

7th International Workshop

How to handle imported containers safely

Possibly hazardous exposures to fumigants and toxic industrial chemicals during global transport and storage of products and production parts



Organized by the Societies:

**EOM, European Environmental and Occupational Medicine,
IMHA, International Maritime Health Association, IMHA
Venue: Charité University Medicine Berlin, Germany**

Date: May 22nd – 23rd, 2014

The mission of the workshop is to improve the detection, diagnosis, prevention of environmental and occupational exposures to chemical hazards found in transport units (i.e. import containers) and storage facilities associated with globalized trade (shipment and storage of products, food and various production parts)

Chairs:

Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur, Charité University Medicine. Berlin, Germany Berlin (EOM)

Prof. Dr. Alf Magne Horneland, Norwegian Center for Maritime Medicine, Bergen, Norway (IMHA)

Organizing International Committee:

Ass. Prof. Dr. Balazs Adam, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates

Prof. Dr. Lygia Therese Budnik, University Medical Center, ZfAM, University of Hamburg, Germany

Prof. Dr. Magne Bratveit, Haukeland University Clinic, University of Bergen, Norway

Prof. Dr. Joergen Riis Jepsen, University of Southern Denmark, Esbjerg, Denmark

Dr. David Lucas, University of Western Brittany, France

Dr. Elisabet Paunovic, WHO European Centre for Environment and Health

Prof. Dr. Paul Scheepers, The Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre. The Netherlands

Prof. Dr. Torben Siegsaard, Aarhus University. Aarhus, Denmark

Local organizing Committee (Charité University Medicine):

Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur

Prof. Dr. Axel Fischer

Prof. Dr. Ralf Stahlmann

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Agenda

7th International Workshop How to handle imported containers safely Berlin, May, 22nd-23rd 2014

- 9:30 **Welcome**
Introduction by the Chairpersons
Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur
President of the European Society for Environmental and Occupational
Medicine (EOM)
Dr. Alf Magne Horneland
President of International Maritime Health Association (IMHA)
- Who is at risk?**
Chairs: Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur/Prof. Dr. Alf Magne Horneland
- 9.50-10:10 **Health hazards in globalized world**
Dr. Aliya Kosbayeva/ Dr. Elisabeth Paunovic, World Health Organization,
European Centre for Environment and Health
- 10.10-10:25 **Fumigants in transport units, a health problem for transport and
logistics workers worldwide**
Introductory Film (experience from Dutch harbors)
Experience from the transport worker perspective
Mr. Jan de Jong, Labor leaders FNV Bondgenoten, *the Netherlands*
- 10.25-10:40 **Toxicity of fumigants: Short introduction**
Prof. Dr. Ralf Stahlmann, Institute for Toxicology, Charité University
Medicine Berlin, *Germany*
- 10:40: 11:05 **Regulations of and authorization for application of fumigants**
Prof. Dr. Claudio Coloso/ Dr. Federico Maria Rubino, Department of
Occupational and Environmental Health of the University of Milan, *Italy*
- 10.45-11:05 **Reported accidents and health problems for seafarers onboard vessels
transporting fumigated freight**
Dr. Illona Denisenko, IMHA, Regional Medical Office German Embassy
Moscow, *Russia*
- Coffee Break 11:00-11:45-----
- 11.45-12:15 **Research based information to involved bodies on health risks during
unloading of transport units; key information extracted from fumigation
incidences and from existing research on fumigants, VOCs and other
hazardous materials**
Prof. Dr. Magne Bratveit, Department of Global Public Health and Primary
Care, Occupational and Environmental Medicine, University of Bergen,
Norway/Dr. Rune Djurhuus, Haukeland University Hospital, Department of
Occupational Medicine, Bergen, *Norway*

Occupational hygiene, part 1

Chairs: Prof. Alf Magne Horneland/Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur

Cleaning – fumigating - opening of containers (experiences from customs officers, waterways police and inspectorates)

12:15-12:35

Chemical cleaning of containers in China

Dr. Zhiwei Zhao, Center of maritime Health and Society, University of Southern Denmark, Dalian Maritime University, *China*

12:35-12:55

Measurements in harbors: toxic contaminations in containers according to type of goods and country of origin

Mr. Holger Riemann/ Mr. Uwe Manow, Main Customs Office Hamburg - Harbor - Customs Office Waltershof, *Germany*

12:55-13:15

How to handle safely dangerous waste material in containers

Mr. Wim Veldman, Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, *the Netherlands*

-----Lunch Break 13:15-14:00-----

14:00-14:25

Poster Presentations

Focus on: Industrial hygiene/ studies/ clinical cases /analytical challenges

Occupational hygiene, part 2

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Lygia T. Budnik/ Prof. Dr. Axel Fischer

14:25-14:45

Ventilation study for imported containers

Dr. Francois-Xavier Keller. National Institute of Scientific Research and Dr. David Lucas, University of Western Brittany, Brest, *France*

14:45-15:00

Opening fumigated containers – Simulation of spatial gas distribution after gas release from a fumigated chamber.

