

Export Cargo Management



INSTRUCTION: 'CONNECT System Interface' **SERVICE: Pre-notification Export Cargo (container terminal¹)**

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¹ Exporters and forwarders who would like to use the service Notification Export Documentation will find more information on <https://www.portbase.com/interfaces/>

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Why the instruction 'Connect System Interface'?

This instruction serves to support the customer and software supplier for the rapid and efficient realization of a System Interface connection for the desired service. It contains a step-by-step plan and the information necessary for a successful realization. This instruction does not provide information for the connection with web interfaces.

Step-by-step plan

| Step | Explanation |
|--|--|
| 1. The customer requests the application form and returns it filled in and signed. | Via sales@portbase.com (only possible as a customer, not as a software supplier) |
| 2. Align the information flow, process flow, message flow and message specifications. This also includes the alignment of document types and synonyms. | In cooperation with the Portbase Business Manager Portbase delivers instructions, message specifications, code tables and a step-by-step connection plan. |
| 3. Align technical details (transfer protocol, check message structure and message data) | In cooperation with a Portbase Interface specialist For possible transfer protocols see chapter 'Transfer protocols system interfaces' in this document. |
| 4. Portbase establishes a test environment | By a Portbase Interface specialist (configure account, terminal preferences and message configuration) |
| 5. Test execution (no production and chain tests) and acceptance | In cooperation with a Portbase Interface specialist |
| 6. Connecting to the production environment | In cooperation with a Portbase Interface specialist/Service desk (configure account, terminal preferences and message configuration in the production environment) |
| 7. Activation of terminal and document type in the production environment | In cooperation with Portbase Sales support/ Sales manager based on terminal contract(s) |

Contact

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Introduction to the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo'

The business service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo' allows the declarants to easily and electronically register all the numbers of their customs documentation for an export cargo at the container terminal. It supports the paperless transport and arrival of the containers at the container terminal. Above this, the service ensures a complete handling of the export declarations.

For more detailed information about the service we refer to the factsheet, which can be found via <https://www.portbase.com/en/services/notification-export-documentation/factsheet/>

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Functional process flow of the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo'

The process starts after an exporter or forwarder makes the booking at shipbroker. Based on the booking the shipbroker sends an acceptance message to the terminal. This initiates a request of the container terminal to Portbase to receive information about the booking. The shipbroker, exporter or forwarder informs Portbase about the contents of an export transport equipment by reporting the document(s) that relate(s) to the transport. When Portbase receives information about a specific booking this information is send to the container terminal.

This process is supported by the Portbase service 'Notification Export Documentation'.

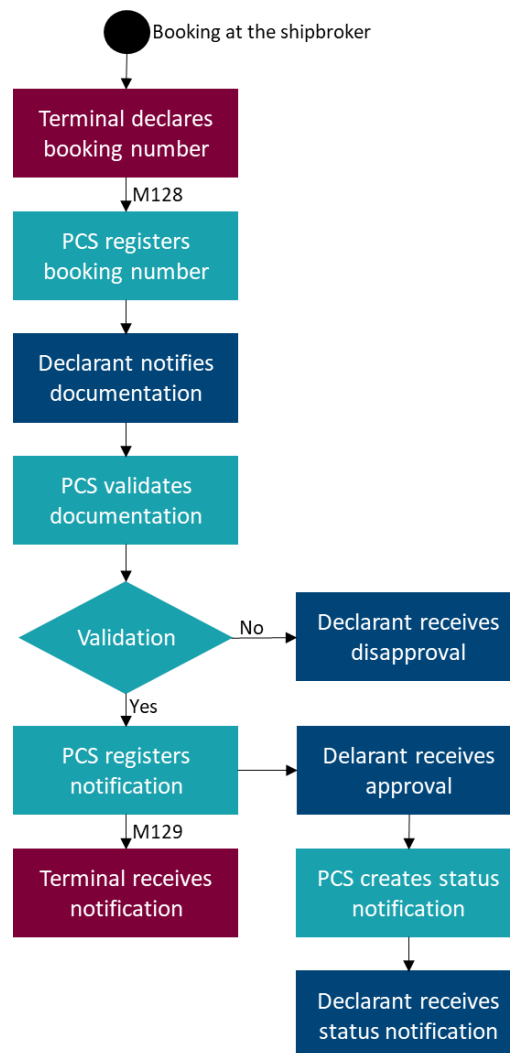


Figure 1: Functional process flow

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Message flow of the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo'

Usage of the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo' is possible via the web interface of Portbase. Another possibility is by using EDI messages. The following messages are involved:

| ID | Description | Type |
|------|------------------------------|------|
| M128 | Export shipment subscription | XML |
| M129 | Export shipment information | XML |

Table 1: Messages involved in the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo'

The message ID's correspond to the numbers next to the arches in the functional process flow. This results in the message flow, shown in the underneath figure:

