



Mumbai: EXIM Integrated Club (EIC) conducted a seminar on “HAZMAT & Related Port Operations” at Maritime Training Institute, Powai followed by high tea on October 1, 2022 - as part of their Mission & Vision of sharing & spreading information, knowledge, guidance amongst all stakeholders of EXIM trade. All the participants were awarded a “Certificate of Participation” & goody bags with a few tokens of appreciation. Full event video is available on www.eximintegratedclub.com for members to refer to.

Dangerous goods have been a major cause of accidents by fire & explosions on board vessels – mostly due to mis-declaration of goods - resulting in loss of human life, huge damages to the vessel, environment (oceans & seas), and the fragile marine ecosystems around the world. EIC through this seminar appealed to the entire EXIM trade - “No shipment is valuable than human life! Understand, follow, and strictly always implement Correct Dangerous Goods Handling Practices & Procedures.”



Mr Nirav Thakkar

Mr Nirav Thakkar welcomed the audience, thanked all sponsors for their exceptional support in making this a successful event. He introduced the Chief Guest Capt. Som Raj – Principal, Maritime Training Institute, Mr Shashi Kallada, Mr Jaffrin Rodrigues and asked Mr Nimish Desai to introduce Exim Integrated Club.

Mr Nimish Desai, Advisor of EIC Mumbai, introduced Exim Integrated Club stating while there are various associations heading various category of stakeholders only for the owners, EIC is a unique platform where both individuals as well as owners are members. EIC has grown from a humble beginning of 30+ members to 2,000+ on pan India basis with focus on “Sharing of Knowledge,



Mr Jeffrin Rodrigues & Mr Shashi Kallada

Information, Contacts, Guidance and supporting Social Causes directly as well as by participating in Sports supporting Social Causes”. Starting from 2016 till date, EIC has been at the forefront in getting great speakers, trainers on its forum to educate trade members & professionals consistently.

He urged members of the trade to join Exim Integrated Club for an All-Industry overview and support whose registration is free.

Registration Link for Exim Integrated Club : https://eximintegratedclub.com/club_registration
Mr Jeffrin Rodrigues, an active EIC member and specialist in

Dangerous Goods Handling, who was first to introduce a dedicated “HAZ Desk” at NYK Line, gave a detailed explanation on the importance of understanding Dangerous Goods, their Compliance, Handling, Labelling, Packing, Placarding, Segregation which is “most critical as well as crucial in safeguarding life & materials”.



Mr Nimish Desai

He stressed how misdeclaration of goods by shippers has resulted in a spate of fires & explosions on various ships, causing loss of life and huge damages to the vessel owners and shipping lines.

Mr Shashi Kallada, an eminent trainer par excellence, mesmerised the audience with his easy to connect subject to daily chores approach. He started by showing various products like “Wet Wipes Tissues, Cigarette Lighters, Matchbox, Water Bottles and Leather Shoe”, asking to identify if they are “Dangerous Goods”. He then went on to explain in quite detail how each one is Hazardous and Non-Hazardous within their own capacity, in combination with Non-Compatible & Compatible Products (goods), thereby laying the foundation for importance of Segregation.



Mr Srikant Bhagavatula

Explaining further on the importance of Compatibility-based Segregation, Emergency Rescue Guide (EMG 2020), Flash Point, CAS No., EMS Guide – Emergency Response Procedures for Ships etc., to be specifically mentioned for quick reference in handling accidents on high seas. Currently shippers are responsible & legally liable for the repercussions; however, he cautioned that it’s under active consideration to make Consolidators, Freight Forwarders, NVOCCs, Tank Operators also equally liable. So all stakeholders should get their Teams thoroughly trained on Dangerous Goods Handling to ensure compliance to Safety of Life & Property of all stakeholders in particular and the public in general who will be directly or indirectly exposed to these hazards.

Free Reference Guides by Mr Shashi Kallada!

A most comprehensive guide & knowledge base about Hazardous Goods handling. <https://shashikallada.com/>
ERG 2020 - PHMSA's 2020 Emergency Response Guidebook provides first responders with a go-to resource to help deal with hazmat accidents during the critical first 30 minutes. Link: <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/erg/erg2020-english>

Let’s ask ourselves? Is the value of your shipment worth it to cause such huge devastation? It is our collective moral responsibility towards fellow humans to care for their safety; even they have families and children!

Mr Srikant Bhagavatula, Secretary EIC, building on Mr Shashi Kallada, explained EIC’s efforts in helping & supporting drivers during the pandemic-imposed lockdown.

