

# Vancouver Fraser Port Authority joins IPCSA's global membership

The International Port Community Systems Association (IPCSA) has welcomed the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority as its newest member.

The International Port Community Systems Association is pleased to announce the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is joining its global membership with the introduction of their Connect+ digitalisation and optimisation programmes.

As the federal agency responsible for Canada's largest port, the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority oversees the use of port land and water. The Port of Vancouver is able to handle the most diversified range of cargo in North America: bulk, containers, breakbulk, liquid bulk, automobiles and cruise. As Canada's gateway to over 170 trading economies around the world, the port handles \$1 of every \$3 of Canada's trade in goods outside of North America. Enabling



the trade of approximately \$305 billion in goods, port activities sustain 115,300 jobs, \$7 billion in wages, and \$11.9 billion in GDP across Canada.

Trade through the port has been increasing steadily over the past ten years and is forecast to keep growing at about 3.5% annually, and the port authority is working to prepare for this growth through investments in infrastructure capacity and supply chain optimisation initiatives.



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“The Port of Vancouver is unique in how it encompasses a broad variety of customers and supply chains,” said Peter Xotta, Vice-President of Operations and Supply Chain. “In addition to our efforts to enhance physical infrastructure, the port authority recognizes the importance of developing digital infrastructure and enhancing data exchange to increase the capacity of the trade network, as well as improve the efficiency and reliability of supply chains in the region. These initiatives will help reduce operational bottlenecks and ensure Canada’s supply chains remain competitive.”

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority recently launched its Connect+ programme to bring together and develop the port authority’s supply chain digitalisation and optimisation projects. The aim is to increase innovation, data sharing and collaboration across the supply chains that move through the port.

“Connect+ represents the collective work we are doing to optimise supply chains through innovation and collaboration,” said Andrew Hamilton, the port authority’s

Director of Supply Chain Optimisation. “As part of Connect+, the port authority is working closely with industry partners and stakeholders to develop new tools and initiatives, including predictive analytics and forecasting tools, digital dashboards and new data sharing and reporting tools for industry and supply chain partners to support informed decision making. We want to take a step in this direction that adds real value for users of this gateway.”

Joining IPCSA will be extremely valuable for the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, he added. “This is an opportunity for us to learn from our peers with impressive Port Community System models in other jurisdictions and to deepen our collaboration with industry partners.”

As part of Connect+, a new Port Community System is being developed. “The data management platform has been selected for the Supply Chain Visibility programme, and we have worked in collaboration with industry partners to find out what data will help extract the most capacity for the trade network,” said Sandor Smith, Manager of Digitisation and Gateway Innovation. “We are now in the process of engaging with partners on a data governance framework to ensure alignment and incorporate key considerations from stakeholders around

data security, access, and usage. We want to learn from IPCSA members who have already implemented Port Community Systems. We are interested in hearing about the implementation challenges and best practice in terms of governance and commercial structures.”

Nico De Cauwer, Secretary General of IPCSA, said: “We are delighted to welcome Vancouver Fraser Port Authority to our steadily increasing global membership. As an association, we pride ourselves on the willingness of all members to share experience and expertise around the creation, development and operation of Port Community Systems and Single Window operations. While there are many common challenges in every such operation, each port also has its own individual challenges and achievements. We look forward to sharing information with Vancouver, in what will surely be a two-way exchange of knowledge and ideas.”

# About IPCSA

IPCSA is an international association of Sea and Air Port Community System operators, sea and air port authorities and Single Window operators that is recognised across the globe for providing advice and guidance on the electronic exchange of information across borders and throughout the whole supply chain.

The association has members from across the globe who handle the exchange of information for Business to Business, Government to Business and Government to Government processes and facilitate the smooth cross-border movement of goods. This equates to the electronic exchange of information relating to more than 500 million TEU movements and 10 billion tonnes of cargo for air, sea and land transport – estimated to be in excess of 50 billion million exchanges every year.

IPCSA focuses on supporting and facilitating systems and innovations for Port Community System members and users, and promoting the use of international data standards in sea and air ports, at border crossings and via Single Window systems around the world. IPCSA is a recognised NGO with consultative status at UNECOSOC and IMO.

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