Mrs. Gabriele Flingelli/ Dr. Dagmar W. Klementz, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants, Institute for Ecochemistry, Plant Analysis and Stored Product Protection, Berlin, *Germany*

15:00-15:20

Occurrence and levels of VOCs in containers arriving in Sweden, including aspects on personal exposure, ventilation and sampling position

Prof. Dr. Gunnar Johanson, Work Environment Toxicology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden/ Dr. Urban Svedberg, Dept. of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Sundsvall Hospital, *Sweden*

-----Coffee Break 15:20-15:40 -----

15:40-16:00

Onsite measurements of fumigated containers: possibilities and problems (Research Project of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research)

Dr. Andreas Walte, Airsense Analytics, Research and Development, Schwerin, *Germany*

Global application of fumigants and its consequences

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Axel Fischer/ Prof. Dr. Lygia T. Budnik

16:00-16:20

From symptoms of intoxication to identification of the noxious agents: challenges in ambient and biomonitoring analyses

Prof. Dr. Lygia Therese Budnik, Institute for Occupational and Maritime Medicine (ZfAM), University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, University of Hamburg, Hamburg, *Germany*

16:20-16:40

Off-gassing from fumigated goods and products: ongoing research project for future detailed health risk analysis

Dr. Jens Schubert, Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, Berlin, *Germany*

-----5 min. Break 16:40-16:45-----

16:45-17:30

Plenary lecture: Chronic diseases such as neurodegeneration and cancer from pesticide exposures - and the role of genetic susceptibility polymorphisms

Prof. Dr. Beate Ritz, Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles, *USA*

17:30-18:00

General discussion

Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur, MD
President of the EOM Society
Dr. Alf Magne Horneland, MD
President of IMHA

23rd May

-----**End of the first day**-----

Intoxications: how to detect and diagnose them

Chairs: Prof. Dr. Jorgen R. Jepsen/ Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur

09:15-09:35

Diagnosis and questionnaire: problems and challenges

Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur; Charité-Institute for Occupational Medicine, Berlin, *Germany*

09:35-10:00

Intoxication with methyl bromide during unloading containers

Dr. Atie Verschoor/ Dr. Louis Verschoor, Expertise Centre Environmental Medicine (ECEMed), Rijnstate Teaching Hospital, Arnheim, *the Netherlands*

10:00-10:20

A pilot study in Denmark

Ass. Prof. Dr. Jorgen R. Jepsen, Centre of Maritime Health and Society, Institute of Public Health, University of Southern Denmark, Esbjerg, *Denmark* /Ass. Prof. Dr. Balazs Adam, Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University, *the UAE*

10:20-10:40

Intoxication cases in France harbors: pilot data

Dr. D. Lucas, Institute for Occupational Medicine, University of Western Brittany, Brest, *France*

-----Coffee Break 10:40-11:40 -----

With Poster and Industrial exhibition

EOM press conference 11.05-11:35
(please note the info on different locations)

Globalized production, transport and storage of products generate clinical cases across the globalized world

Chair: Prof. Dr. Axel Fischer/ Prof. Dr. Jorgen R. Jepsen

11:40-12:30

1. Illnesses by toxic chemicals in electronic plants
Dr. Jeong-Ok Kong, Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Korea Institute of Labour Safety and Health, St. Mary's Hospital of the Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, *South Korea*
(with Mrs. Park from Supporters of Health and Right of People at Semiconductor Industry)

2. Unloading of sea containers with these items resulted in intoxication of two employees at the logistic company in the Netherlands
Dr. Louis Verschoor, Expertise Centre Environmental Medicine (ECEMed), Rijnstate Teaching Hospital, Arnheim, *the Netherlands*

3. Compensation of related intoxication cases in the Netherlands
Mr. Jan de Jong, Labor leaders FNV Bondgenoten, *the Netherlands*

12:45-14.00

Final round table discussion on future needs and perspectives
Prof. Dr. Xaver Baur, MD
President of the EOM Society
Dr. Alf Magne Horneland, MD
President of IMHA

-----**End of the Workshop**-----

14:30-16:00

Closed Session of the Society for Environmental and Occupational Medicine, EOM
(please note the info on different locations)