

## Navigating the Blue Roads of Europe

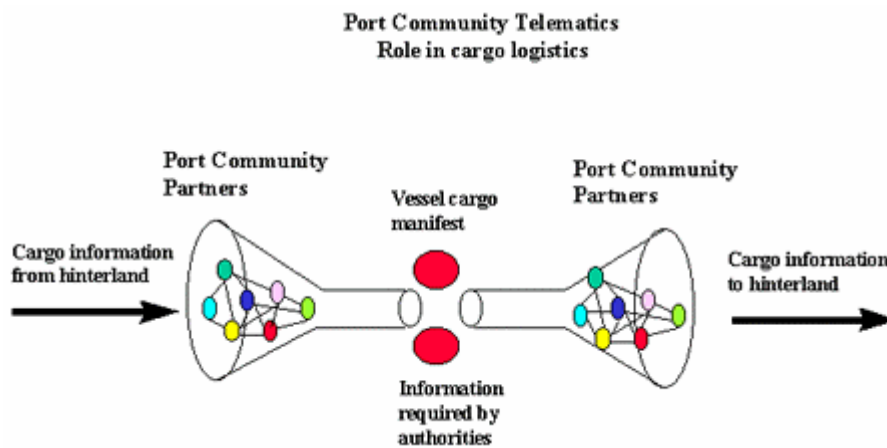
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**Cost calculation computer module** for prompt multi-variant estimation of total transportation costs, allowing selection of the cheapest freight on the inland waterways has been developed jointly by University of Liege (ANAST) and BSHC. A set of specialized data bases is used for problem initialization, among which:

- Technical data for available **transport units** (ships and convoys) and **machinery**;
- Systematic **resistance and propulsion data** for river ships and push-trains;
- Statistical **data of waterway network**, etc.

A computer module for **voyage duration prediction** as a function of freight tonnage, inland waterway parameters and economical engine operation regimes was recently created as a part of an integrated system for traffic rationalization at the operation of Bulgarian river ships and push-trains.

Within the frames of an INCO COPERNICUS project on **Inland Navigation Telematics**, five countries along the Rhine-Main-Danube corridor joined actions toward conceptual structuring and creation of a Pan-European information system, to serve all participants in fluvial transport by improving freight logistics and traffic operation,



and ensuring unique strategy adopted by both EU member states and CEE countries in the field of inland navigation. BSHC actively participated in EC sponsored COST Action 330 "Teleinformatic Links between Ports and their Partners", aiming at development of new strategies for information support of global cargo logistic chain, including maritime as well as river ports and relevant transport users, thus improving European transport operational effectiveness.