

**REPORT TO
MEMBERS
JANUARY 2026**

**REPRESENTATION
STANDARDS
INSIGHT**

SUCCESS IN 2025

Delivering Safety, Knowledge and Global Influence

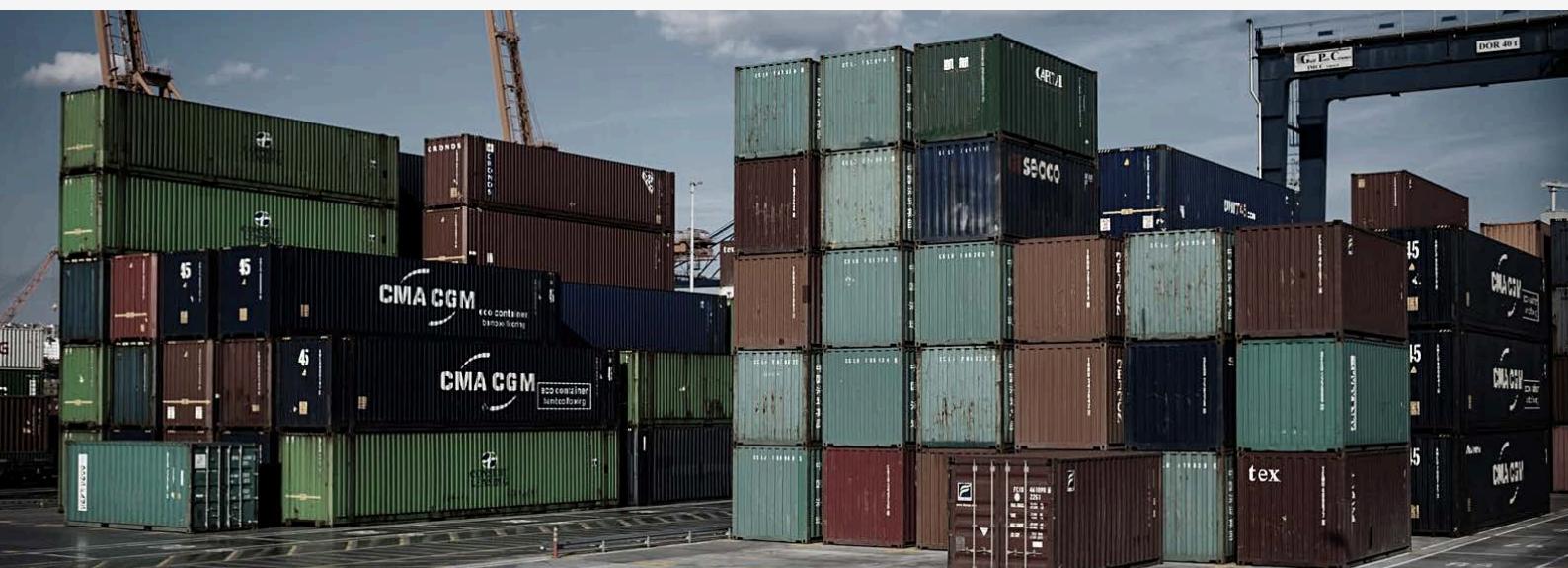
2025 was a year of significant progress across ICHCA's full range of activities. We delivered new tools, strengthened our data insight, expanded our technical guidance and enhanced our global representation.

Innovation and Learning

- Delivered the **2025 TT Club Innovation in Safety Award** and published the accompanying **Awards Digest**, promoting outstanding safety innovation.
- Ran the **Dangerous Goods 2025 Campaign**, reinforcing correct classification, packing, segregation and documentation.
- Released the introduction to **Dangerous Goods Online Learning Module**, expanding access to core dangerous goods training.
- Published the **Hidden Dangerous Goods video**, supporting the detection of undeclared or poorly documented cargo.
- Delivered a strong programme at the **TOC Europe Safety Village in Rotterdam**.

Technical Guidance and Operational Tools

- Developed the **Vessel Workplace Inspection Model**, introducing a standardised approach to assessing vessel workspaces for port workers.
- Advanced new guidance on **basic/golden safety rules, dangerous goods awareness and segregation, textile slings**, and other operational topics.



SUCCESS IN 2025

- Published an **EV Fire Infographic**, supporting safe handling of electric vehicles in ports and terminals.

