



# GRONINGEN SEAPORTS

**Connectivity needs for ports  
and autonomous ships**

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# Energy and industry ports between three main ports



# Ports and industrial sites adjacent to Unesco World Heritage Site



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

## ENERGY

8,000 MW \* Energy mix \* 300 hectare available \*  
Logistics hub in offshore wind \* Ideal place for data centers

## CHEMICALS

Chlorine \* Residual heat \* Different utilities at present  
Tankstorage facilities \* Space available

## RECYCLING

Multi-modal accessibility \* (Environmental) space available  
Different utilities at present \* Port logistics \* Existing industry

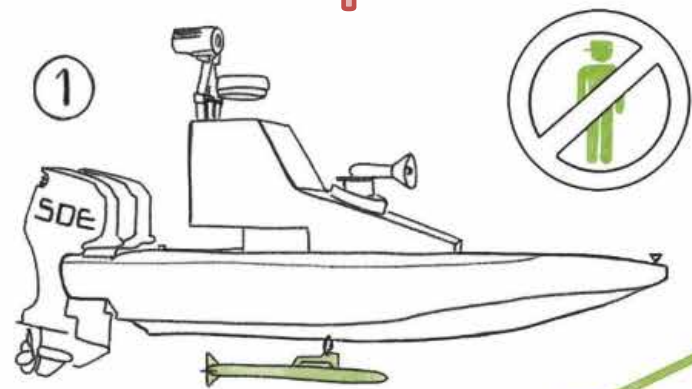
# Eemshaven: energy & dataport



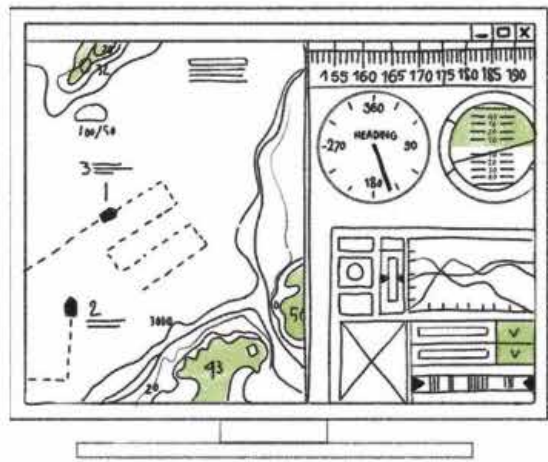
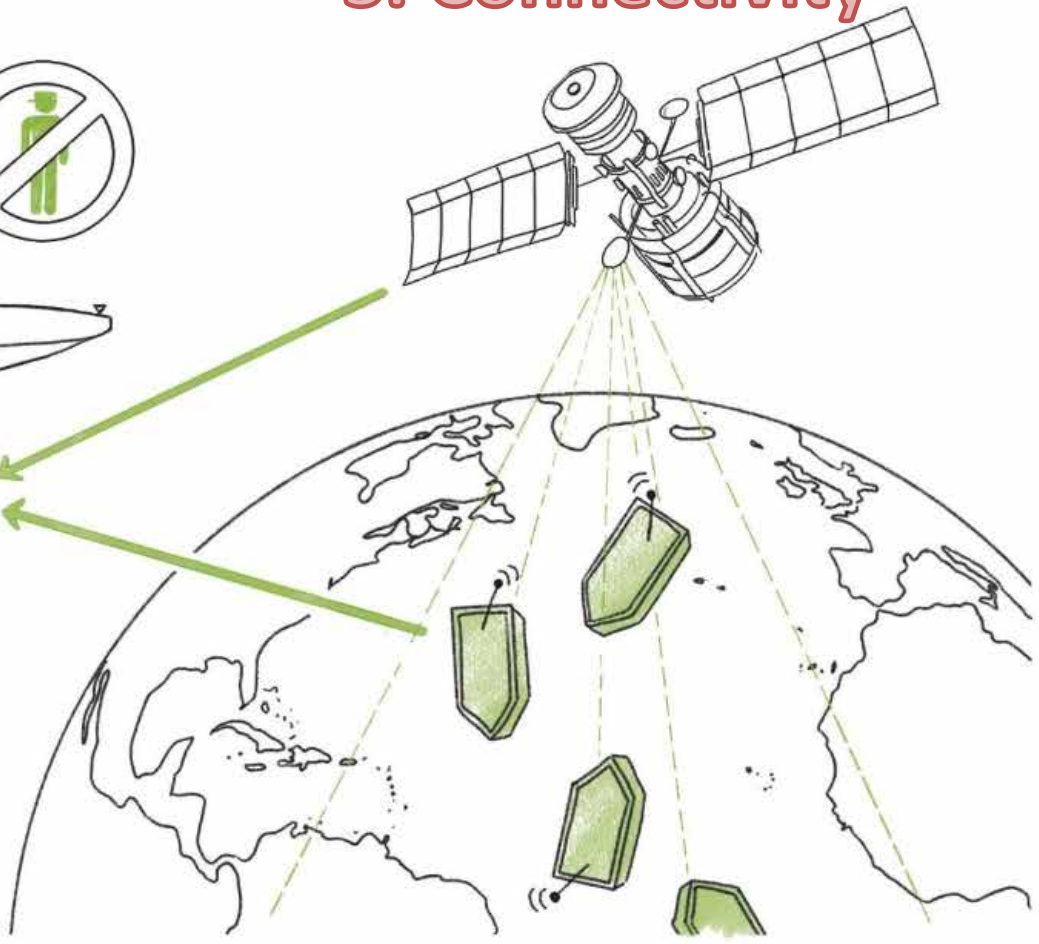
# Connectivity needs for ports and autonomous ships



