

The Baltic Sea Hub & Spokes Project

The Baltic Sea Hub and Spokes Project aims at stimulating the creation of an efficient hub and spokes system, linking the ports of Gothenburg and Aarhus with the port of Tallinn, leading to a more sustainable use of port resources and a shift from land to sea traffic in the Baltic Sea Region.

The core of the Baltic Sea Hub and Spokes system is an efficient and secure distribution of containerised cargo and information. The main driver is to attract shipping lines with direct calls from overseas destinations to the hubs and facilitate efficient transshipment solutions by feeder vessels to the spokes ports in the Baltic Sea Region.

The main components for the creation of the hub and spokes system are including the following:

- Creation of *cooperation mechanisms* linking the ports Aarhus, Gothenburg and Tallinn together by common actions that will integrate their operations.
- Improving *hinterland connections* to the ports in the hub and spokes system

This has resulted in a strategy that will extend the experiences learned from the project to further include more ports in the Baltic Sea Region.

Results of the strategy have led to a vision and a mission statement as result of the successful implementation of the Baltic Sea Hub and Spokes Project.

Vision

“It is better to reach the Baltic Sea market by sea than by road”

Mission

“To facilitate a modal shift in the Baltic Sea Region from land transport to sea transport by stimulating an attractive hub and spokes system”

Ports of Aarhus, Gothenburg and Tallinn

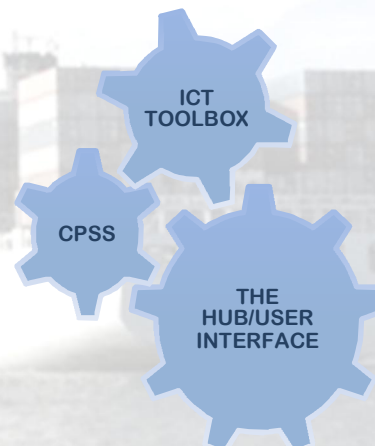
Three ports are included in the first as a pilot project for testing the concept.

The ports of Aarhus and Gothenburg constitute the hubs whilst the port of Tallinn functions as the spokes port in the pilot system.

Tools for Distribution of Information

A main factor for a successful development of the hub and spokes system is the creation of common tools for efficient distribution of information within each of the port communities and between participating ports in the hub and spokes system.

The project will thus implement three intra-organisational tools which aim at increasing efficiency in communication and thus provide opportunities for more cost-efficient and reliable sea transports within the hub and spokes system.



Tools developed to improve distribution of information within the hub and spokes system

- The *ICT Toolbox* is an ICT-system for rapid exchange of reliable live port production data
- The *CPSS* component (Common Port Security Standards) is a joint effort on finding possibilities to harmonise port security procedures
- The *Hub/User Interface* includes the creation of an open market information system providing possibilities to communicate the sea transport market solutions for the ports and shipping lines in the Baltic Sea Region



The Baltic Sea Hub & Spokes Project

Efficient and Secure Hinterland Connections

In excess to the development of intra-organisational tools for secure and rapid exchange of information between the ports within the hub and spokes system, efficient and secure hinterland connections are pre-conditional for reaching critical mass to attract deep-sea container vessels to the Baltic Sea Region.

The ports of Gothenburg and Aarhus have substantial shares of their respective domestic market for seawards container transport. Further development of the hinterland connections, based on the increased transshipment through the respective ports, are of great importance not to jeopardise their respective service to their domestic markets.

The Baltic Sea Hub and Spokes Project aims at removing bottlenecks in road and rail access preventing a long-term sustainable growth in volumes by the implementation of three main infrastructural investments:

Port Access Aarhus

The investments aim to increase the road accessibility from the main road network to the Port of Aarhus to ease the impact of increased freight traffic on the nearby community.



Port Access Aarhus

Port Access Gothenburg

The activities implemented in Gothenburg aims at increasing both road and rail access to the port by upgrading rail facilities and building new road infrastructure to increase the access to the port and reduce impact on the society.



Port Access Gothenburg

Port Security Tallinn

Facilitating more secure and efficient access to the port terminals has led to investments in port security infrastructure in the harbours constituting the Ports of Tallinn organisation.

The Baltic Sea Hub and Spokes Project

(2010- EU-21108-P) is a joint cooperation between the partners Municipality of Aarhus, Swedish Transport Administration, Port of Aarhus, Port of Gothenburg, Port of Tallinn and APM Terminals Gothenburg co-financed under the TEN-T Motorways of the Sea Programme

www.balticseahubspokes.eu



Co-financed by the European Union
Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T)