

2008: ILTA'S YEAR IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

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For 35 years, ILTA has been serving the interests of bulk liquid terminals and aboveground storage tank facilities. This past year, ILTA has taken an active role in educating and informing our members about issues impacting the terminal industry. The association's new initiatives and key accomplishments in 2008 are detailed below:

Changing the Name of the Association

On June 1, ILTA officially announced its name change to the International Liquid Terminals Association. By removing the word "Independent" and replacing it with "International," we have a name that conveys the global scope of our membership.

Advocating for the Industry

During 2008, ILTA played a major role in advocating for the industry on regulatory policy. In partnership with other industry trade associations, ILTA challenged the decision by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to regulate certain gasoline facilities under its Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards. The industry group submitted a technical paper to the agency describing the flammability characteristics of gasoline and requested that DHS reconsider the consequences it has attributed to fuel mixtures with an NFPA 3 flammability hazard rating. In 2009, ILTA will evaluate the options for additional industry responses on this issue.

On February 8, ILTA submitted comments to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) on proposed recommended practices for loading and unloading tank trucks and railcars. ILTA believes that a lack of a clear imperative to either provide additional guidance or impose meaningful new regulations would justify a decision by PHMSA to not move forward with the proposal.

ILTA also advocated for its members at the state level. The Missouri legislature considered a biodiesel blending mandate for all diesel terminals in the state. ILTA submitted a letter in opposition to the bill, pointing out that enactment of the legislation would result in a costly waste of infrastructure resources, including unneeded biodiesel tanks and blending equipment at terminals. The bill was not enacted, but it will be reintroduced in 2009.

Promoting the Industry as an Employer of Choice

The bulk liquid terminal industry is facing a serious shortage of skilled professionals. To help our members find qualified people with experience in the terminal industry, ILTA hosted a job fair in Houston, TX, in June. In addition, ILTA developed a recruiting brochure that describes the role of terminals in the economy and outlines some of the skills and backgrounds that could lead to a job in the industry.

Recognizing Safety Excellence

ILTA presented the Second Annual ILTA Safety Awards during the conference networking breakfast on June 10. Nine terminal member companies were recognized for exceptional safety performance at their facilities.

Expanding ILTA's Role as a Major Educational Resource for the Industry

ILTA set new records for attendance during the 28th Annual International Operating Conference & Trade Show. Over 3,200 terminal executives, operators and suppliers from around the world attended the 2008 event. In addition to the three workshops conducted during the June conference and trade show, we held four training seminars during the year. Topics included crisis communication, facility security officer training, petroleum and ethanol fire response, and air emissions issues.

Providing Terminal Members with Informational Tools

ILTA completed three industry benchmark survey reports in 2008. The first survey report provides results from ILTA's Sixth Annual Safety Survey, and the second contains statistics on terminal environmental, health, safety and security staffing levels. The third report provides detailed statistics on compensation levels and employee benefits policies at ILTA terminal member companies. ILTA also published an Environmental Management System (EMS) Guide. This document offers terminal company personnel "real world" advice on translating the general requirements of an environmental standard into specific procedures that can constitute an effective EMS.

As 2009 begins, ILTA will continue to build upon our achievements over the past 12 months. We are committed to providing exceptional services to our members and look forward to another successful year.