# MARKET POWER AND VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL INTEGRATION IN THE MARITIME SHIPPING AND PORT INDUSTRY

Eddy Van de Voorde and Thierry Vanelslander Departement of Transport and Regional Economics (TPR) University of Antwerp





# CONTENT

- Complexity of the maritime logistics chain
- Forms of integration in maritime logistics
- Recent trends in horizontal and vertical agreements
- Reasons for integration
- Future scenarios
- Conclusion





# COMPLEXITY OF THE MARITIME LOGISTICS CHAIN

- Nature of competition has changed
- A maritime logistics chain consists of three large sections
- Seaports' main distinguishing factors
- How to increase control over logistics chains?





## SEAPORTS' MAIN DISTINGUISHING FACTORS'

Factor	Possible states
Activity scope	Complete – limited
Lay-out	Tidal - non-tidal; basins - no basins
Location	Coastal – river; large - small population hinterland
Organization	Land lord – limited operating – operating
Security	High – moderate – Iow
Traffic	High – moderate – small; mixed – containers only – bulk only





# INTERACTIONS BETWEEN PORT-RELATED PLAYERS





## FORMS OF INTEGRATION IN THE MARITIME LOGISTICS CHAIN

#### Starting point:

- Global economy continues to be the motor of the maritime sector
- The strategically important role of shipping companies
- Structural evolutions within ports (e.g. traditional stevedoring firms become terminal operating companies)





#### 6 STRATEGIC COOPERATION IN THE MARITIME SECTOR

Actors	Shipping companies	Terminal operating companies	Port authorities	Hinterland operators
Shipping companies	<ul> <li>Vessel sharing agreements</li> <li>Joint-ventures</li> <li>Consortia</li> <li>Alliances</li> <li>Mergers/acquisitions</li> <li>Conferences</li> </ul>			
Terminal operating companies	<ul> <li>Joint-ventures</li> <li>Dedicated terminals</li> <li>Share</li> <li>Consortia</li> </ul>	• Mergers/ acquisitions		
Port authorities	• Concessions for dedicated terminals	<ul><li> Concessions</li><li> Joint-ventures</li></ul>	• Alliances	
Hinterland operators	<ul> <li>Block trains and capacity sharing</li> <li>Acquisition</li> </ul>	• Joint-ventures		• Alliances



# HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CO-OPERATION AMONG SHIPPING COMPANIES AND TOCS

- Concentration drive has lost momentum
- Vertical co-operation: applied a lot more commonly by shipping companies (cf. dedidated operating contracts)
- 8 of the top-15 TOCs are subsidiaries of shipping companies





### **REASONS FOR INTEGRATION**

- The industrial-economic aim of horizontal and vertical co-operation is often quite different
- Horizontal co-operation
  - do recent horizontal mergers in the maritime and port sector confirm the existence of economies of scale and scope?

#### Vertical co-operation

- central question: how can the vertical chain be organised more efficiently?
- the 'make-or-buy' decision



### THE NEED FOR FURTHER EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

- The existence of economies of scale and scope
- If EOscale and EOscope do exist, determine how far they reach and where their boundaries lie
- Factors affecting scale and scope effects (e.g. coordination costs)
- Competitive relationships and market power





#### 10 SCALE ECONOMIES FOR TOC'S

Operational field	Size effect of mergers / acquistions	References
Administration	Fixed administrative costs, standardization and automation	Gilligan <i>et al.</i> , 1984; Berndt et al., 1991; Bouquet, 1992 ; Martin, 2001; Van Wegberg, 1995, p. 1; Nawas, 1995; Durkin and Elliehausen, 1998; Van den Bossche, 2002d
Contracting	Bargaining power in negotiating; avoiding intermediaries	Hagedoorn, 1993; Nooteboom, 1999
Equipment	Bargain input prices; equipment can be used more efficiently	Caves et al., 1984 ; Clark, 1984; Beddow, 2001; Cordts, 2001
Handling operations technology	standardize; product specialization is efficient	Peltzman, 1977; Hagedoorn, 1993; Contractor and Lorange, 1988; Hennart, 1988; Encaoua, 1991; Van Wegberg, 1995, p. 1; Botelberge, 1996; Van den Bossche, 2002; Peters (2003)
ICT	ICT setup, installation and maintenance; standardization; in-house development, installation and maintenance of systems	Contractor and Lorange, 1988; Borys and Jemison, 1989, p. 77; Hagedoorn, 1993; Van Wegberg, 1995, p. 1; Nooteboom, 1999; Oum, Zhang and Zhang, 2000, p. 8; Beddow, 2001; Van den Bossche, 2000 and 2002d
Labour	In-house training	Contractor and Lorange, 1988; Beddow, 2001
Marketing	Fixed marketing costs; more terminals means more attractive network; standardization; in-house promotion	Devine <i>et al.</i> , 1985, p. 201; Hagedoorn, 1993; Van Wegberg, 1995, p. 1; Cordts, 2001; Van den Bossche, 2002b
R&D	Technology development costs; knowledge in house	Devine <i>et al.</i> , 1985, p. 201; Nooteboom, 1999; Van den Bossche, 2002b
Security	Fixed security costs; standardization and automation; in-house	Van Wegberg, 1995, p. 1; De Lloyd, 2003





## CASH OR GAMBLE? SOME FUTURE SCENARIOS

- Shipping companies: further reorganisation, mergers and scale increases?
- Additional capacity and scale increases at landside
- A relative decline in market power for the port authorities?