Data, Evidence and Insight

- Expanded the **Fatalities Database and Severe Risks Dashboard**, now documenting over 1,500 high-consequence incidents.
- Published updated fatality analysis confirming **crush-by-cargo** as the leading world-wide high severity risk for port workers.
- Began developing the **Accident Data Sharing and Benchmarking Project**, enabling confidential performance comparison between members.

Representation and International Influence

- Made significant contributions at the **International Maritime Organisation**, including the development of new **Special Provisions for the transport of vehicles on ships** for future inclusion in the IMDG Code.
- Achieved **Category A Liaison status with ISO**, directly influencing new global port/terminal standards, including presenting at the inaugural Shanghai meeting.
- Continued involvement in IMO work on enclosed spaces, CTU Code revision, EV/battery safety and other high-priority topics.



SUCCESS IN 2025

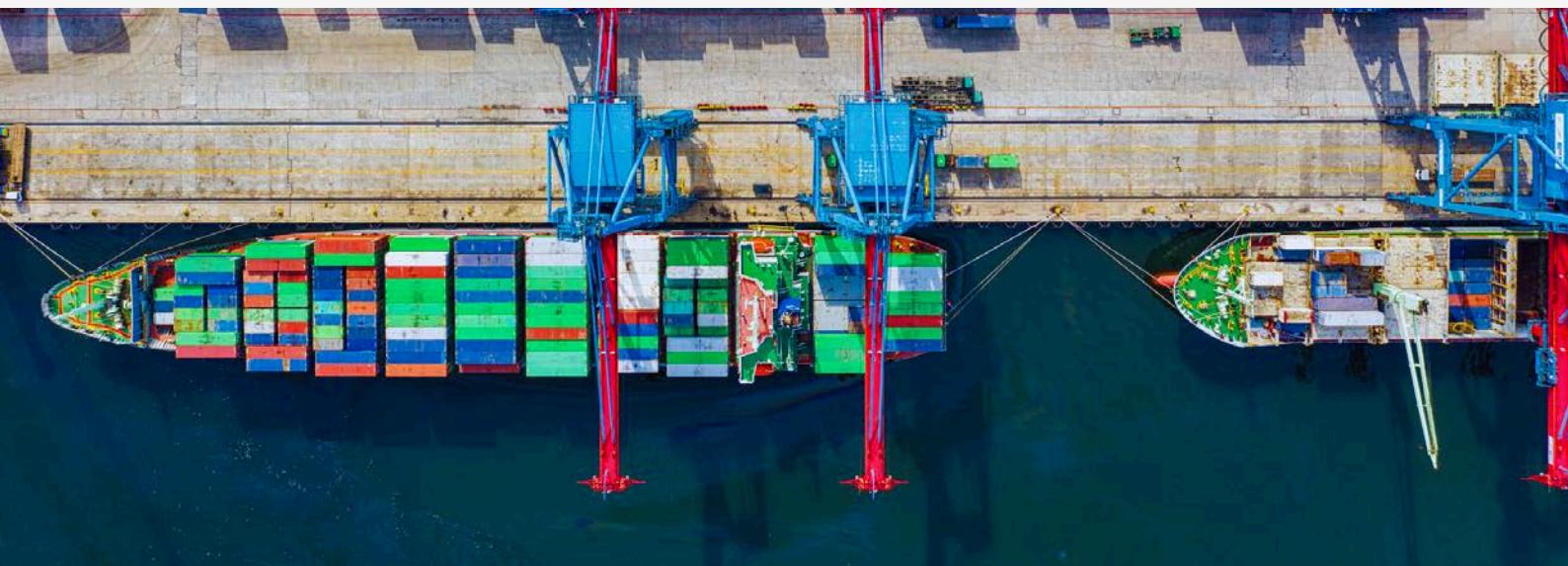
Member Engagement and Partnerships

- Held a successful **in-person Members' Meeting and AGM in Barcelona**.
- Continued publishing ICHCA Insights, **Safety Alerts**, news articles, and responding to member technical enquiries.
- Maintained strong partnerships with ITF, TOC, Port Technology International, Transport Events, Global Shippers Forum, World Shipping Council, PEMA and many others.

Thought Leadership and Research

- Co-branded the **TT Club and Haskoning Climate Resilience Paper**, supporting ports and terminals as they adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- Continued leadership on reducing confined space accidents across port and maritime sectors.

2025 demonstrated the growing impact of ICHCA's technical programme, global engagement, and commitment to delivering practical safety outcomes.



LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2026

A Landmark Year for New Tools, Benchmarking and Global Standards

Building on the achievements of 2025, ICHCA has an ambitious programme for 2026. Several major initiatives will move from development to delivery, further strengthening our support for members and the wider industry.