## 1. Autonomous ship



## 3. Connectivity



## 2. Control Center

# Autonomous shipping roadmap



5 15 Years to go According to

Increased sensors and decision support

Human assisted autonomy

Fully autonomous

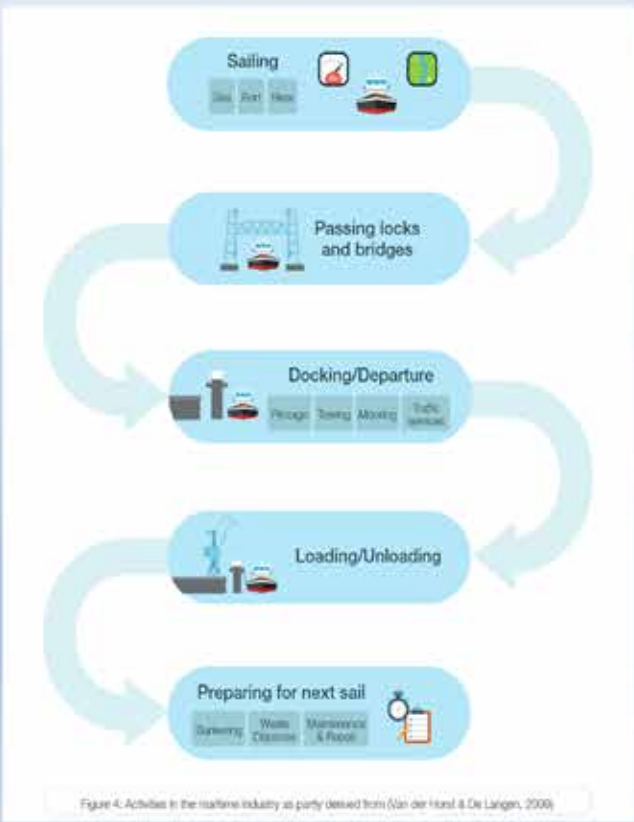


Figure 4: Activities in the maritime industry as partly derived from (Van der Horst & De Langen, 2006)