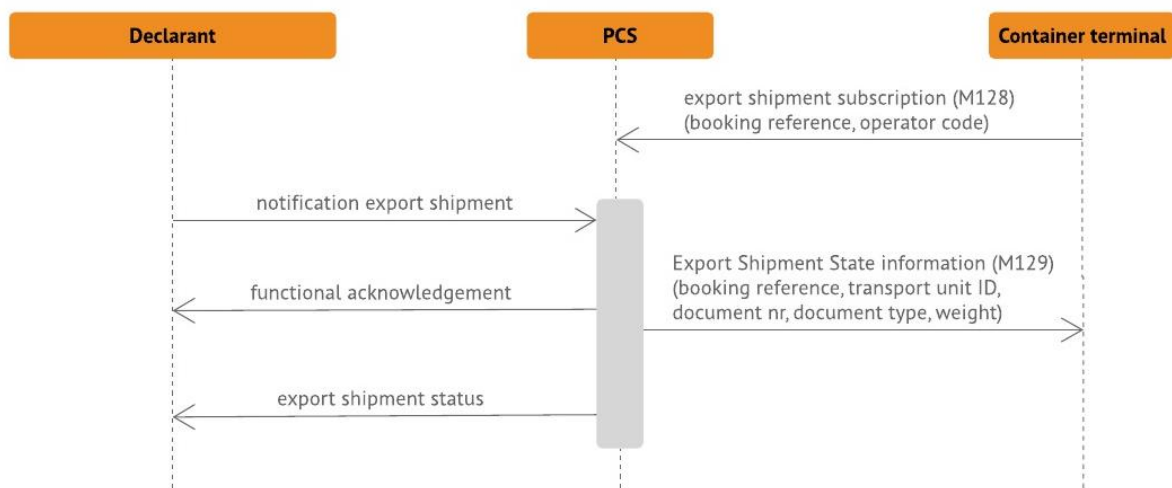


Figure 2: Message flow

Message specifications

Detailed message specifications as well as code sets, used in the messages, are available as separate files and are to be requested at the interface specialists. Possible values for code sets are incorporated in the message specifications as much as possible. Occasional the code sets are too extensive or change too often to incorporate them in the message specifications. Table 2 enumerates the code sets that are not incorporated in the message specifications:

| Message ID | Description code set | Explanation |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| M128 | - | - |

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| Message ID | Description code set | Explanation |
|------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| M129 | Document types per Declarant Role | An overview of the document types that are supported by the service 'Pre-notification Export Cargo'. For each role, separate codes may be applicable. |

Table 2: Used code sets per message type

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System Interface transfer protocols

Portbase supports the following protocols:

- AS1 or SMTP

In order to use e-mail, the SMTP address should be set to edi@pcs.portbase.com.

- AS2 or HTTP

Information is available on request. Only a few clients use this protocol.

- AS3 or FTP

FTP documentation: see appendix.

- Web services

For the time being, connection through web services is message-based.

- MQ – Message Queue

This technology uses EAI; it allows server processes to communicate asynchronously.

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Appendix A: PCS connection using SFTP

Communicating with the PCS using SFTP (VLTrader, v0.1)

Introduction

Portbase offers their customers several ways of electronic communication to exchange messages between their own in-house system and our Port Community System (PCS). This document describes the procedure of pushing and pulling messages via the PCS SFTP channel.

Technical requirements

- The Portbase SFTP services only accept push/pull. This means that you are responsible to place and get the files in the directories.
- The maximum file size is 4 MB. Larger files will be rejected.
- Every customer may have only 100 MB of data on his server space. When you exceed that quota you will get a notification.
- Messages in the *cur* directory (upload and download) will be deleted after 7 days. You have the possibility to delete them earlier, though that is not preferred.

Procedure

The PCS SFTP server can be reached via [FTP.pcs.portbase.com](ftp.pcs.portbase.com). By the use of an SFTP client you can log on to this server with your username and password.

A file that is being downloaded or uploaded should always be in the *tmp* directory. In this directory, the file has a locked status and will not be removed.

After a successful download or upload, the file should be moved (not copied!) to the *new* or *cur* directory. In this case the file is unlocked so that it can either be processed or archived.

Step-by-step upload procedure

1. Upload the specific file to directory *upload/tmp/*
2. After successful upload: move the file to directory *upload/new/*
3. When moving the file to the *upload/new/*, the file will immediately be processed by the PCS. A Copy of the file will be stored in the *upload/cur/* directory.
4. After 7 days the file will be automatically deleted.

Step-by-step download procedure

1. Check the directory *download/new/* for new files to download.
2. Move the specific file to directory *download/tmp/*
3. Download the file from *download/tmp/*
4. Move the downloaded file to directory *download/cur/* to show that you have downloaded the file. After 7 days the file will be automatically deleted.