



## **IPCSA and TIC4.0 Announce Joint White Paper on Port Digital Orchestration Strategy**

**VALENCIA, April 24, 2026**

The International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA) and Terminal Industry Committee 4.0 (TIC4.0) have officially announced a strategic collaboration during the TIC4.0 General Assembly in Valencia, unveiling a new joint white paper. The joint initiative aims to bridge the digital divide between terminal operations and the broader port ecosystem, facilitating seamless, standardised, and trusted data exchange across all stakeholders.

“By combining IPCSA’s expertise in port community data orchestration with TIC4.0’s leadership in terminal digitalisation, this collaboration establishes a common digital language and architecture that enables seamless, secure, and sustainable data exchange across the entire port ecosystem,” said Javier Gallardo, Chairman of IPCSA.

Driven directly by operational stakeholders such as terminals and PCS operators, this unique partnership acts as a "convergence layer" between existing standards rather than simply creating a new one. It focuses on practical interoperability through API-first and real-time data sharing, backed by trusted data governance.

TIC4.0 President, Boris Wenzel stated: “This collaboration marks a relevant step forward in addressing one of the persistent gaps in port digitalisation: the existing isolation between terminal operations and the wider port ecosystem. At TIC4.0, we have consistently advocated for a common, industry-driven framework that enables terminals to integrate seamlessly with external stakeholders without increasing complexity. “

“We are focused on practical interoperability that is globally scalable but regionally adaptable,” explained Nico De Cauwer, Secretary General of IPCSA. “By connecting

terminal intelligence with port-wide digital orchestration, this joint effort will unlock true standardised supply chain visibility for everyone involved".

Central to this initiative is the development of a reference architecture—an “interoperability blueprint”—that defines exactly how Terminal Operating Systems (TOS), Port Community Systems (PCS), and external stakeholders will interact.

This framework is designed to deliver specific, actionable benefits to different players in the supply chain:

- **Terminal Operators** will experience reduced integration complexity through a "send once – use many" model, better synchronization with hinterland and landside data, and improved planning capabilities fueled by richer inbound and outbound data.
- **PCS Operators and Port Authorities** will benefit from higher data quality and a stronger role as neutral data orchestrators, allowing them to offer value-added services such as predictive ETAs, congestion management, and digital twins.

TIC 4.0 Vice-President, Norbert Klettner highlighted: “The interoperability blueprint we are developing together with IPCSA provides exactly that: a practical, standards-based architecture that allows data to be shared once and used many times, in a secure and trusted environment. This initiative is about turning data into coordinated action, improving predictability, efficiency, and sustainability across the entire container logistics chain.”

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