, Jade Ballroom, Mumbai on Friday, July 22, 2022.**

One of the most comprehensive events in recent times on the handling, storage and transportation of hazardous goods and liquid bulk cargo, it had a full house engrossed in deliberations on the multiple facets of the cargo sectors in focus, which was enabled by an exchange of pertinent views and thought-provoking expert opinion by the entire spectrum of stakeholders - from logistics service providers, manufacturers/shippers, to policy facilitators and trainers. **Safety, sustainability and the need for training was the underlying emphasis at the event, which had the theme 'Changing Trends in Hazchem Handling & Transportation - Challenges & the Way Ahead'.**



Among the elite line-up of participants were (from left) Mr R. Gopal, Dr Sukumar Devotta, Mr Unmesh Sharad Wagh (IRS), Mr Mukesh Oza and Mr Shrinivas Mokashi

Training Session

Given that enhancing knowledge and awareness was one of the aims of the event, it kicked off on the right note with a training session by **Mr Shashi Kallada, Consultant & Trainer - Dangerous Goods By Rail, Road, River and Sea, on 'New Developments & Safety Standards in HAZCHEM Cargo Movement'.** Attendees listened in rapt attention as Mr Kallada elucidated on the steps to be taken for the safe transportation of haz cargo, the responsibilities of the stakeholders, the criticality of training, and the importance of knowing the IMDG Code in detail. He elaborated on the 9 classes of the Code, emphasising that it is intended to provide for the safe transportation of hazardous materials by vessels, protect crew members and prevent

marine pollution.

He also talked about the calls for urgent reform to stem the increasing number of container-related incidents caused by poorly stowed, undeclared or mis-declared dangerous cargoes. The industry has been asked to adopt a comprehensive, holistic and coordinated approach to address this worrying trend. Mr Kallada dwelt in detail on the steps for transporting dangerous goods - hazard communication; responsibilities of shipper, packer, carrier; non-compliance; inspection; comprehensive holistic approach to safety; adoption of Hazcheck Detect; risk-based stowage; Cargo Incident Notification System (CINS); CTU code; safe transport of dangerous cargoes and related activities in port areas, etc.



Mr Shashi Kallada

Inaugural Session



The Inaugural Session was graced by (from left) Mr R. Gopal, Dr Sukumar Devotta, Mr Unmesh Sharad Wagh (IRS), Mr Mukesh Oza and Mr Shrinivas Mokashi

The Inaugural Session saw some leading lights set the tone for the event with their insightful views.



Mr Mukesh Oza

Mr Mukesh Oza, Group President & CEO, Samsara Group, in his Welcome Address and Theme Presentation, stressed, among other things, on the need for a robust system, with responsibility shared by all stakeholders, for the handling and movement of haz cargo. There should be no short-cuts, he said. He pointed out the importance of chemicals in human life and how safety measures while handling hazardous chemicals were critical. The chemical industry is poised to grow by leaps and bounds in the coming decades, which puts the responsibility on the shoulders of the people handling such cargo about giving correct information to stakeholders. He also touched upon the environmental issue and said that protecting it should be the responsibility of everybody.



Mr R. Gopal



Mr Shrinivas Mokashi

Mr R. Gopal, Managing Director, Goodrich Group, called for increased focus on safety, sustainability and due diligence. He emphasised the fact that no untrained person should ever handle hazardous chemicals and that training should be imparted to one and all dealing with dangerous goods. He also asked for the support of trade bodies like FFFAI, MANSA, etc. in ensuring proper training for those involved with hazardous chemicals.

Mr Shrinivas Mokashi, Chairman, CHEMEXCIL, the Guest of Honour, too emphasised on safety, pointing out that

though it might entail additional investment, it was very important. He also made the point that Indian ports do not have very advanced procedures for handling such cargo. He informed the audience that India's chemical industry has exceeded the export targets and will continue to grow, and called for commencing training programmes at chemical industry hubs. This is also important with regard to safety and sustainability of the environment.

Dr Sukumar Devotta, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur, who was also a Guest of Honour, said that haz cargo was not just restricted to flammable,

it could be toxic and even environmentally hazardous. People who are used to chemicals think they can handle them. That is when complacency sets in. He also stressed on following all the safety standards and guidelines. When dealing with chemicals and hazardous goods, learn from experience but not from accidents, he emphasised. It is important to know if two chemicals are compatible or non-compatible, he pointed out. He also referred to new chemicals coming into the picture like refrigerants and the need to be very careful about their handling.

