



# EFIBCA

European Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container Association

# news

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EFIBCA is the voice of the European Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container Industry.

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#### SPECIAL THEME

### **EFIBCA Launches Newsletter**

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of EFIBCA's newly launched bi-annual newsletter. The newsletter informs about EFIBCA's latest activities as well as about new legislation, standards and technologies, FIBC market news and upcoming events relevant to the European FIBC industry.

The FIBC import statistics form an integral part of the newsletter and inform about the total value of FIBC imports to the European Union as well as the top exporting countries to the EU. The FIBC calendar gives an overview on upcoming EFIBCA meetings as well as external events such as international fairs.

EFIBCA's newsletter is free for further distribution.

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#### SPECIAL THEME

### **Load Securing of Bulk Cargo in Big Bags**

*By Wolfgang Neumann, EUROSAFE*

The biggest part of all transport occurring in Europe and world-wide is not or only insufficiently secured. The share of unsecured cargo could well be far above 50 %. To this end, the industry in Europe needs a combined professional competence and a legal certainty in this field as high as possible.

Uncertainties regarding load securing are high, especially with the transport of bulk material in flexible packaging – above all the FIBC. This form of packaging that we cannot imagine doing without anymore provides enterprises and consumers with cost-optimized logistics. There is hardly any other form of packaging that shows such a high performance and efficiency.

However, flexible packaging can move, subside or may lose its shape under pressure. Here, it is extremely important to evaluate the product behaviour together with its packaging. This can be taken up successfully between the packaging manufacturer and the client. An active and competent cooperation of the FIBC manufacturers is important and can lead to a clear upgrading of the supplier.

The packaging characteristics and impacts have to be regulated in cooperation with the FIBC suppliers by means of international packaging standards. The current status quo in this regard is not satisfactory for industrial enterprises. We are striving for EU-wide standards. The „Best Practice European Guidelines“ of the European Commission may also well be used on developing the first ideas.

Due to the high individuality of bulk material it is not possible, though, to give a generalized answer to decisive questions of load securing. Each shipper has to clarify on his own responsibility whether his product can be transported safely in his FIBC. This refers alike to the truck as well as rail transport or the sea container. The manufacturer of bulk material, at the same time being the main interested party, needs the necessary know-how in order to be able to assess this.

Successful solution concepts for effective and low-cost load securing are nowadays implemented by persons who are very familiar with accident analytics, packaging

development, automotive engineering or also process engineering. Here, it becomes certainly clear that individual persons can hardly do this job anymore.

**Note about the Author:**

Wolfgang Neumann is "Euro Experts Certified" for packaging, load securing and unit loads including dangerous goods (road-rail-water). EUROSAFE stands for safe, integrative and economical solutions in transport safety, cross-border, including all transportation modes and routes. Over the past few years, EUROSAFE has developed a unique network of experts and is the first port of call when it comes to integral and viable conceptions to implement load security. More about EUROSAFE at: [www.euro-safe.eu](http://www.euro-safe.eu).

EUROSAFE is a member of the European Centre of Competence for Transportation Safety.



Wolfgang Neumann



MARKET NEWS

**FIBC Import Statistics 2009**

The value of FIBC imports to the European Union has dropped considerably in 2009. FIBC imports to the EU27 countries were worth 184.4 million Euros, compared to 358.8 million Euros in 2008. That represents a fall by 48% (see table 1).

The three main exporting countries to the EU 27 in 2009 remained the same as in 2008: Turkey, India and China, who together shared approximately 84% of the total import value. This is followed by Serbia, Thailand and Bangladesh with just under 3% import share each. Serbia improved from rank 7 in 2008 to rank 4 in 2009. Thailand lost one rank and Vietnam who was ranking number 5 in 2008 has fallen behind on rank 8.

Table 1: Total Import of FIBC to the EU27<sup>1</sup> (2009)

	2009	2008	
	m €	m €	
Imports to the EU27	184.4	352.8	-48%

Source: Eurostat

Table 2: Top 6 Exporting Countries to the EU27 (2009)

		2009		2008	
2009 Rank	Country	m €	Import Share	m €	Import Share
1 →	Turkey	68.1	36.9%	141.6	40.1%
2 →	India	60.5	32.8%	108.4	30.7%
3 →	China	26.1	14.2%	52.2	14.8%
4 ↗	Serbia	5.3	2.9%	5.4	1.5%
5 ↘	Thailand	5.2	2.8%	7.8	2.2%
6 →	Bangladesh	5.1	2.8%	6.2	1.8%

Source: Eurostat

- no change in rank compared to previous year
- ↗ up in rank compared to previous year
- ↘ down in rank compared to previous year

INTERNAL NEWS

**EFIBCA AGM 2010 in Istanbul**

The European Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container Association (EFIBCA) was holding its Annual General Meeting on 6 May 2010 in Istanbul with 25 participant members and guests, coming from 11 different countries.

EFIBCA is proud to have gained a significant number of new members during the last year. The further development of an "EFIBCA-Cert" quality scheme was confirmed at the AGM. Inadequate quality of FIBC can result in severe injuries and material damage. EFIBCA is therefore committed to increase the market awareness for quality issues through the development of a certification scheme.

The AGM further decided on the launch of a bi-annual EFIBCA newsletter and an FIBC import statistic which will be published in the newsletter.

