



## **26 April, 2013 MEDIA RELEASE**

**-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --**

### **Winner of 2013 BIC Award Announced**

CATANIA, Italy – The winner of the 2013 BIC Award was announced today at the North South Conference on Intermodal Transportation. The winner of the inaugural award is **Mr. Michael Bohlman** of the United States.

Since its founding in 1933, the mission of the Bureau International des Containers has been to promote the safe, secure and sustainable expansion of containerization and intermodal transportation. The BIC Award honors an organization or individual for a significant contribution to the advancement of these goals. In announcing the decision, the BIC Board of Directors cited in particular Mr. Bohlman's 40 years active involvement in the International Standards Organization Technical Committee 104 on Freight Containers, including nearly 20 years as Chairman.

BIC Chairman Michael Hennemand stated, "Michael's record of dedication to our industry speaks for itself. Many of us at the BIC have had the pleasure of working alongside Michael over the years and so we have been well placed both to witness and to benefit from his excellent stewardship of TC104, as well as his leadership in other organizations. We are very pleased to be able to honor Michael Bohlman for his many decades of important contribution."

Mr. Bohlman is President of the consulting firm Knows Maritime, Chairman of BIMCO's Maritime Security Committee and a member of BIMCO's Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He recently stepped down from his long standing leadership roles as Chairman of the Board of the Chamber of Shipping of America, PMSA Board member, Vice President of the American Maritime Association, Deputy Chairman of ICHCA International's International Safety Panel and Chairman of the ISO TC 104. He recently retired from US containership operator Horizon Lines where he was responsible for safety, security, environmental protection, Customs, ship-to-shore communications, crew management, labor relations and regulatory compliance. Mr. Bohlman is a retired Captain, US Coast Guard Reserves.

The BIC chose to announce the winner of the inaugural award at the North South Conference on Intermodal Transport in Catania, Italy, where it is marking its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The BIC Award is to be presented annually at a major industry event. Nominations are accepted throughout the year with the final selection being made by the Board of Directors in the spring of each year.

### **About the BIC**

Founded by the International Chamber of Commerce in 1933 as a neutral, non-profit, international organization, the BIC's mission is to promote the safe, secure,



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sustainable expansion of intermodal transportation. The BIC has played an important role in the growth of containerization with its long-established and active role in the development of standards, and its appointment by the International Standards Organization (ISO) in 1972 as the industry's global container prefix registry – a registry further endorsed by the World Customs Organization (WCO) through requirements in the Customs Conventions on Containers and the Istanbul Convention. Today, the BIC code is the “international calling card” of nearly every container in international trade, allowing for proper identification and facilitating the crossing of borders without delay. As the BIC celebrates its 80th anniversary, it continues its active role in the development of sensible standards in the container industry and the promotion of professional dialogue amongst its 1800+ members, standards bodies, governments and other industry organizations.

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