



**WORLD SHIPPING COUNCIL**  
PARTNERS IN TRADE

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## **Liner Industry Praises IMO for Action on Container Weight Verification**

### ***For Immediate Release***

The World Shipping Council (WSC) congratulates the Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargo and Containers (DSC) Sub-committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for today approving proposed changes to the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) convention that will require verification of container weights before loaded containers are placed aboard ships. Misdeclared container weights have been a long-standing problem for the transportation industry and for governments as they present safety hazards for ships, their crews, and other cargo on board, workers in the port facilities handling containers, and on roads.

“We have worked with the IMO to address the problem of incorrect container weights for over six years and now with the input of many governments and industry organizations, including responsible shipper associations, we are pleased that the SOLAS amendments and related implementation guidelines have been approved by the DSC. We appreciate the efforts of all involved,” said WSC President & CEO, Chris Koch. He added, “We look forward to approval by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) in May 2014 and the final adoption in November 2014. The container shipping industry will continue to work with all supply chain stakeholders on the processes necessary to ensure smooth implementation, which could occur in July 2016.”

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See <http://www.worldshipping.org/industry-issues/safety/cargo-weight> for more information about the container weighing issue.

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**ABOUT THE WORLD SHIPPING COUNCIL (WSC):** The World Shipping Council is an association of liner shipping companies with offices in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Its members operate approximately 90 percent of the global liner ship capacity, providing approximately 400 regularly scheduled services linking the continents of the world. Collectively, these services transport about 60 percent of the value of global seaborne trade, or more than US\$ 4 trillion worth of goods annually. For more information about the World Shipping Council, visit [www.worldshipping.org](http://www.worldshipping.org).

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