# Groningen Seaports preparations for autonomous shipping

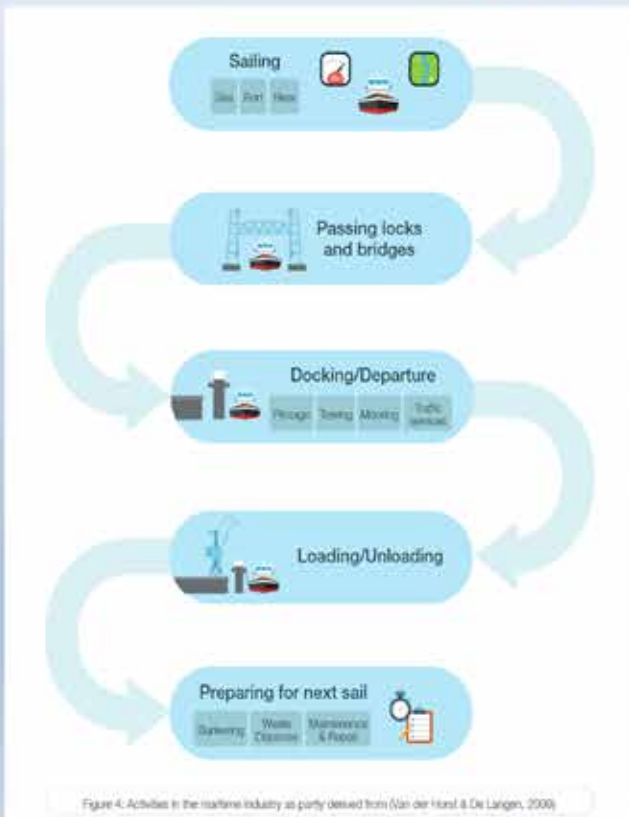


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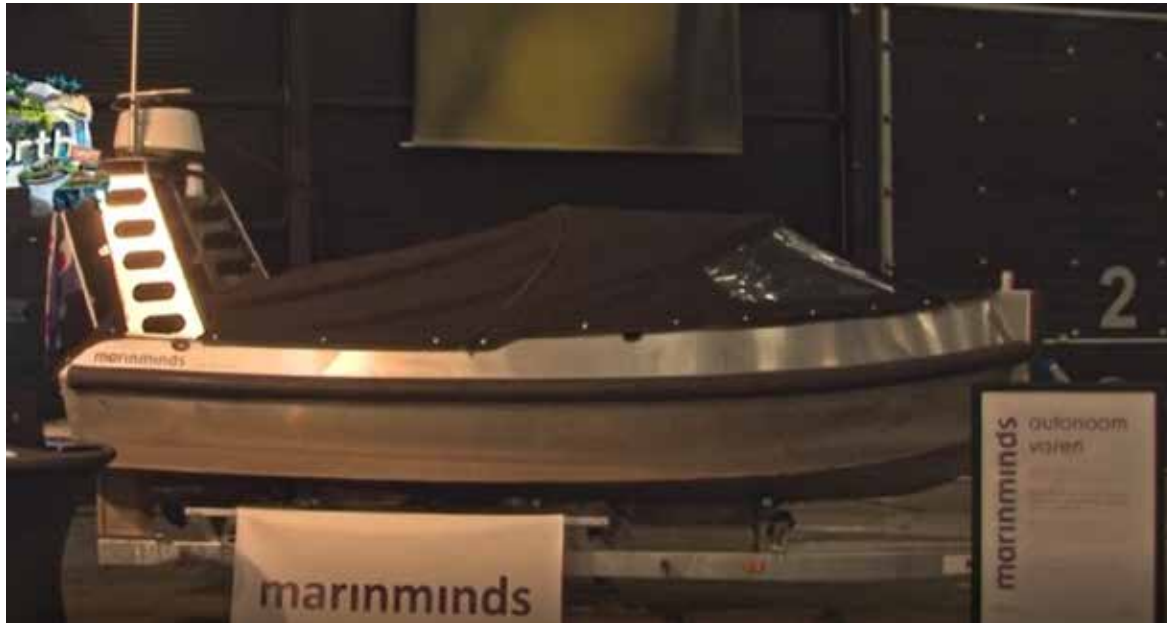
Human assisted autonomy

Fully autonomous





# Pilot with 5G/4G and autonomous ship



# Transfer to Port Control Center





- 5G not yet present in the ports
- Inside port 4G sufficient to transfer situational awareness (of a ship with simple sensorsystems and camera's) to port control center
- Outside port 4G signal too weak
- Use as much AI on the ship itself to reduce connectivity needs
- Further testing with more sensors (for example sounding) in November 2019

