dcsa

A word from our CEO Thomas Bagge

As the year and pandemic roll on, we stop to reflect on the toll they have taken on individuals and on our collective spirit as humans. While social distancing and virtual meetings have their role, we realise that physical, human-to-human connections are often irreplaceable.

Along those lines, Q3 was a period of connection and reconnection for DCSA. Our team held meetings in the office or privately when possible, always following local safety guidelines. We focused on creating digital standards to improve connections along the physical logistics chain, never losing sight that human connection is the true driver of digital transformation.

During the quarter we released standards for the digital exchange of operational vessel schedules (OVS) and our first set of standards for cargo operations. Both releases address the opportunity to further optimise collaboration between container carriers, terminal operators, ports and intermodal service providers.

As always, our door is open for input and collaboration from all stakeholders. Creating an infrastructure for making better connections is a group effort, and we need all hands on board.

Our mission

To shape the digital future of container shipping by being the industry's collective voice, working towards alignment and standardisation.
By setting frameworks for effective, universally adoptable solutions and innovating, we can enable transparent, reliable, easy to use, secure and environmentally friendly container transportation services.

Q3 at a glance

In Q3 we wrapped up three publications, two with input from a few of the world's largest ports and terminals. We also continued our in-depth dialogues with shippers to gain insights into their needs.

In June we began outreach to shippers that continued through Q3. Our discussions culminated in a survey of logistics decisionmakers in shipper organisations who told us what shippers really want. In a word – **visibility**.

~70%
shippers surveyed
**will switch service provider
for better cargo visibility**

eBL Feedback

Nearly 70% of survey participants would switch to a carrier that offered[1]:

High schedule reliability

Guaranteed arrival times

Proactive communication around exceptions

Shippers want to know and be in control of what's happening to their shipments. DCSA standards will enable carriers who adopt them to provide the transparency and control shippers want.

Survey respondents also said container shipping should emulate more digitally advanced industries, such as:

Airlines   **Banking**   **E-Commerce**   **Hotel chains**

[1] DCSA survey of North American shippers

Q3 2020 publications

In Q3 we published OVS data definitions and our first set of standards for cargo operations. To make it even easier to adopt our standards, we also standardised best practices for creating DCSA-ready APIs.

OVS (Operational Vessel Schedule) Standards

Establishes standards for automatic sharing of vessel schedule information between carrier VSA partners and operational providers. This publication includes:

DCSA Industry Blueprint 2.0 with OVS schedule definitions

DCSA Information Model 2.0

DCSA Data Interface Standards for OVS 1.0

Load List and Bay Plan Definitions

Establishes standards and timelines for communication of container volumes and stowage details between VSA partners, terminals and ports. These will help maximise efficiency of cargo operations and enable better planning of related shipping activities. This is the first in a series of standards releases from DCSA that specifically address cargo operations.

API Design Principles

Standardises best practices for API development to make implementation of DCSA-compliant APIs even easier. The best practices will facilitate the design, development and implementation of DCSA-compliant (or really any) APIs.

Building momentum

This year has been about building momentum, which continued unabated in Q3. Our executives were in high demand for industry events and we collaborated with an array of stakeholders on our releases.

Q2 Speaking Engagements

Safety at Sea Cyber Security Webinar
Fortifying the defences - creating cyber risk plans to meet the IMO 2021 deadline

Digital Container Summit 2020 Keynote
Transforming container shipping through digital standards

JOC Webinar
The quest for port efficiency - resetting expectations

Asia Pacific Maritime V-Connect
Reimagining maritime supply chain in a post-pandemic era

Supply Chain Europe 2020 Virtual
Safeguard your business against future supply chain threats

Q2 Press Coverage Highlights

"DCSA launches another drive for information sharing"

FREIGHTWAVES / AMERICAN SHIPPER

"DCSA's Thomas Bagge and the quest to digitise container shipping"

LOADSTAR

"Pandemic accelerates adoption of digital technology"

BIMCO BULLETIN

"Data exchange makes ship timetables more transparent"

HANSA

"How digital standards help keep food fresh"

FOOD LOGISTICS

Q4 outlook

Q4 plans include much-anticipated standards publications for electronic bill of lading (eBL) and Just-in-Time (JIT) port call, as well as our second IoT release.

JIT Port Call (October 2020)

DCSA released its first publication of the DCSA Just-in-Time Port Call programme. By moving container shipping towards a JIT port call process, DCSA port call standards will enable container ships to optimise their steaming speed, thereby lowering fuel consumption and reducing CO_2 emissions.

eBL (December 2020)

DCSA's first eBL publication represents a critical step towards establishing a fully digitised bill of lading for the container shipping industry. This release will standardise the data fields used in the bill of lading, including shipping and issuance instructions.

IoT (December 2020)

Building on our IoT standards for radio gateway interfaces, the second release of DCSA's IoT standards program defines the necessary data elements and structures for enhanced monitoring of smart reefer container data on board a vessel.

We are proud to be supported by our members