



NEWS RELEASE

Media contact

Emma Murray

emma@meantimecomms.com

T + 44 (0) 20 8853 5554

M + 44 (0) 7711 614 655

Bright future for independents as WACO celebrates 40 years

Global freight network sets its sights on expansion and appoints a new African member at its AGM.

London, UK, 24th April 2013 – Ninety delegates from over 50 leading independent forwarders held over 700 bilateral meetings and welcomed new member Nigeria-based Creseada International Limited at the WACO-System's Conference and Annual General Meeting last week.

Delegates from 60 countries heard that recent research pointed to a range of significant opportunities for independents, in a keynote speech during the four day event in Mauritius marking the network's 40th anniversary.

"The future is bright for independent freight forwarders as our network celebrates its fifth decade," said Richard Charles WACO-System Executive Director.

"Opportunities abound, prospects in emerging markets are strong, and our members are perfectly placed to deliver flexible global logistics solutions with local expertise.

"We are delighted to be expanding our African footprint with the appointment of Creseada in the important Nigerian market, and will be announcing further new country members soon."

An on-line survey by Transport Intelligence (Ti) revealed that shippers highly rate local expertise and a personal touch as supply chains become more complex, according to Ti Chief Executive John Manners-Bell, who gave the Conference keynote speech.

“The global supply chain has become a web rather than a linear East-West flow,” he said.

“Shippers must deal with a complex supply and demand point network within and outside Asia.

“This trend provides a range of opportunities for forwarders agile enough to take advantage of it.”

Over EUR7000 was raised at the AGM for two Mauritian young people's charities, Foyer Pere Laval and the Amis de Don Bosco, as part of WACO's new Social Responsibility Programme.

WACO holds two events a year providing members with an opportunity to network, drive business through one-to-one meetings, and firm up existing relationships.

“WACO's founder members had a vision to bring together the best independent freight forwarders, and create a powerful worldwide association delivering global logistics solutions with local expertise,” said Stephen Knight, WACO-System Chairman.

“We have remained true to our core principles. We are proud of our past and looking forward to our future.”

ENDS

Picture available to download via: <http://db.tt/44uDqF49>

Picture caption left to right

Richard Charles, Executive Director, the WACO-System, Natacha Michaud, Director, Administration & HR MC Easy Freight, Mauritius, Clarel Michaud, CEO, MC Easy Freight, Mauritius, Stephen Knight, Chairman the WACO-System celebrate the network's 40th anniversary at their Conference and AGM in Mauritius last week.

About WACO

Founded in 1973, WACO is the world's foremost independent global freight management and logistics organisation. WACO has a community of members in more than 84 countries with a combined network of more than 400 locations, employing over 21,000 freight professionals who handle over 1.85 million shipments each year comprising of one million tons of airfreight cargo. The network has a combined annual turnover of USD4 billion making this exclusive network a **top 5 player** in the global market. The company is an Association owned by its members with its Corporate Head Office in Zurich and operational management in London.

For more information

Emma Murray (WACO-System)
Meantime Communications
tel: +44 (0)20 8853 5554
mob: +44 (0)7711 614 655
emma@meantimecomms.com