Good afternoon. Welcome to the American Association of Port Authorities webinar on the IMO Container Weight Verification Requirement. I am John Young, the Director of Freight and Surface Transportation Policy with AAPA.

With me today, I have Lars Kjaer, Senior Vice President World Shipping Council, John Crowley, the Executive Director of the National Association of Waterfront Employers and Bruce Carlton, CEO & President of the National Industrial Transportation League (NITL). They will be our speakers this afternoon. For planning purposes, this webinar will end at 4 p.m. sharp.

The purpose of this webinar is to educate stakeholders in the supply chain, port authorities and terminal operators specifically, on the container verification requirement that goes into effect July 1st and to create a baseline of understanding of what this requirement is and what the expectations will be, come July 1st.

It is also an opportunity to ask questions.

This is a timely issue. Many of you joining us this afternoon have inevitably been tracking this issue through the recent articles that have appeared over the past few weeks and by reading the FAQs and IMO documents that were linked to your registration package. No doubt many or most of us could benefit by corrections and clarifications from those, such as our panelists today, who have been more intimately involved in this issue and the IMO. That’s why we have organized this webinar.

Our speakers today will provide us with a greater history and understanding of the issue.

There will be an opportunity for questions after all the speakers have given their presentations. In addition, I would like to make the point up front that implementation of the new SOLAS requirement, in part, takes place in the context of the commercial relationship between companies and so the speakers today likely are not going to be able to speak to or know specifics as to how those individual parties will operate under the new requirement. One of the goals of this webinar is to encourage our port authorities, terminal operators, carriers, shippers and other supply chain members to start having these conversations on how this requirement will be implemented if you haven’t already.

Finally, we also have representatives from the Coast Guard, LTJG Robert Bobuk, USCG Cargo & Facilities Safety Division and Curtis Whalen, Executive Director, Intermodal Motor Carriers Conference, American Trucking Associations with us today, should questions about the Coast Guards policy guidance or a carrier question arise. Thank you both for being here with us this afternoon.

Thank you for joining us this afternoon.
Speaker Bios

Lars Kjaer
Vice President
World Shipping Council

Lars Kjaer has been with the World Shipping Council (WSC) since its inception in 2000. He currently manages the WSC’s activities in Europe regarding supply chain and cargo security policies and Customs issues. Additionally, he serves as the industry representative on a number of committees of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Organization of Standards (ISO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO). He has been heavily involved in the IMO process leading to the new SOLAS container weight verification requirements.

Prior to joining the World Shipping Council, Lars served as the Washington Representative for the Council of European and Japanese Ship owners’ Associations (CENSA) from 1999 to 2000. Before joining CENSA, Lars served as counselor at the Royal Danish Embassy in Washington, D.C. (1993-98). During that tenure he was also chairman of the Cotton Club of foreign transportation counselors in Washington.

John Crowley
Executive Director
National Association of Waterfront Employers

John Crowley was appointed Executive Director for the National Association of Waterfront Employers (NAWE) in March 2014. NAWE serves as the voice of the marine terminal and stevedore industry. NAWE promotes marine cargo efficiency, security and safety, a clean environment, international trade, and economic growth and does so through advocacy, education, and industry cooperation.

Prior to becoming NAWE’s Executive Director, John served as Senior Vice President, Law and Regulatory Affairs for APM Terminals North America Inc. At APM Terminals he also served in leadership roles for safety, security and environmental matters at facilities across North, Central and South America.
John served and retired as a Rear Admiral in the U.S. Coast Guard. He served in both senior operational and legal positions as well as in five Cutters, twice in Command. He was a leader in formulating the first National Maritime Security Strategy.

John is a member of the National Maritime Security Advisory Committee.

Bruce Carlton  
President and CEO  
National Industrial Transportation League

Bruce Carlton is President and CEO of the National Industrial Transportation League (NITL). Founded in 1907, the League is “the shippers’ voice”. NITL is the nation’s oldest and largest freight transportation association.

The League’s diverse shipper membership use rail, trucking, ocean transport and air freight. Bruce’s role is to guide the League’s advocacy work here in Washington to best represent the members’ freight transportation interests in Congress and the federal agencies.

Bruce came to the League in 2008 from the Maritime Administration in the Department of Transportation, where he was the Assistant Administrator. Bruce served for many years in senior executive roles in MARAD, and was instrumental in negotiating market opening opportunities for U.S. maritime interests in China, Russia, Japan, Vietnam and other countries.