Innovation and Collaboration

- Record early engagement in the **2026 TT Club Innovation in Safety Awards**, with 32 entries.
- **Awards Ceremony in February**, co-hosted with TT Club and TOC, sharing real-world safety solutions.
- Continued leadership in the **ISO Ports and Terminals Standards** programme, ensuring global standards reflect operational realities.

Major Guidance and Tool Launches

- Launch of the **Vessel Workplace Inspection Standard**, establishing a consistent global approach to vessel workplace safety assessment for shore workers going onboard ships to load/unload cargo.
- Publication of the **Quick Guide to Dangerous Goods Transport**, supporting safe multimodal DG movement.



LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2026

- Release of the **First Responder Vessel Awareness** training Package, helping ports and terminals prepare emergency services for port and shipboard incidents.
- Launch of the **Working in Heat / Heat Stress Guidance**, addressing heat-related workplace risks.
- Continued development of:
 - **Tank Container Operations Guidance**
 - **Golden Safety Rules / Life-Saving Rules**
 - **Introduction to Dangerous Goods for Port Workers**
 - **Textile Slings Guidance**
- Joint refresh of the Quick Guide to the CTU Code with industry partners.

Benchmarking, Insight and Data

- Launch of ICHCA's ground-breaking **Accident Data Sharing and Benchmarking System**, enabling members to compare performance against international aggregated data for the first time.
- Further enhancement of the **Severe Risks Dashboard**, offering deeper insight into the industry's most significant risks.



LOOKING FORWARD TO AN EXCITING 2026

Member Engagement and Events

- A two-day **Members' Conference and AGM** in 2026, expanding opportunities for knowledge-sharing and collaboration.
- Continued involvement in the **Safety Village** and international events, strengthening learning across the sector.

Digital Transformation

- A full **refresh of the ICHCA website**, improving access to guidance, learning, tools and data.
- Ongoing delivery of webinars, **Safety Alerts**, newsletters and communications to keep members informed and connected.

Campaigns and Global Advocacy

- Sustained focus on **confined space safety**, dangerous goods, electric vehicle and battery risks, and other key operational hazards.
- Continued advocacy at **IMO, ISO, UNECE** and other forums, ensuring the voice of cargo handlers is represented at the highest levels.

2026 will be one of ICHCA's most ambitious and impactful years yet
- a year defined by delivery, collaboration and the launch of tools and standards that will shape the safety of global cargo handling for the decade ahead

Richard Steele
Chief Executive Officer
ICHCA International



ICHCA INTERNATIONAL



A Strategic Partner in Cargo Safety and Efficiency

As a leading operator in your industry, ICHCA membership reinforces your position as a leader in safety, innovation, and sustainable operations.



Direct Influence on Regulatory and Safety Frameworks

Through ICHCA, you gain access to and a voice within international regulatory bodies including the IMO, ILO, and UNECE, ensuring your operational insights help shape cargo handling policies that directly affect cargo operations.



Support for Your Safety and Sustainability Goals

ICHCA offers technical input and strategic platforms that align with your focus on, safe and sustainable operations. This includes early access to industry briefings, cargo incident reports, and operational good practice.



Enhanced Visibility and Thought Leadership

Membership provides opportunities to showcase your expertise at international forums, working groups, and conferences - strengthening your profile as a pro-active contributor to industry standards.



Access to an International Expert Network

Remain connected with global peers, supply chain partners, and specialists tackling shared cargo handling and transport challenges.



Opportunities for Collaborative Industry Impact

Whether through working groups, joint research, or guidance documents, ICHCA offers you a platform to contribute actively to the future of safe and efficient cargo handling.



The Cargo Industry Needs a United Voice

As industry evolves, collaboration becomes ever more important. Your membership strengthens our collective representation on key global safety and operational issues.

WE ARE
the cargo handling safety organisation

OUR JOB
safe people, safe cargoes, safe ports

OUR FOCUS

ports, terminals, quays, vessels alongside, ship/shore interface...
cargo lifting, moving and storage operations: the people who do
and manage the work, the plant and equipment used to do it and
all the places where it happens

WE ARE HERE FOR

all commodities and all forms of cargo including: containers; solid,
liquid and break bulk; general and project cargo, timber, reefer and
ro-ro



BECOME A MEMBER

Join a unique cross-sector NGO dedicated to advancing safety and
operational best practice in cargo handling worldwide.

Join today, contact secretariat@ichca.com