Mr Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, Deputy Chairman, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, the Chief Guest, said that the main cause of accidents was human

negligence and not following the SOPs. JN Port handles all the classes of haz cargo and has multiple safety precautions in place. He pointed out that training was not a problem at Jawaharlal Nehru Port as it has a well-established training facility in collaboration with a leading foreign port. He invited the industry to come with training collaboration proposals and assured all possible help and cooperation from JNPA.



Dr Sukumar Devotta



Mr Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS

First Technical Session



Participants in the First Technical Session were (from left) Mr Tharun Loganathan, Mr Vikas Singhal, Capt. Pankaj Mehrotra, Mr Haresh Lalwani, Mr Ashish Sheth, Mr Mayur Kapasi, Mr Dhruv Bansal and Mr R. K. Rubin

The First Technical Session, on '**Best Global practices in safe handling of DG & HAZCHEM cargo**', was brilliantly moderated by **Mr Haresh Lalwani, MD, Sun Logistics**, with the eminent panelists adeptly elaborating on the multiple aspects of the topics in focus.

Mr Haresh Lalwani set the pace by his lucid presentation, clear grasp of the topic and focused questioning to seek answers. He said that hazardous materials are an important part of the national and global economy and shippers & consignees expect a safe, efficient and reliable transport system. Implementing the best global practices is very important and a proper understanding of the IMDG Code is essential to avoid hazards. The discussion & deliberation is on the global approach towards handling haz cargo and the necessary measures and practices that India needs to adopt while handling such cargo.



Mr Haresh Lalwani

the critical job of road tanker & ISO tank container cleaning, maintenance & repairs. Strategically located near JN Port, the state-of-the-art facility is operated at par with international standards, he said. Talking about the competition in this segment, he said there is scope for everybody given the growth in the chemical industry. But quality comes at a cost, he stressed, adding that the processes need to be enhanced.

Mr Ashish Sheth, Director, CKB Group of Companies,

emphasised the need to provide proper training to the person handling hazardous chemicals. The industry needs to support this as it is in their own interest in the long term. The proper handling of dangerous cargo will also ensure the protection of the environment, which is a must for the coming generations. There should be self-regulation in this regard otherwise the government will be forced to intervene.

Mr R. K. Rubin, MD, Transcon Freight System Pvt. Ltd, said that the transportation of hazardous chemicals is a serious business and should be taken care of very rigorously, especially the critical things. He emphasised that the entire chain from shippers to freight forwarders to transporters will have to take responsibility collectively without pointing fingers at each other.



Mr R. K. Rubin

Mr Dhruv Bansal, Assistant General Manager-Operations, MSC Agency (India) Pvt. Ltd, highlighted the importance of learning among the people working in the sector and companies building a system that minimises human error. The documentation must



Mr Dhruv Bansal



Mr Vikas Singhal

very important and it should not be taken as a cost but in the spirit of providing efficient service to the client.

Capt. Pankaj Mehrotra, Director, Zodiac Tank Container Terminals Pvt. Ltd, highlighted that Zodiac is the leading professionally operated, Pollution Control Board-approved & ISO-certified facility in India carrying out



Capt. Pankaj Mehrotra

be perfect for haz cargo, otherwise down the chain someone will point fingers at you. It is not easy and there is the element of cost, but every client and service provider should follow the right processes, he said.



Mr Tharun Loganathan

Mr Tharun Loganathan, General Manager - SCM, Aquapharm Chemicals Pvt. Ltd, talked about the satisfaction level of manufacturers/shippers with the service providers. He admitted that it cannot be a hundred per cent but he was certainly partially satisfied and would

like to see the manager at the ground level being empowered.

Mr Mayur Kapasi, Head Customs Operations, BASF India Ltd, said that when compared to a country like the US, or the EU, India has some way to go before it can claim parity with global practices. Exporters and importers of hazardous chemicals need to follow the regulations very rigorously. Companies have to understand that safety is very important when one talks about hazardous chemicals, he stressed.



Mr Mayur Kapasi

Interactive Session

Mr Radharaman Panicker, MD, DGM India & Mr Govindarajan Bashyam, Chief Operating Officer, Tirwin Management Services (P) Ltd, conducted a masterful Interactive Session on 'Dangerous Goods Rules & Regulations and Operational Procedures'. Be it their opening remarks or answers to delegate queries, knowledge and awareness were the hallmarks of this session.

Mr Radharaman Panicker stressed that it is up to the shipper/carrier to enforce the requirements; the regulator cannot come and check all the time. He also made the point that sending dangerous goods by courier is not allowed. All the 3 Ministries - Ports & Shipping, Civil Aviation and Road Transport & Highways - need to have an integrated approach towards haz cargo handling, he said.

