

# TECC-GH

**Currently we are working with the following stakeholders to ensure Ghana's readiness for SOLAS mandatory amendments to the International Convention for Safety of Life At Sea (SOLAS) chapter VI, Part dealing with cargo information, come 1st July, 2016.**

## These are:

- 1. Ghana Ports And Harbours Authority (GPHA)
- 2. Ghana Shippers Authority
- 3. Ghana Standards Authority
- 4. Ship Owners And Shipping Agents Association Of Ghana

**TECC-GH has honoured all invitations so far, to make presentations and we are also serving on the committee setup by the Ghana Standards Authority.**

### **Ghana Ports And Harbours Authority**

GPHA is ready to adopt the spreader sensor system, installing them on the existing terminal operating equipment to weigh export containers at the time of delivery. To the terminal.

The system will provide for the transmission of the weight of the container to the terminal operator and to the ship agent/line. A substantial number of the export containers are loaded with cocoa and other agricultural products whose weight are not critical and are often known.

## VGM – Ghana's Readiness

Therefore GPHA is gearing up towards installing the sensors on container handlers inside the port and will weigh every export container before it is delivered to the vessel.

The sensors we intend to install are Lasstec Container Weighing Sensors. They have already been tested successfully with GPHA reach stackers and now trials ongoing with GPHA Liebherr Mobile harbour cranes. This will be concluded by this Friday.

## VGM – Ghana's Readiness

GPHA, do not intend to prevent container delivery to the port without prior knowledge of their weights.

According to GPHA, the challenge with VGM is with imported containers and not with export containers.

Cost implications?

Yet to determined and agreed upon.

### Ghana Shippers' Authority

The GSA is working together with other stakeholders to ensure that by July 1, 2016 implementation date, shippers are well prepared.

Stakeholder meetings started as far back as 2015

- Presentations and talks on CWV in all the programs of Regional Shipper Committee meetings in the Ten Regions.
- Have Held Stakeholder forum in all the ten regions of Ghana for shippers

## Ghana Shippers Authority Cont.

Publications on CVW in the Shipping Review by way of an article

- Prepared brochures as guide for shippers as well as Frequently Asked Questions
- Notices in the Print media and radio programs
- Sensitizing by way of information to the Ghana Missions Abroad.



## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

- Ghana Standards Authority
- Ghana Ports & Harbours' Authority
- Ghana Institute of Freight Forwarders
- Custom Brokers Assoc. of Ghana
- Shipowners and Agents Association
- Terminal Operators
- Haulage and Transports
- Logistic and IT Companies



## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT CONTD.**

- Shipper Associations
- Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA)
- Federation of Association of Exporters (FAGE)
- Sea Pineapple Exporters of Ghana (SPEG)
- Non-traditional exporters - YAM, CASHEW, SHEANUTS, COTTON, BASKET, ETC
- Cocoa Marketing Company –Exporter Of Ghana's Cocoa
- Shipper Committees

## **OUTCOME OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

- ❑ Identification of Competent Authority for certification and calibration of scales, weigh bridges, lifting equipment etc – Standards Authority
- ❑ Constitution Of Technical Committee (TC)
- ❑ Technical Committee has been established to bring out technical guidelines to be used in Ghana.
- ❑ Members - Ghana Standards Authority, GIFF, Ghana Shippers' Authority, GMA, GPHA, GEPA, GNCCI, RMU and Ghana Institute of Marine Surveyors.

## OUTCOME OF ENGAGEMENT CONTD.

- The Ghana Standards Authority has come out with the type of weigh bridges to be used
- A 10 kg readability for weigh bridge with tonnage up to 80t  
A 20kg readability for weigh bridges with tonnage above 80t
- The Ghana Standards Authority has provided an inventory on weigh bridges, weigh stations, weighing scales across the nation
- The Freight Forwarding Associations have also provided an inventory on Container Freight Stations (CFS)

## OUTCOME OF ENGAGEMENT CONTD.

- The Ports and Harbours Authority has communicated their readiness to avail designated area(s) to install a weighing facility.
- It is expected that the amendment to the SOLAS convention chap. VI Regulations 2, on CWV will be domesticated.
- Adoption of the International Standards Organization's standards for empty containers and container marking and identification.
- - Currently a road map is being developed by the Technical Committee for the entire project with time lines to be terminated by May 2016. However, sensitization will be on-going.

## Ghana Shippers' Authority - In Conclusion

- Implementation date fast approaching
- Sensitization to shippers and industry players will continue
- Implementation is coming on July 1, 2016 whether Ghana is ready or not.
- Let's all join hands to have this implemented.

## **Ghana Standards Authority**

The Standards Authority has set up a Technical Committee for this purpose, involving all stakeholders.

Currently DGS (Draft Ghana Standards) 1124 draft document on the Verification of the gross mass of a packed container is ready. This draft has been sent for public enquiry that will end on 5th May, after which period the document will be finalised.

### **Shipowners & Agents Association of Ghana**

Shipping lines are ready at least to take the documents manually until the final framework for the sending of the electronic message is determined.

Major concern is how they can authenticate the electronic sent as coming from the right source.

There are still issues to be cleared with other stakeholders

Finally TECC-GH, has developed various modules to facilitate the generation and transmission of the VERMAS messages and is currently undergoing testing, which is due to end 31st May 2016.

The Modules includes the following:

**Desktop version**

**Handheld version**

**Web based version**

**Mobile phone (android) version**



**TECC-GH, is fully committed to ensure the successful implementation of VGM and the usage of VERMAS in Ghana.**

**Thank you for your time and  
attention**