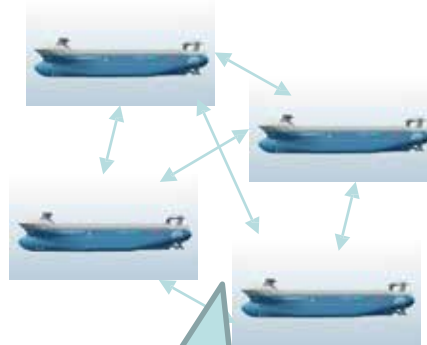
# Connectivity for autonomous shipping

## 1 Situational aware autonomous ship



Moderate bandwidth for monitoring the ship

## 2 Interacting autonomous ships



High bandwidth and low latency

## 3 Interacting autonomous ships entering a port



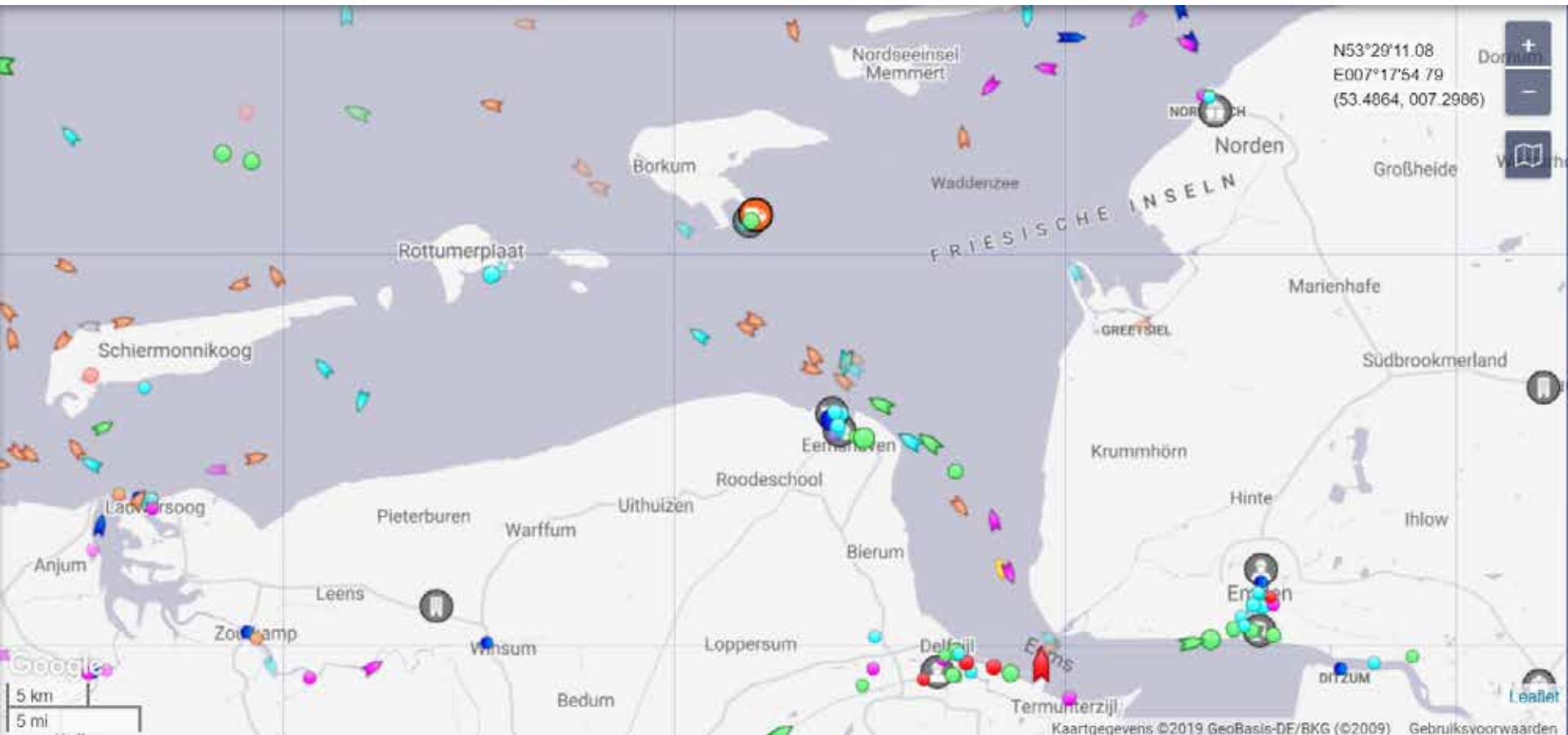
Higher bandwidth and lower latency

Shore Control centre !

