



Smart move: ‘Smart Port City’ champion HAROPA Le Havre joins International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA)

The International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA) has welcomed HAROPA Port of Le Havre as its newest member.

Le Havre, France’s number one port, is a multipurpose port hub and at the centre of a major industrial cluster. Located on the Seine estuary, it handles two out of every three of France’s import/export containers, and also handles crude oil, liquid and dry bulks, vehicles, breakbulk, roll-on/roll-off freight and passenger services, and cruise ships. It is part of HAROPA, which also includes the ports of Rouen and Paris and is one of Northern Europe’s top five port complexes. The three ports have worked together since 2012 and are progressing towards a full merger, to become one company from January 2021.



*Picture: Entrée du port du Havre - avant port - port de plaisance
Crédit : HAROPA - Port du Havre*

“In the past, the three ports have been in competition – but we recognise we can work together because we are serving the same consumer market. More than ever we have very complementary activity,” said Jérôme Besancenot, information systems manager

at HAROPA Port of Le Havre. “The HAROPA partners handle 125m tonnes of cargo a year. Through HAROPA, we are working to deliver an integrated logistics solution for the Seine corridor.”

Most notably, HAROPA is positioning itself as the first ‘smart corridor’, and the Port of Le Havre has secured investment for its innovative Smart Port City Project in partnership with ‘Le Havre Seine Metropole’ Urban Community to develop digital solutions for increased



efficiency and environmental performance. The Smart Port City Project has 80 public and private sector partners and aims to tackle the challenges of port, industry and city being in close proximity.

“We want to create the port of the future and provide a ‘smarter’ territory through a new integrated industry and port model,” he explained. “The project will include developing and innovating a data exchange platform to provide more added value from digital data, including developing KPIs.”

Le Havre port already has a close link with IPCSA through its shareholding in SOGET, which was a founding member of the association in 2011.

SOGET operates the port’s cargo community system, enabling the paperless flow of information relating to goods, business and customs clearance. The Port Authority of Le Havre operates a port community system which deals with ship calls, port operations, dangerous goods management, port dues and other matters. A few years ago, the Port Authority launched S-WiNG – Single Window Next Generation, which brings together the PCS with SOGET’s new S)ONE solution.

Other initiatives include working with Waze to optimise traffic flow when locks or bridges are closed; setting up an intelligent information system to track the movement of dangerous goods; using big data to monitor air quality, water quality and even acoustic underwater pollution; and working in partnership with industrial companies on a 5G proof-of-concept.

“We already have close links with IPCSA through SOGET and through our membership of PROTECT,” said Jérôme Besancenot. “We are convinced that the way forward is to have more services within the supply chain and more interaction between PCS and supply chain providers. We want to work with IPCSA on priorities such as standards, including Blockchain and intelligent containers. Of course it is important to have our own strategy but it is also important to share and to exchange data, because a solution cannot be used separately.”



He added: “The port is at the heart of the supply chain; we have to provide standard interfaces if we want to be connected tomorrow with other partners, and in order to interact via Maritime Single Windows between countries. Being a member of IPCSA will help us to stay aligned with the overall approach and to have a broader vision about international trade.

“We are confident that this new merging of HAROPA will give us more opportunity to progress, and our teams will be able to learn a lot from IPCSA.”

Richard Morton, secretary general of IPCSA, said: “We are delighted to welcome HAROPA Le Havre as a member of IPCSA. We have had a close relationship with Jérôme and many others at Le Havre through SOGET and also through PROTECT, the standards specialist group which was integrated into IPCSA in 2019. We look forward to working together on numerous exciting initiatives ahead.”

Notes to editors:

About IPCSA

IPCSA is an international association of sea and air port community operators, sea and air port authorities and single window operators that is recognised across the globe for providing advice and guidance on the electronic exchange of information across borders and throughout the whole supply chain.

The association currently has members from across the globe who handle the exchange of information for Business to Business, Government to Business and Government to Government processes and facilitate the smooth cross-border movement of goods. This equates to the electronic exchange of information relating to more than 500 million TEU movements and 10 billion tonnes of cargo for air, sea and land transport – estimated to be in excess of 50 billion million exchanges every year.



IPCSA focuses on supporting and facilitating systems and innovations for Port Community System members and users, and promoting the use of international data standards in sea and air ports, at border crossings and via Single Window systems around the world. IPCSA is a recognised NGO with consultative status at UNECOSOC and IMO.

The PROTECT Group, develops and supports the electronic reporting required by authorities for vessels entering or leaving a port or port area. It maintains and develops EDI through the PROTECT Guide. In January 2020 PROTECT integrated into IPCSA
www.protect-group.org

About HAROPA

HAROPA, the 5th largest port complex in Northern Europe, is a joint venture between the ports of Le Havre, Rouen and Paris. It is connected to every continent owing to a first-rate international shipping offer (linking around 700 ports worldwide). It serves a vast hinterland the centre of which is in the Seine valley and the Paris region forming the biggest French consumer market area. With around 10 Normandy and Paris area partner ports, HAROPA now forms in France a global transport and logistics system, capable of providing a comprehensive end-to-end service. HAROPA handles over 120 million tons of cargo by sea and waterway each year. HAROPA business represents 160,000 jobs.

www.haropaports.com

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