



ICCA International
CORRUGATED CASE ASSOCIATION

500 Park Boulevard Suite 985 Itasca, IL 60143 USA
Phone 847/364-9600 Fax 847/364-9639 www.iccanet.org



WORLD
CONTAINERBOARD
ORGANISATION

International Corrugated Case Association (ICCA) and World Container Board Organisation (WCO) had their Global Summit at Rihga Royal Hotel, Osaka, Japan from 19 – 23 May 2025.

Brief History of ICCA:

International Corrugated Case Association was founded by Mr. Klinge in Paris on 24th March 1961 and later moved its office to Illinois, USA in 70's. Its star products have been “Global Statistics” and “Global Summit”, the first one being organized in 1973.

Factory Visit to Yashio Paper Mills:

Members of FCBM started their tour by visiting Yashio Paper Mill & Packaging Showroom of Rengo in Tokyo on 16 May 2025 attended by Mr. ML Agarwal, Mr. Anil K Reddy, Mr. Ankkit Agarwal, Mr. Ramanand Agarwal & Mr. Abhay Agarwal.

We were given a tour of their PM 7 which was highly automated that makes corrugated medium ranging from 90 – 125 gsm and is a triple wire machine.

Few most striking things about the visit were:

- They have 5 paperboard machines in operation that produce 1 million tons of paper a year translating to almost 3000 tons a day, in one location!
- Their newest grade of paper is LCC – Less caliper & carbon emission. Shows the focus towards lower GSM.
- Sniffer dogs are used to check “ODOR” in OCC. Shows how few issues can have simple yet effective solutions.
- Water discharge is made to government ETP Plants. Big relief compared to Indian counterparts who have to invest in own ETP and zero water discharge.

We also visited their packaging showroom of Rengo where they displayed range of products they offer from corrugated to flexible packaging to providing case makers/carton erectors to the end user.

Association Leaders Meeting:

20th May 2025 we attended the “Leaders Meeting” which was attended by association leaders from USA(Fibre Box Association), Europe(FEFCO), Hong Kong(HKCPA), Taiwan(CLC), Japan(JCCA) and India(FCBM).

Mr. ML Agarwal (ICCA Vice-Chairman 1), Mr. Anil K Reddy ((Past President) and Mr. Ankkit Agarwal(Vice President 2) represented India.

Counterparts from Japan mentioned they measure of efficient is TFP – Total Factory Productivity and were willing to share more information upon request.

Counterparts from Europe offered to host a webinar on “Cyber Security” and we will plan it soon.

Counterparts from Hong Kong and Taiwan were majorly concerned about the Tariff & Trade Wars and its impact on their economy.

Taiwanese also spoke about how they are integrating Ai into corrugated industry and are willing to share more information in the days to come.

This was followed by the Board meeting and the main agenda was APPROVAL OF ICCA BOARD AND OFFICERS FOR 2025-2027.

- Mr. ML Agarwal, Chairman – FCBM of India.
- Mr. Stefano Rossi, Vice Chairman 1 – DS Smith.
- A North American company will be announced for Vice Chairman 2 post shortly.
- Mr. TM Raghavan as India Officer
- Mr. Ankkit Agarwal as 2027 Global Summit Coordinator.

Global Summit:

Global Summit commenced with Mr. Yosuke Kawamoto, Chairman of ICCA welcoming the Board of Directors to Osaka with a welcome dinner at the Osaka Castle on 19th June .

Kawamoto San is the President & COO of Rengo Co., Ltd., and Mr. Sada Toshinobu San was the 2025 Global coordinator from Rengo.

Day 1:

Hon’ble Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shingeru Ishiba addressed the gathering virtually and congratulated Rengo for the impactful work and corrugated industry for its sustainable nature.

This was followed by what was the highlight of the Global Summit for me personally was a speech from Mr. Otsbu San, Chairman of Rengo Co., Ltd., and ICCA Chairman for 2005-2007.

- In his speech he mentioned that India along with China is where is maximum growth and opportunity is for the next decade!
- He emphasized on TFP concept and Less carbon emission.
- A poem he quoted by Samuel Willams stayed with me titled “Youth”

***Youth is not a time of life,
It is a state of mind.***

- A mind-blowing statistic he mentioned is the global production of corrugated board has risen from 128 billion square meters in 2005 to 275 billion square meters in 2025!

Day 2:**This day was all about Dx – Digital Transformation and its impact on Corrugated Industry:**

Nomura Research Institute presented a paper of AI Impact and the most emerging AI technologies.

Interesting, the combinations mentioned were

DOCTOR+AI

TEACH+AI

CODE+AI

Generative AI can be used In sales; it will not take your job BUT the person/company that understands it will!

Take away from this session was to use AI as a tool and ENABLER .

AI Impact:

Mr. Bob from Fibre Box Association, USA spoke about a big threat that is emerging in the USA where Walmart is building a fully automated warehouse which do not need boxes!

Global Summit concluded with Mr. Yosuke Kawamoto, Chairman of ICCA thanking the Board of Directors and support staff and announced Mr. ML Agarwal from FCBM of India as ICCA Chairman 2025-27.

Medallion Ceremony:

A Gala Dinner followed and the MEDALLION which was presented to ICCA by Mr. Smurfit in 70's and has been a tradition to pass it on to the Chairman since.

The presentation ceremony where Mr. Kawamoto San formally announced Mr. ML Agarwal as Chairman along with passing on the Medallion happened amongst cheer and happiness in the grand ball room by raising a toast to the future, to India!

Penned down by Ankit Agarwal, Vice President 2, FCBM of India.