# **CO-OPERATION:** WITH WHAT PARTNERS?

	Operator	CH p	artner	Non-CH	partner	?		
		CH non CH		CH	non CH	CH	non CH	
1	HPH	1	1	15 (12)	2 (1)	5 (2)	1 (1)	
2	PSA	1	0	12 (8)	42 (5)	5 (8)	24 (5)	
3	APM Terminals	4 (1)	0	7 (2)	0	0	0	
4	P&O Ports	2	0	17	1	2	0	
5	Eurogate	0	0	1	1	5 (3)	27 (4)	
6	DPA + CSXWT	0	0	2 (7)	0	0	0	





# CO-OPERATION: IN WHAT BUSINESS?

	Operator		СН		non CH			
		Start-up non				Start-up		
		Start-up co-	co-	Merger /	Start-up co-	non-co-	Merger /	
		operatively	operatively	acquisition	operatively	operatively	acquisition	
1	HPH	20 (14)	1 (1)	22 (3)	5 (2)	1 (4)	5	
2	PSA	15 (19)	2 (5)	9 (8)	68 (8)	33 (15)	9 (2)	
	APM							
3	Terminals	11 (3)	17 (1)	15	0	0	0	
4	P&O Ports	21	2	16 (4)	1	0	0	
5	Eurogate	6 (3)	10(1)	5 (5)	28 (4)	50 (10)	14 (8)	
	DPA +							
6	CSXWT	1 (6)	5 (5)	(3)	1 (1)	3	0	



# **CO-OPERATION:** WITH WHAT PARTNERS?

	Operator	MAR	HINT	LOG	PA	AG	FFWD	DRED	IND / INV
1	HPH	5 (5)	0	0	4	0	0	(1)	15 (6)
2	PSA	2	(2)	0	4 (1)	0	0	(1)	10 (5)
	APM								
3	Terminals	(1)	1	0	0	0	0	0	5 (5)
4	P&O Ports	11	2	0	5	1	1	0	15
5	Eurogate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DPA +								
6	CSXWT	0	0	0	(2)	1 (1)	0	0	1 (7)

MAR = MaritimeHINT = Hinterland LOG = Logistics PA = Port authority AG = AgencyFFWD = Freight Forwarding DRED = Dredging IND / INV = Industrial / Investment





# CO-OPERATION: IN WHAT BUSINESS?

								SOFT /	SHIP				
	Operator	MAR	HINT	LOG	PORT	IND	AIR	TECH	REP	FIN	FFWD	AG	CONS
1	HPH	(1)	(6)	1	3	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
2	PSA	11	4 (4)	38 (13)	15 (1)	10 (3)	2(1)	13 (3)	0	3	9	0	5
4	P&O Ports	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Eurogate	4 (5	24 (4)	39 (1)	(1)	11 (3)	0	10	0	1	1	(8)	2
	DPA +												
6	CSXWT	0	0	3 (1)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

MAR = Maritime HINT = Hinterland LOG = Logistics PORT = Port Services IND = Industrial AIR = Air Transport

SOFT / TECH = Software / Technology SHIP REP = Ship Repair FIN = Financial FFWD = Freight Forwarding AG = Agency CONS = Consulting





### **RECENT REACTION PATTERNS (1)**

#### • Shipowners

- reducing capacity by ending loops (e.g. CSAV), merging loops (e.g. Cosco), etc.
- @ effect on alliances
- aggressive capacity (e.g. MSC using ULCS) or pricing policy (zero-tariffs)
- diversification (e.g. CMA CGM and MSC in cruising and/or cars)
- Terminal operators
  - Fixed capacity, i.e. less degrees of freedom
  - pricing policy





## RECENT REACTION PATTERNS (2): The Hutchison case

- Hutchison buys from NYK majority stake in Ceres Container terminals Europe (CTE)
   Containerterminal Ceres Paragon
   Rro/ro and bulkterminal Ceres Amsterdam Marine Terminals
- NYK: minority stake in ECT (Rotterdam) and subsidiary of Hutchison
- Question: how far will co-operation go?





# POLICY RESPONSE

- Basic rule (on a stretch by stretch basis): is there any risk for abuse of monopolistic or oligopolistic power?
- Example of a recent policy intervention: conferences
- We do not expect general policy rules (exception: "European maritime area")
- Case by case investigations are possible.





# CONCLUSIONS

- Strong indication of decreasing profit margins in maritime transport (e.g. Maersk: 1.1 bn \$ net loss in 2009)
- Shareholders will exert constant pressure on management to improve business results
- Management continues to pressurise other links in the logistics chain
- The most likely scenarios are more or less known; uncertainty about timing

