



Operations & Logistics Committee

Summary of Conference Call Meeting
April 19, 2017, 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm US ET

Roll Call

<u><i>Committee Members Present</i></u>	<u><i>Committee Members Not Present</i></u>
Chair, Mike Wasson, Tosca Ltd	Robert Iaria, CH Robinson
Amy Lathrop, Perfect Pallets	Andre Luecht, IFCO Systems
Jerry Koefelda, Polymer Solutions	Rod Haugh, Homeland Logistics
JR Vernon, reLogistics	Jill McLaughlin, Kennedy Group
Michael Swank, Roadrunner Truckload Plus	Bob Petersen, ORBIS Corporation
Linda Balwinski, Schaefer Systems	Emma Townsend, Oryx Automation
Paul Koleske, Tosca	Michael Laible, Paxxal
Mike Lewis, Xtreme RFID	Salim Baltagi, Polymer Logistics
RPA Staff: Tim Debus	Shawn Stockman, ReturnCenter
	Sarah Kate Conway, Tosca

Agenda Item 1: Project Updates

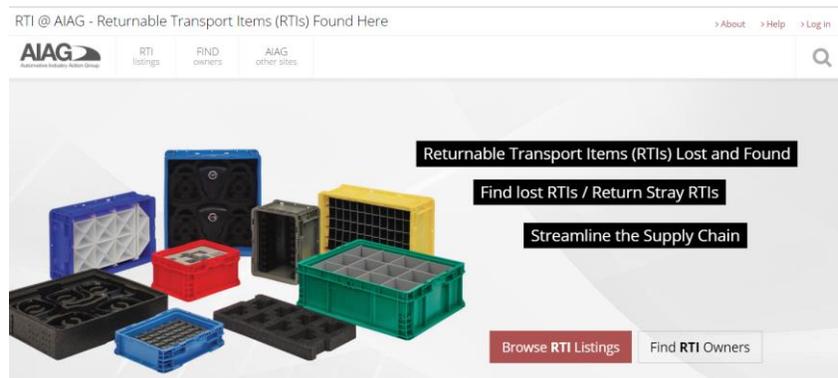
- A. *Physical Barrier Study.* No new developments were reported on a study to quantify the impact of physical structures in the safeguarding of reusable packaging from loss and theft at retail. This project is a preliminary agenda item for further discussion with retailers at the committee meeting and roundtable session on July 24 at the Texas Retailers Association Forum event (see below “Retailer Engagement”).
- B. *Food Bank Recovery.* A project proposal is being developed for presentation to Feeding America and Feeding Texas organizations in effort to collaborate in the process improvement for the effective recovery of reusable packaging from food donations. Once completed a draft document will be distributed to the committee for review. RPA is working to set up a meeting with Feeding America and Feeding Texas for discussion on the reusable packaging opportunity and proposed research and pilot project.
- C. *Retailer Engagement on Loss Prevention.* On March 22, a calendar invitation was sent to committee members scheduling the Texas Retailers Association’s Forum event, July 23-24, in Fort Worth, Texas, as the venue for an in-person committee meeting. The committee meeting will take place in the afternoon on Monday, July 24, including a planned roundtable discussion with members of TRA involved in loss prevention. As part of RPA’s sponsorship of the TRA Forum, RPA committee members will be able to attend the Forum without registration cost; however, travel and hotel costs are at the member’s expense. RPA members will have access to the TRA hotel room block and rate. More details and arrangements on the RPA’s activities at the TRA Forum will be provided to the committee soon. Confirmation of attendance from committee members will be important for planning and headcount purposes.



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Agenda Item 2: New Business

- The RPA program results at the ProMat show were reviewed. Twenty RPA members exhibited in the reusable packaging pavilion and fourteen education sessions were held in the Sustainable Solutions Theater, including topics on automation, asset tracking and reverse logistics.
- Paul Koleske of Tosca brought back a topic discussed at last year's committee meeting involving an industry database for reporting and recovering lost reusable packaging products. The ability for RPA members to report on products found astray could be a valuable collaborative tool for members to improve asset recovery. A similar "lost and found" online reporting tool has been developed by the Automotive Industry Action Group (AIAG). AIAG's "Returnable Transport Items (RTI) portal is open to the public and can be found here: <https://rti.aiag.org>. Further discussion on this opportunity for RPA members will continue on the committee agenda.



The Operations & Logistics Committee meeting on April 19 was adjourned until the next recurring monthly conference call scheduled for May 17.