Nearly 2,000+ drivers & attendants were stuck at various

parking lots in and around JNCH due to the sudden lockdown imposed by the government. EIC Core Team, and donations from EIC members on pan India basis, procured, packed food packets, and distributed for 45 days until the lockdown was lifted and vehicles were allowed on the roads.

He further urged the audience – based on simplified explanation of Dangerous Goods by Mr Shashi Kallada - to start understanding and their (DG Cargo) identification from all products – Non-Compatible Hazardous Goods in close proximity – being used by self and at home. “Like Charity, Dangerous Goods Education Starts at Home!”

Summary of Important Points

1. Acceptance of Dangerous Goods on any Carrier (Rail, Road, Sea and Air) is a MUNICIPAL AFFAIR. Local Rules will always Override IMDG Code
2. Filling of “Dangerous Goods Declaration” is purely the Shipper’s Responsibility.
3. In case of CONSOL, the Liability is on Consolidator to check compatibility of all cargoes (DG & Non-DG) and ensure no challenges arise during its entire transit.
4. Appoint trained & qualified person to handle DG desk or use external services. This job permits “ZERO ERROR”
5. Approval Code provided by Carrier is restricted to A PARTICULAR VOYAGE & Re-applied if Container Rolls-Over or Missed Sailing or Connection.
6. It is MANDATORY to secure the acceptance of all {Points of Handing} on the entire stretch.
7. Very important to ensure Good, Safe packaging, Placarding, Labelling of cargo with CORRECT Stickers, Marks. Always ensure Clear Visibility.
8. For Multiple Dangerous goods, always ensure to refer the Segregation table for seamless operation.

Mr Viren Dayal, a Prominent Member, Customs Broker, Teacher-cum-trainer on Customs Clearance Rules, Regulations, Compliance Procedures, applicable LAW for 20+ years, thanked & praised EIC’s Team for organising this much needed seminar on “Hazardous Goods Handling”. EIC’s activities, reach & range of members is highly commendable. This is the only platform which brings together all stakeholders for effectively supporting, sharing with each other.

EIC encourages & promotes its members to take initiatives. Mr Nirav Thakkar & Ms Sheetal Ahluwalia along with Ms Latha Mayur & Ms Swati Ubale proposed, conceived, organised and executed this event successfully with support from Founder Mr Anand Paranjape, Vice President Mr Shambhu Singh, and Secretary Mr Srikant Bhagavatula. On-premises support extended by EIC members – Mr Pradeep Chavan (Treasurer), Mr Siddhart Sonawane, Mr Milind Kadam, Mr Robin Dharmani, Mr Nikhil Bhilare, Mr Dibakar Kumar, Mr Rajendra Mishra.

The event was sponsored by Gold Sponsor - Team Leader Pvt. Ltd; Silver Sponsors - Galaxy Freight Pvt. Ltd, Ved Universal Shipping Pvt. Ltd, Vishal Shipping Agencies Pvt. Ltd, GRT Global Logistics Pvt. Ltd, Corvette Shipping Pvt. Ltd & Navio Shipping Pvt. Ltd. The seminar ended with the vote of thanks, presenting a token of appreciation to all the sponsors followed by Networking High Tea along with Continental & Indian snacks, said a release.

SPONSOR FELICITATION



Team Leader - Ms Rajani Kelkar & team being felicitated by Ms Sheetal Ahluwalia



Galaxy freight- Mr Sitesh Ahuja & team being felicitated by Mr Dibakar Kumar



Ved Universal - Mr Sanjay Rai & team of Ved Universal Pvt. Ltd being felicitated by Ms Swati Ubale



Vishal Shipping - Mr Vishal Thakker & team from Vishal Shipping being felicitated by Ms Latha Mayur



GRT Global - Mr Srikant Bhagavatula accepting the gift on behalf of GRT Global Logistics Pvt. Ltd



Corvette - Mr Shambhu Singh accepting the gift on behalf of Corvette Shipping Pvt. Ltd



Navio - Mr Rakesh Pednekar & team being felicitated by Mr Dibakar Kumar



Mr Nimish Desai felicitating Mr Viren Dayal



EIC Secretary Mr Srikant Bhagavatula felicitating Chief Guest Capt. Som Raj, Principal, Maritime Training Institute



Mr Shashi Kallada being felicitated by EIC Founder Mr Anand Paranjape



Mr Jeffrin Rodrigues being felicitated by EIC Vice President Mr Shambhu Singh, Mr Nirav Thakker, Ms Sheetal Ahluwalia



EIC Core Team with Mr Shashi Kallada