EFIBCA is planning an Open Meeting in conjunction with the next Interpack fair in May 2011 in Düsseldorf. The next AGM will be hold in autumn 2011 (date tbd) in Barcelona.

<sup>1</sup> FIBC of Polyethylene or Polypropylene, excl. knitted or crocheted

The AGM was accompanied by a river cruise on the Bosphorus and a visit of the spice market.

President of EFIBCA is Dr Amir Samadijavan, Storsack International GmbH. Dr Isabell Schmidt is the General Secretary.



*Bosphorus cruise at the AGM 2010 (from the left to the right: Joan Climent (Climesa), Alvaro Mercado Sánchez (Applus+), Dr Herbert Kielbassa (Labordata), Ismail Bektas (Daphne), Ramiz Rzayev (RAM), Dr Isabell Schmidt (EFIBCA), Dr Jürgen Bruder (IK))*

## INTERNAL NEWS

### New EFIBCA Membership Certificates

Full and associate members of EFIBCA have for the first time in 2010 been handed out with EFIBCA membership certificates. Membership certificates will be issued on a yearly basis.



*EFIBCA Membership Certificate 2010*

## INTERNAL NEWS

### EFIBCA Members A-Z

EFIBCA is the association of FIBC manufacturers and traders operating in the European market. But also other businesses along the FIBC supply chain can join as associate members. EFIBCA is a growing organisation with currently 29 member firms.

The following manufacturing and trading companies are members at EFIBCA:

- Boxon GmbH (Germany), [www.boxonbags.com](http://www.boxonbags.com)
- Carbognani S.R.L. (Italy), [www.carbognani.it](http://www.carbognani.it)
- Cesur Packaging Corp. (Turkey), [www.cesurpack.com](http://www.cesurpack.com)
- Climesa (Spain), [www.fibcnet.com](http://www.fibcnet.com)
- Conterra S.A. (Romania), [www.conterra.ro](http://www.conterra.ro)
- Daphne Europe GmbH (Germany), [www.daphne-europe.com](http://www.daphne-europe.com)
- Emmbi Polyarns Limited (India), [www.wovensackindia.com](http://www.wovensackindia.com)
- Europak 2000 S.A. (Belgium), [www.europak.be](http://www.europak.be)
- FIPCO Filling & Packing Materials MFG Co. (Saudi-Arabian), [www.fipco.com.sa](http://www.fipco.com.sa)
- Golsan Baft (Iran), [www.golsanbaft.com](http://www.golsanbaft.com)
- GPK Products (France), [www.gpk-products.fr](http://www.gpk-products.fr)
- Gulf Plastic Industries Co. SAOB (Sultanate of Oman), [www.gulfplastic.com](http://www.gulfplastic.com)
- Lasheen Plastic Industries (Egypt), [www.lasheen.com](http://www.lasheen.com)
- LC Packaging International bv (Netherlands), [www.lcpackaging.nl](http://www.lcpackaging.nl)
- Manifatture Bonzagni (Italy), [www.manifatturebonzagni.it](http://www.manifatturebonzagni.it)
- Mulox Limited (UK), [www.mulox.com](http://www.mulox.com)
- NNZ bv (Netherlands), [www.nnz.com](http://www.nnz.com)
- Nordenia Deutschland Emsdetten GmbH (Germany), [www.nordenia.com](http://www.nordenia.com)
- Plastchim-TAD (Bulgaria), [www.ceebe.co.uk/Plastchim-T](http://www.ceebe.co.uk/Plastchim-T)
- RAM Ltd. (Azerbaijan), [www.peraplastic.com](http://www.peraplastic.com)
- Romtextil S.A. (Romania), [www.romtextil.com](http://www.romtextil.com)
- Sinobangla Industries Ltd. (Bangladesh), [www.sinobangla.com](http://www.sinobangla.com)
- Storsack International GmbH (Germany), [www.storsackgroup.com](http://www.storsackgroup.com)
- TEXCON S.R.L (Argentina)

Furthermore, the following companies are associate members of EFIBCA:

- Alatex Webbing GmbH (Germany),  
[www.alatex.de](http://www.alatex.de)
- GCL India (PVT) Ltd (India), [www.gclindia.com](http://www.gclindia.com)
- Lohia Starlinger Limited (India),  
[www.lohiagroup.com](http://www.lohiagroup.com)
- Texene LLC (UK), [www.texene.com](http://www.texene.com)
- Starlinger & Co. GmbH (Austria),  
[www.starlinger.com](http://www.starlinger.com)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FIBC Calendar

#### **K 2010 – International Trade Fair for Plastics and Rubber Worldwide**

27 October – 3 November 2010, Düsseldorf, Germany  
[www.k-online.de](http://www.k-online.de)

#### **EFIBCA Council Meeting**

28 Oktober 2010, Düsseldorf  
[www.efibca.com](http://www.efibca.com)

#### **EFIBCA Open Meeting 2011**

11 May 2011, in conjunction with Interpack, Düsseldorf, Germany  
[www.efibca.com](http://www.efibca.com)

#### **EFIBCA Council Meeting**

May 2011 (date tbd), in conjunction with Interpack, Düsseldorf, Germany  
[www.efibca.com](http://www.efibca.com)

#### **Interpack**

12 – 18 May 2011, Düsseldorf, Germany  
[www.interpack.com](http://www.interpack.com)

#### **EFIBCA AGM**

Autumn 2011 (date tbd), Barcelona  
[www.efibca.com](http://www.efibca.com)

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