



Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles

MAKING THE BUSINESS CASE FOR COSTHA MEMBERSHIP



In today's fast-paced and ever-evolving world of dangerous goods transportation compliance, staying connected to regulatory updates, industry best practices, and expert networks is essential for achieving operational excellence and upholding safety. Becoming a member of the **Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles (COSTHA)** is a strategic investment in compliance, efficiency, and continuous improvement.

COSTHA membership provides year-round access to critical regulatory insights, expert support, exclusive opportunities, and a network of professionals and agencies that influence and interpret dangerous goods transportation regulations worldwide.

Membership is more than a subscription - it's a long-term commitment to enhancing compliance, developing professional expertise, and strengthening your organization's risk management and regulatory readiness. This ongoing connection to industry intelligence and thought leadership helps you stay aligned with regulatory expectations and remain competitive.

Use the letter and email template below to show your management why COSTHA membership is a strategic and valuable opportunity. Tailor the message to reflect your role and priorities, and consider offering to share member resources, updates, and regulatory insights with your team.

--- LETTER TEMPLATE ---

Dear [Insert Manager's Name],

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to request approval for our organization to join the **Council on Safe Transportation of Hazardous Articles (COSTHA)**, an influential industry association dedicated to the safe transportation of dangerous goods. COSTHA is one of the most active and respected associations in the field of dangerous goods transportation. As a COSTHA member, we will gain access to valuable resources, expert support, and opportunities to advocate for regulatory standards that directly impact our operations.

Why COSTHA Membership is a Strategic Investment:

- **Global Advocacy and Direct Participation in Rulemaking**

COSTHA holds Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) status with the United Nations Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (UN SCOE TDG) and the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meetings. Through this status, COSTHA submits proposals, offers subject matter expertise, and collaborates with regulators from around the world on regulatory matters. COSTHA's active involvement in these sessions gives members a direct channel to influence the development of global transportation regulations. By participating in these discussions, they help shape rules that can enhance safety and, in many cases, lower compliance costs. As a member, our company will receive timely insights and updates, allowing us to stay ahead of regulatory changes across air, sea, road, and rail transport, and to adapt our operations with greater confidence and efficiency.

COSTHA contributes to shaping guidance for battery transport safety by actively participating in the UN Informal Working Group on Lithium Batteries, which reviews transport classification and test criteria.

- **Representation with Key National Agencies**

COSTHA actively participates in rulemaking and advisory processes with a wide range of US, Canadian, and Mexico agencies, including:

- US DOT agencies: PHMSA, FAA, FMCSA, FRA, EPA, OSHA
- US Coast Guard
- USPS Mailers Technical Advisory Committee
- Transport Canada's GPAC, MACTDG, and the CGSB Committees
- Mexico's SICT Subcommittee on Ground Transport of Hazardous Materials

Through these engagements, COSTHA advocates for harmonized regulations, provides early alerts on proposed rule changes, and works to prevent burdensome or duplicative compliance requirements.

- **Opportunities to Shape Industry Direction**

Membership offers a direct opportunity to join COSTHA's working groups and roundtables, which evolve based on member concerns. These groups provide a platform to raise operational issues, propose practical solutions, and collaborate with other companies to drive effective change.

- **Access to Expert Support and Timely Information**

COSTHA's staff includes leading regulatory compliance experts. Members also receive:

- Timely updates through the COSTHA Chronicle, Post eNewsletter, and regulatory bulletins
- Access to a diverse membership for benchmarking with industry experts and leaders
- Participation in Educational & Professional Development series and Power Hour sessions featuring timely, expert-led discussions on current challenges, emerging trends, and evolving regulatory requirements. Members gain actionable insights and opportunities for professional growth and peer-to-peer learning.

These resources will help us respond quickly to regulatory changes and maintain strong internal compliance practices.

- **Networking, Collaboration, and Professional Development**

COSTHA membership provides access to a diverse network of industry professionals, regulators, and technical experts. Through events such as the COSTHA Annual Forum and member meetings, participants benefit from:

- Networking with industry leaders and regulators
- Sharing best practices and benchmarking with peers
- Building strategic relationships that support compliance efforts
- Gaining insights from global industry experts
- Accessing targeted training opportunities

COSTHA's collaborative environment is designed to help companies like ours stay informed and proactive.

- **Widespread Organizational Value**

Membership extends to all employees at our corporate headquarters, while subsidiaries can join at discounted rates. This allows us to share regulatory insights and resources across teams and regions

Watch this short video: [Snapshot - What COSTHA Is All About](#) to learn more about COSTHA.

Explore the [2024 COSTHA Annual Membership Report](#) to see recent accomplishments.

Conclusion

COSTHA membership would be a valuable asset to our organization. It offers a rare combination of advocacy at the strategic level, regulatory insight, and practical tools that support safety, compliance, and operational efficiency. I believe this investment will help us remain competitive in an increasingly complex regulatory landscape while supporting more informed decision-making and strategic alignment.

I would be happy to provide periodic updates to our team and help integrate COSTHA resources into our internal compliance efforts.

Thank you for considering this request.

Best regards,
[Your Name]