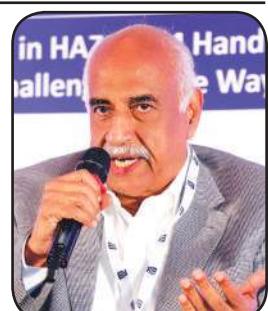


Mr Radharaman Panicker



Mr Radharaman Panicker (left) and Mr Govindarajan Bashyam were part of the Interactive Session

Mr Govindarajan Bashyam emphasised the need to have national regulations for such cargo movement and training, and said that civil aviation is moving towards a competency-based training programme. Training is not just about what is written in the book, it is more than that, he said.



Mr Govindarajan Bashyam



Second Technical Session



The Second Technical Session had as participants (from left) Mr Prashik Rajbhoj, Mr Ashok Goyal, Mr Jayyannt Lapsiaa, Mr Parag Rami, Mr Rajesh Mehta, Ms Kruti Jobanputra, Mr Prashant Popat, Mrs Tejeshri Pingale, Mr Anthony Coelho and Mr Bhavesh Baretha

Another master class in how to moderate a panel discussion was given by **Mr Rajesh Mehta, CCSO & Executive Director, Liladhar Pasoo Group**, during the Second Technical Session, on 'Current Status of HAZCHEM Movement in India & awareness about the Regulatory changes and importance of Training at all levels'.

Mr Rajesh Mehta elaborated on the theme by saying that the transportation of hazchem must be done with proper precision. Right infrastructure, human safety and environment protection must be adhered to, be it with regard to shipping, storage, land movement, or protective gear and equipment. He stressed on the ground issues and challenges faced while handling such cargo and what regulatory measures/policies are required to enhance movement. He also highlighted the growing Indian chemical industry.



Mr Rajesh Mehta

trained logistics professionals.

Mr Jayyannt Lapsiaa, President, All India Liquid Bulk Importers & Exporters Association, pointed out that the rules and regulations were, unfortunately, not for liquid bulk. Liquid bulk is an unorganised sector and training is required for safety. Also, he said that the policy of CBIC is not in sync. He said that 60 per cent of liquid bulk is liquid chemicals, edible oil, etc. and needs to be handled very carefully. However, the situation on the ground was quite the opposite.

Mr Bhavesh Baretha, Commercial Vertical Head for Chemical - South Asia, Maersk India Pvt. Ltd, said that the Indian mentality of 'jugaad' must stop as when it comes into play in any field, the problems start. India was still a developing country and cannot be compared to the developed world. Of course, a lot of technology has come in and things are changing for the better as far as the safety aspect is concerned.



Mr Bhavesh Baretha

Mr Prashant Popat, Director, Velji Dosabhai & Sons Pvt. Ltd, said that the right packaging was very important in the field of hazardous chemicals and should be given due weightage. There are no shortcuts in packaging and it is important to classify haz cargo properly.



Mr Prashant Popat

Mr Parag Rami, Associate General Manager-Export Logistics, Sumitomo Chemical India Ltd, called for a proper framework for the storage and transportation of haz cargo. Being in the field of insecticide and pesticide manufacturing, he advised to always follow the SOPs. Safety is priority for his company which has a robust monitoring system on a daily basis with reviews held regularly, he pointed out.



Mr Parag Rami

Mr Anthony Coelho, VP-HR, Training & Assessments, Logistics Sector Skill Council, stressed on the need for multimodal skills, emphasising that skilled manpower is a necessity for all companies. He highlighted the measures taken by the government and Logistics Sector Skill Council to impart the requisite skill sets and create well-

Mr Ashok Goyal, MD, BLR Logistik (I) Ltd, said that 85 per cent of the transport business comprises smaller players and that is a major problem. As far as his company is concerned, it has taken elaborate steps to enhance safety by providing amenities to drivers. For instance, drivers on payroll, only 7 hours plus 1-hour work, a control tower monitoring them, etc. They are given 30 minutes of rest after four hours and there



Mr Ashok Goyal

is no driving of haz cargo between 11 and 5. These measures have improved safety. The company also provides training to drivers and has a driving manual.

Ms Kruti Jobanputra, Director, JWC Logistics Group, said her company has taken a number of measures to enhance safety. She stressed that training is very important as is practical experience. There should be a basic understanding of the specific requirements of cargo. As a service provider, her company takes care of all this and more to maintain safety standards.

