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Research driven solutions

eco TAURuS

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The EcoHubs Truck
Appointment & Unit
Status Service

ecoTAURuS: a new breed of software services for green terminals

ecoTAURuS is an innovative e-transport solution for real time truck – terminal collaboration, designed specifically to speed up and optimise the loading and unloading process in multi-modal terminals.

ATO Terminal
Call number: 57D1F2681
Start Time: 26/09/2014 a
End Time: 26/09/2014 a

Optimised Operations

ecoTAURuS delivers a service that allows stakeholders around a group of terminals to increase their effectiveness and optimize their operations through the seamless integration of truck appointments systems and the consolidation of unit status data from multiple sources. ecoTAURuS has been designed and configured to run on smart mobile phones and belongs to a new breed of terminal software services which can be seamlessly integrated with back office systems, able to connect and exchange information with systems regardless if these are made of Legacy or Web 2.0 enabled technologies.

ecoTAURuS Offers

Business innovations: Process improvements addressing weaknesses of existing practices particularly from a collaboration perspective between terminals and their users, offering new services, such as consolidation of logistic chains and increased utilisation of resources.

Technology innovations: secure connectivity infrastructure for terminal stakeholders through Access Points and integration tools for Terminal Community creation and support; it enables the newcomers to 'connect once and talk to everyone' lowering the economic barriers to connect for budget sensitive SMEs. Further, intuitive smartphone interfaces add to user acceptability.

Capacity building: availability of highly cost effective solution and freeware (Access Points, mobile apps, best practice process and data templates for easy configuration and agility) for SME participation.

Functionalities and Differentiators - Unique Value Propositions

ecoTAURuS was conceived and built based on the requirements of two terminal operators, IFB and Adria Kombi, and provides:

Unit Order Management: retrieving, sending and providing visibility on unit order information from multiple sources; shared visibility of preferred unit loading/unloading slots to maximize the potential for direct loading/unloading.

Integration with multiple terminal and other systems: seamless collection of Track Appointment Reservations, Visit/Call IDs, slot availability, TOS generated events.

Trip Order Management: optimised retrieving, updating, sharing of information from multiple sources.

Trucker Mobile Interface: receiving/accepting trip orders from multiple sources, reporting unit status, receiving notifications, transmitting GPS data.

Automated Incident Notifications: notifications for unit delays, traffic data, terminal capacity, congestions, equipment failure through secure channels to the responsible actors/roles.

Information Exchange/Authentication: enhances security and information protection through a single Access (Entry) Point, alleviating the routing concerns for messaging.

Measurement: seamless connection and streaming data flows with measuring and benchmarking application for decision support, process monitoring, and strategic planning.

The system is suitable for terminal and intermodal operators, trucking companies, truckers, and dispatchers. The service is also bundled with complementary security, environmental and marketing services depending on the type of terminal or port.

Benefits

Terminal Business Drivers

Optimised
Terminal Operations

1. Improves awareness of expected truck visits and planning of own resources.
2. Speeds-up trip arrangement administration, reducing effort and cut-off time.
3. Improves direct loading ratio with better appointment system.

Improved
Synchronisation

1. Improves synchronisation between truck and rail scheduling.
2. Minimizes truck queuing and required space for relocating traffic from public road network.
3. Improves synchronization of administrative procedures.

Improved Terminal
Public Image

1. Reduced CO_2 emissions.

Improved Terminal
Customer Experience

1. Expands unit visibility beyond terminal yard operations; User nterface for small companies is included.
2. Reduces waiting times; improves turn-around; increases Truck Load factor.
3.Enhances terminal operations visibility.

Trucking Business Drivers

Optimised
Trucking Operations

1. Minimizes trip arrangement management cost through easy integration with multiple TOS systems.
2. Reduces waiting times; increases Truck Load factor.
3. Minimizes cost/effort for unit status collection through trucker's mobile interface.

Improved Control
& Customer Service

1. Enhances Unit Status awareness.
2.Enhances Terminal Operations visibility.
3. Allows for deviation management and corrective and preventive actions.
4. Offers a smart and user friendly mobile interface.

ecoTAURuS

THE TECHNOLOGY DRIVERS

EDI, first used in the commercial sector in the 1980s to support document exchange in the transportation sector, remain a valid solution for exchanging selected information between a wide range of business port/ terminal partners. The advent of Comprehensive Integration Solutions (CIS) now allows firms to address their EDI needs along with their application and process integration requirements in one solution.

The EcoHubs infrastructure supports the implementation of innovative Value Added Services by enabling the configuration and setup of applications, integrating specialised components for end user functionality delivery, data exchanges and information provision. The infrastructure is highly flexible acting as a network enabler and solution provider at a fraction of the cost of older technologies allowing terminals to upgrade their systems and SMEs to join the digital economy.

5+

Five terminals/ports sign on already for trials

Adria Combi

IFB

Port of Patras

Port of Piraeus

Port of Alexandroupolis

Typical Business Drivers

"The port currently faces challenges in terms of security improvements and environmental performance. Our intention is to trial EcoTaurus with a new access control system relying on advanced information for trucks and cargo. In particular EcoTaurus will help us reduce truck traffic from the congested port perimeter, better utilise truck availability, reduce emissions from congestion, and, reduce nuisance for citizens".