



Agile Optimization

in Inland Terminals

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Facts and Figures



- established in 1969
- organically growing, no external investors
- since 1985 always profitable
- internal ownership (directors, staff)
- today more than 500 employees
- principal corporate objective: long-term sustainability



Business Divisions

General Logistics



- Truck Fleet Dispatch
- Distribution & Parcel Centers
- Container Logistics
- Mobile Asset Logistics

Manufacturing Logistics



- In-plant Materials Handling
- Supply / Inbound Scheduling
- Automotive Logistics
- Healthcare Logistic

Production Scheduling



- Inventory Optimization
- Advanced Demand Planning
- Sample Inventory Counting



- Production Scheduling (APS)
- Intelligent Capacity Planning

Aviation Logistics



- Airport Ground Handling
- Airline Hub Operations

Risk & Fraud



Fraud Prevention

- Banking Sector
- Insurance Sector
- Telecoms

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Selected Customer References



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INFORM – Core Competence

INFORM specializes in agile optimization based on Operations Research and Fuzzy Logic.

Agile Optimization → inspiring action

BI / Analytics → creating knowledge

Administrative IT (e.g. ERP-Systems) → managing data



What is "Big Data"?





Global Data Volume by 2020





The Challenge

How to hear the signal from the noise



From Big Data to Agile Decisions





Agile Optimization Software

Applying smart optimization technologies

- Mathematical algorithms / OR, Fuzzy Logic
- Application specific best-of-breed solutions

Delivering rapid results

- Very short runtimes
- Quickly adaptable to new / unexpected external factors

Plus interactive user experience

- Easy parameter setting & results visualization
- Users may overrule proposals at any time

Supplementing existing IT systems (ERP, etc.) for better productivity & operational resilience



Operations Research (OR)

Powered by algorithms, there are many techniques for greatly speeding up the search for good solutions

Yard

- Slot suitability
- Slot restrictions
- Retrieval distance
- Operational areas

Equipment

- Last/current position
- Job suitability
- Availability/time windows
- Driving times/distances

Load Unit

- Size, type, content, restrictions
- Departure time & destination





Algorithms: A Powerful Tool



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The Daily Challenge





The Daily "Ironman" Challenge





Battle of Materiel







Potential for Digital Doping



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6 Steps to Achieve Optimized Terminal-Fitness





Step 1: Truck Scheduler

Reduced Turnaround Times

- Optimized selection and sequence of transfer points
- Consideration of potential congestions along its route
- The integration of gate automation technology is also possible (OCR-Gate)
- Standardized gate processes provide yard managers with the necessary information in real-time





Step 2: Yard Optimizer

Tap the Full Potential

- Efficient utilization of storage areas
- Higher stacking possible
- Minimized re-handlers & distances
- Scattered stacking terminal wide or within target areas
- Real-time knowledge of all containers in the yard
- Swift decision making when container arrives or needs rehandling







Step 3: Vehicle Optimizer

Minimized Driving Distances and Times

- Increased productivity thanks to simultaneous, real-time optimization of container moves
- Reduced time for idle equipment
- Vehicle Pooling
- Integration of positioning systems
- For different resource types (Straddle Carrier, Yard Truck, Reach Stacker, Front-Row Stacker, Empty Handler)





Step 4: Crane Optimizer

Minimized Driving Distances and Times

- Increased productivity thanks to simultaneous, real-time optimization of container moves
- Minimization of additional handling equipment changes (e.g. OHF, J-Hooks)
- Minimization of spreader changes
- Proposes double-cycling when reasonable
- Dynamic crane split
- Integration of positioning systems & (semi-) automation possible





Step 5: Train Load Planning

Improved On-Schedule Performance

- Maximized wagon/slot utilization
- Minimized yard re-handling, loading distance
 & (pin) configuration changes
- Load plan is re-optimized in real-time when data changes
- Keeping wagon weight and height restrictions as well as axle and trailing load restrictions
- Ensuring hazardous containers are separated as per segregation rules





Step 6: Rail Scheduler

Optimizing Container Handover

- Optimization of processes between the yard and the rail area
- Aims at keeping train's ETDs
- Highest rail productivity via lookahead (next few hours) and real-time optimization of executable jobs and rail transfer zone utilization
- Monitors and adjusts according to the progress of jobs in the chain





Optimization of Rail Processes

Rail Crane Moves

- Optimizes job sequencing of all rail cranes
- Combines jobs where possible



- Automatically creates optimized train load plans
- Pre-planning & Real-time

Container Handover

- Optimizes each transfer between yard & rail
- Proposes handover times & transfer points



Do more with and for less





Agile Optimization in Action



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Container Terminal Altenwerden (CTA) – Hamburg



Hinterland Steering & Optimization

- > 3 M TEU/a
- 500,000 boxes (813,000 TEU) by rail in 2013
- 9 rail tracks of 720 m with 4 RMG (30 trains/d)
- 12 tractors, 200 chassis
- 2,500 trucks/d (gate)



KTL Kombi-Terminal Ludwigshafen



Administration & Optimization

- Up to 500,000 load units/a
- 11 tracks
- Yard optimization
- Train load planning
- Rail cranes (RMG), reach stackers & terminal tractors
- Container handover
- Multiple-step jobs
- Truck scheduling





Samskip Van Dieren, Duisburg



Administration & Optimization

- 9 tracks of 740 m
- Yard optimization
- Train load planning
- Rail cranes (RMG) & reach stackers
- Container handover
- Multiple-step jobs
- Automated gate



Stay on Top!