Mr Prashik Rajbhoj, Assistant Manager – Export, Privi Speciality Chemicals



Mr Prashik Rajbhoj

Ltd, said that his company manufactures chemicals and hence takes every care in the book to ensure the safety of hazardous cargo. For instance, it demands specific tanks and also checks the inside of the tanks. Full SOP is followed before exports.

Mrs Tejeshri Pingale, Manager-Product Stewardship - India, Clariant Chemicals (India) Ltd – A Heubach Company, made the point that hazardous chemicals being shipped is the company's responsibility. Some try to hide the product, but they need to be educated and asked to follow SOPs. The company has a Transport Safety Advisor at every site, she pointed out.



Mrs Tejeshri Pingale

Felicitations

The occasion also saw a few well-deserved felicitations:

CHEMEXCIL



For dedicated service to the Chemicals Export Trade

Dr Sukumar Devotta, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur



For his notable work in the area of environment protection & climate change

Goodrich Maritime Pvt. Ltd



For setting high standards of service in the ISO tank logistics business

Mr Jayyannt Lapsiaa, President, All India Liquid Bulk Importers & Exporters Association



For his notable contribution to the growth of India's International Liquid Bulk Trade

Mr Haresh Lalwani, MD, Sun Logistics



For making a difference to the Hazardous Cargo Trade through best business practices and training

Zodiac Tank Container Terminals Pvt. Ltd



For its initiative to develop a state-of-the-art world class tank cleaning facility in India

Launch of certification program

The event concluded, as it began, with focus on training and education. Mr Haresh Lalwani, Managing Director of Sun Logistics, somebody with decades of experience and in-depth knowledge on the subject, along with Mr Sidhanth H. Lalwani, Vice President, Sun Logistics, and Mr Anthony Coelho, VP-HR, Training & Assessments, Logistics Sector Skill Council, launched the Certification Program



Mr Sidhanth H. Lalwani, Mr Haresh Lalwani and Mr Anthony Coelho launched the Certification Program – Transporting Dangerous Goods by Sea-IMDG 40-20

– Transporting Dangerous Goods by Sea-IMDG 40-20. An initiative of Sun Logistics in partnership with the Logistics Sector Skill Council, it covers several important aspects pertaining to haz/dangerous cargo handling and transportation.

After an enriching event, it was time to avail of the opportunity to network over drinks and dinner, given that the entire industry was gathered under one roof.

Plaudits from the trade

You have repeatedly established your credibility to conduct highly popular events, which is your style. I am quite impressed with the way you do things and you are getting stronger by the day, about which I am happy. Hazchem related matters are important to our country as we are growing to be a chemical manufacturer for the globe. Keep up your performance for many years to come.

R. K. Rubin, MD, Transcon Freight System Pvt. Ltd.

The topics were very relevant to the industry and the panelists spoke and delivered vital points pertaining to the current status and what we need in future for hazchem logistics.

Shashi Kallada, Consultant & Trainer - Dangerous Goods By Rail, Road, River and Sea

Thank you for the well organised Hazchem 2022 event. It was a pleasure attending this event. Wishing you and your team all the very best in your future endeavours.

Dhruv Bansal, Assistant General Manager-Operations, MSC Agency (India) Pvt. Ltd.

Heartiest congratulations to the Exim team for this great platform with intention to bring the industry closer and be well acquainted with the current trends and updates. The topics discussed in the sessions were very informative and helped us understand different aspects of the shipping industry. Best wishes for many more successful conferences in future.

Umang D. Thakker, Managing Director, Kalash Global Logistics Pvt. Ltd.

Firstly, thanks for making us part of this wonderful event. It was very well organised and gave us insight about the pain areas faced from shipper to LSP.

Tejeshri Pingale, Manager-Product Stewardship-India, Clariant Chemicals (India) Limited – A Heubach Company

Plaudits from the trade

Thanks to the Exim team for organising such a wonderful event!

Prashant Pachigar, Sales Manager, Trans Asian Shipping Services Pvt. Ltd.

Thanks to your team. The speeches & information on haz related topics of all the respected panelists was very knowledgeable. It was helpful to improve our knowledge & useful in our work.

Prashik Rajbhoj, Assistant Manager – Export, Privi Speciality Chemicals Ltd.

It was nice to attend the conference.

Dushyant Desai, General Manager – Projects, Premier Global Logistics Ltd.



Thank you...

Event Partners, Speakers, Panelists & Delegates
For Making Hazchem 2022 - An International Conference a Grand Success !!!

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