



# Newsletter

a quarterly publication about  
standardisation for container shipping

February 2021

## A word from our CEO Thomas Bagge

Greetings! As relieved as we are to put 2020 behind us, we know more uncertainty lies ahead due to the COVID situation.

Fortunately, the pandemic also highlighted the urgency of digitalisation, and the importance of cross-industry collaboration to fast-track acceptance and adoption of digital standards.

Throughout 2020, DCSA released standards to further our long-term vision for digitalising and future-proofing the container shipping industry. These included two initiatives kicked off in the last quarter – eDocumentation, to digitalise and standardise shipping documentation; and Just-in-Time (JIT) Port Call, to standardise data definitions for the port call process.

DCSA's focus for 2021 is to promote adoption among all stakeholders. Without adoption the industry will not benefit from the foundation that has been created. Digital transformation of the container shipping industry, and the resulting improvements in efficiency and customer experience, simply can't happen without widespread adoption of digital standards. Creating an infrastructure for digital transformation is a whole ecosystem effort. Get in touch to get involved.

## 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.



## Q4 at a glance

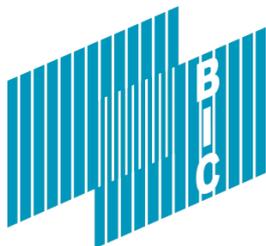
In Q4 we wrapped up three standards publications, including standards for the bill of lading (B/L). We also announced a collaboration with BIC to standardise container facility identification.

### BIC/DCSA Collaboration

In October 2020, BIC and DCSA announced their collaboration to standardise container facility identification codes. BIC also released an API that would enable universal digital access to the codes. The BIC API, which serves both the BIC Facility Code and the SMDG Ocean Terminal Code list, is available to download for free on SwaggerHub.

### BIC and DCSA collaborate to standardize container facility identification

BIC releases API to enable universal digital access.



This is one of many collaborations between DCSA and other standards organisations that will transform inefficient practices and accelerate digitalisation through a unified industry effort.

# Q4 2020 publications

In Q4 we published our first sets of standards for the B/L and JIT port calls. We also published our second set of IoT standards to enable remote reefer container monitoring.

## Standards for the Bill of Lading

As the first release of the DCSA eDocumentation initiative, this publication comprises data and process standards for the submission of shipping instructions and issuance of the bill of lading.

The release includes:

**DCSA Standard for the Bill of Lading 1.0**

**DCSA Industry Blueprint 3.0**

**DCSA Information Model 3.0**

## Just-in-Time Port Call Standards

As the first release of the DCSA JIT Port Call programme, this publication comprises standard data definitions for the port call process. By moving container shipping towards a JIT port call process, DCSA standards will enable container ships to optimise their steaming speed, thereby lowering fuel consumption and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

## Internet of Things (IoT) Standards for Remote Container Monitoring

The second release of the DCSA IoT standards initiative defines a minimum set of data elements to be shared with vessel crew to enable them to monitor smart reefer containers remotely from on board a vessel.

# Building momentum

A year of momentum-building ended in a record-setting quarter of speaking engagements for DCSA executives. It also resulted in a high degree of media interest in our releases, particularly electronic bill of lading (eBL).

## Q4 Speaking Engagements

### Asia Pacific Maritime

Streamlining supply chain costs through e-bill of lading

### Argus Fertilizer Live

A truly global market for fertilizers: shipping in the supply chain

### SCTA

Keeping your daily coffee flowing with digital shipping standards

### Global Liner Shipping

The winding road to industry standardisation: DCSA update & interview

### Smart Ports

New boost in shipping: Shippers & carriers into a standard mode of understanding

### Container Terminal Automation Conference

How data-sharing and collaboration can revolutionise the sector

## Q4 Press Coverage Highlights

“Digital Container Shipping Association helping shape paperless trade”

[FREIGHTWAVES / AMERICAN SHIPPER](#)

“Industry players partner to standardise container facility identification”

[GLOBAL TRADE REVIEW](#)

“Standards set for electronic bills of lading”

[LLYOD’S LOADING LIST](#)

“Digital interoperability key to future-proof efficiency in container shipping”

[SHIPPING AUSTRALIA](#)

“DCSA targets longstanding hurdle with electronic BL standard”

[THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE](#)

“Standardized codes to facilitate digitization of terminal operations”

[MARITIME EXECUTIVE](#)

# Q1 2021 outlook

Q1 will see the release of interface standards for digitalisation of the B/L as well as the launch of our Self-Certified Adopter Programme. We will also hold our second reference user group webinar.

We are proud  
to be supported by  
our members

## B/L (March 2021)

DCSA will release interface standards for preparation and issuance of the B/L to enable digital exchange of B/L data. To facilitate implementation and compliance, API definitions will be published on SwaggerHub and a reference implementation will be made available on GitHub.

## Self-Certified Adopter Programme (March 2021)

The DCSA Self-Certified Adopter Programme Handbook will outline adoption levels for each version of the DCSA standards and provide details of programme benefits and processes. Self-Certification Checklists (SCCs) will also be published as applicable, and everything will be available on our web site to download free of charge.

## Reference User Webinar

We launched the reference user programme in 2020 to enable systematic engagement between DCSA and industry stakeholders, with the aim of gaining insights to improve our work. In March we will conduct our second webinar, focusing on how to drive standards adoption across the industry. We are extending a special invitation to shippers and freight forwarders to provide us with the customer perspective – sign up at <https://dcsa.org/collaborate/>.



EVERGREEN