# Connectivity challenges

- No coverage of 5G/4G on full sea
- How much bandwidth can be delivered by satellite coverage?
- Can low latency be achieved, necessary to have safe control over the vessel, from a control station in the port?
- Is it possible to transport the situational awareness of the ship and the information about the performance of the ship and its equipment, to the control centre ?
- Is a swift shift of connectivity from 5G/4G to satellite and vice versa possible?
- What are the requirements in case of many ships that are in connection with the port/control room?
- Can adequate communication between vessels be established?

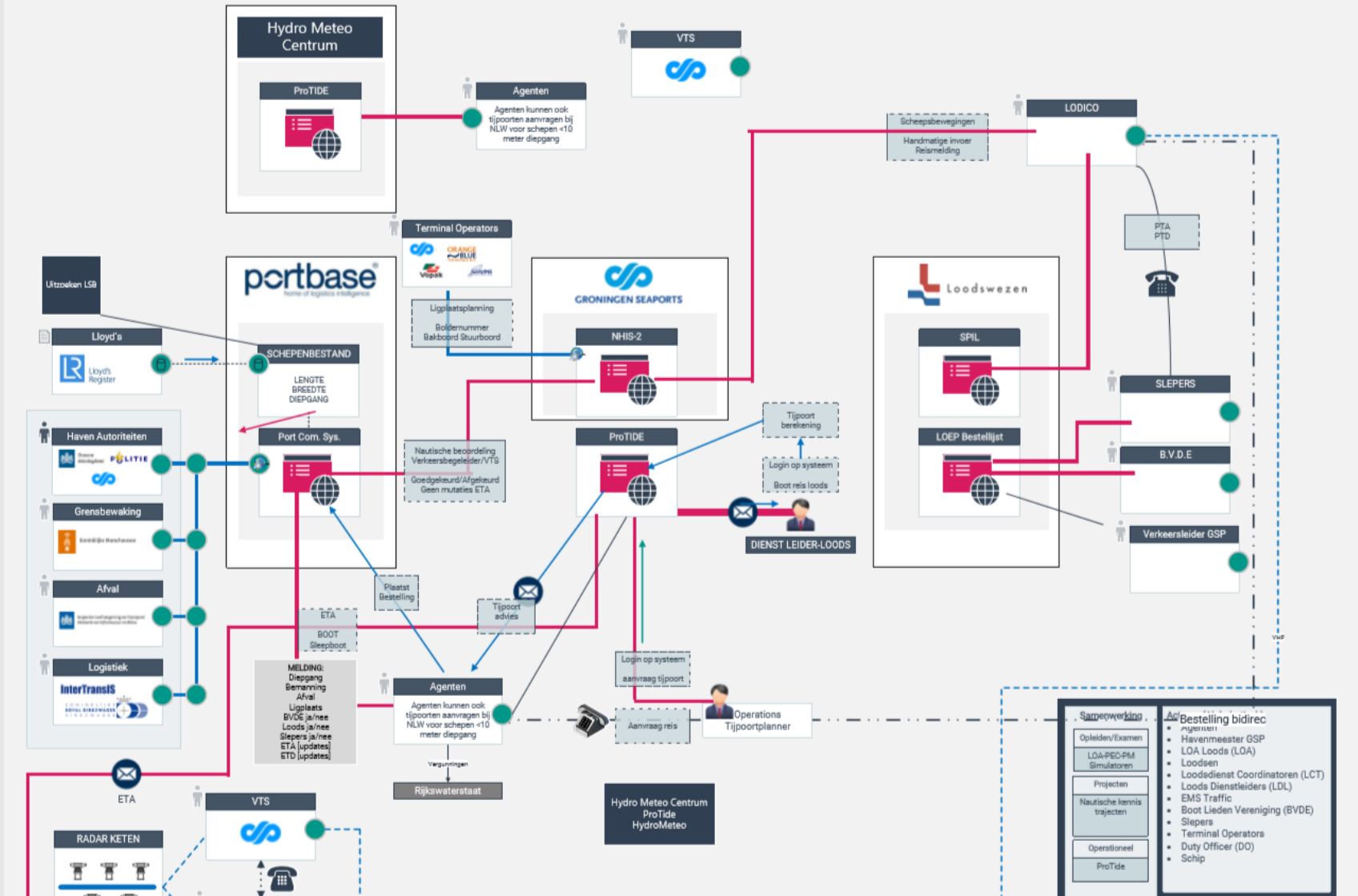
# Approach to Eemshaven



# Ecosystem nautical information North of the Netherlands

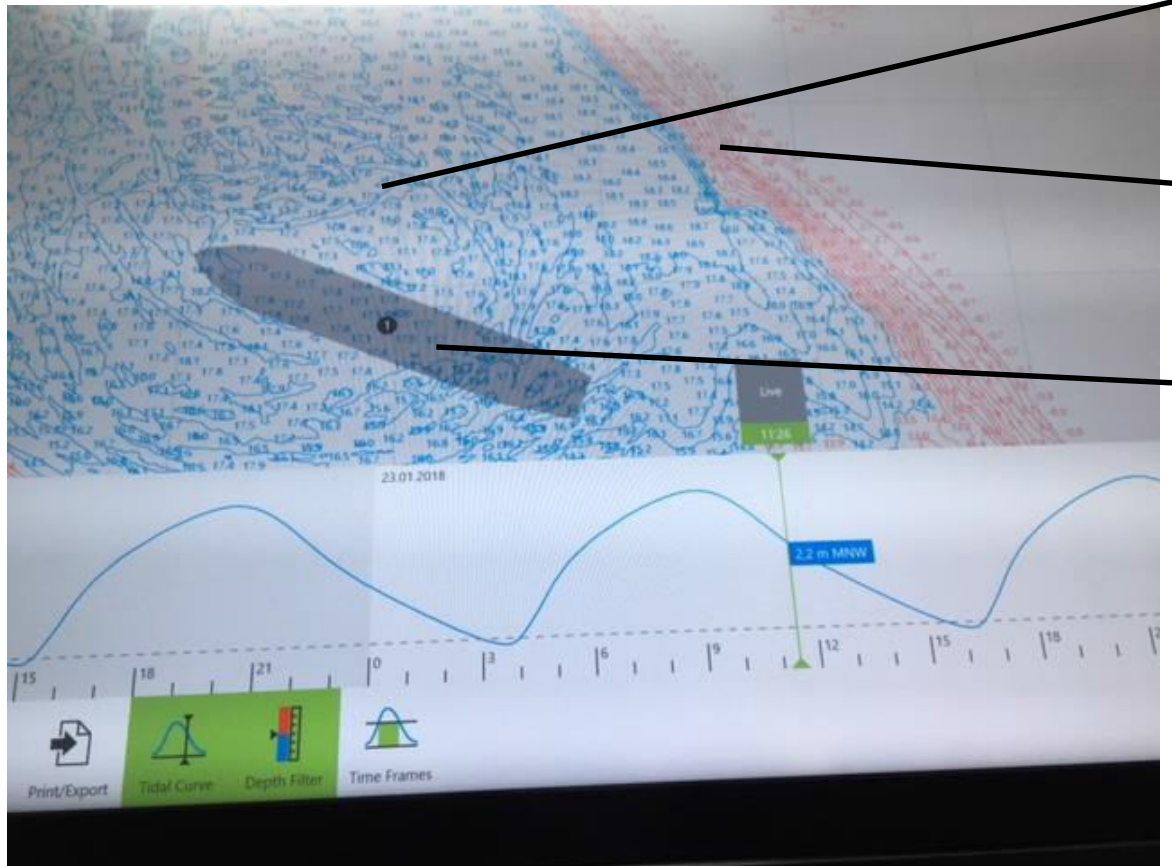
Ecosysteem Logistieke Informatie Voorziening | Regio Noord

Ports & Loodswezen



# Port control centre

## Port of Hamburg control centre



Waterway:  
soundings, currents,  
tides, .....

Depth filter: **to  
shallow !!**

Ship: depth, length,  
width, ETA, cargo,  
nautical  
characteristics.....

Port: quay planning,  
ETA, ETD, route,  
priority, activities

Pilot: quay planning,  
ETA, ETD, route,  
priority,.....

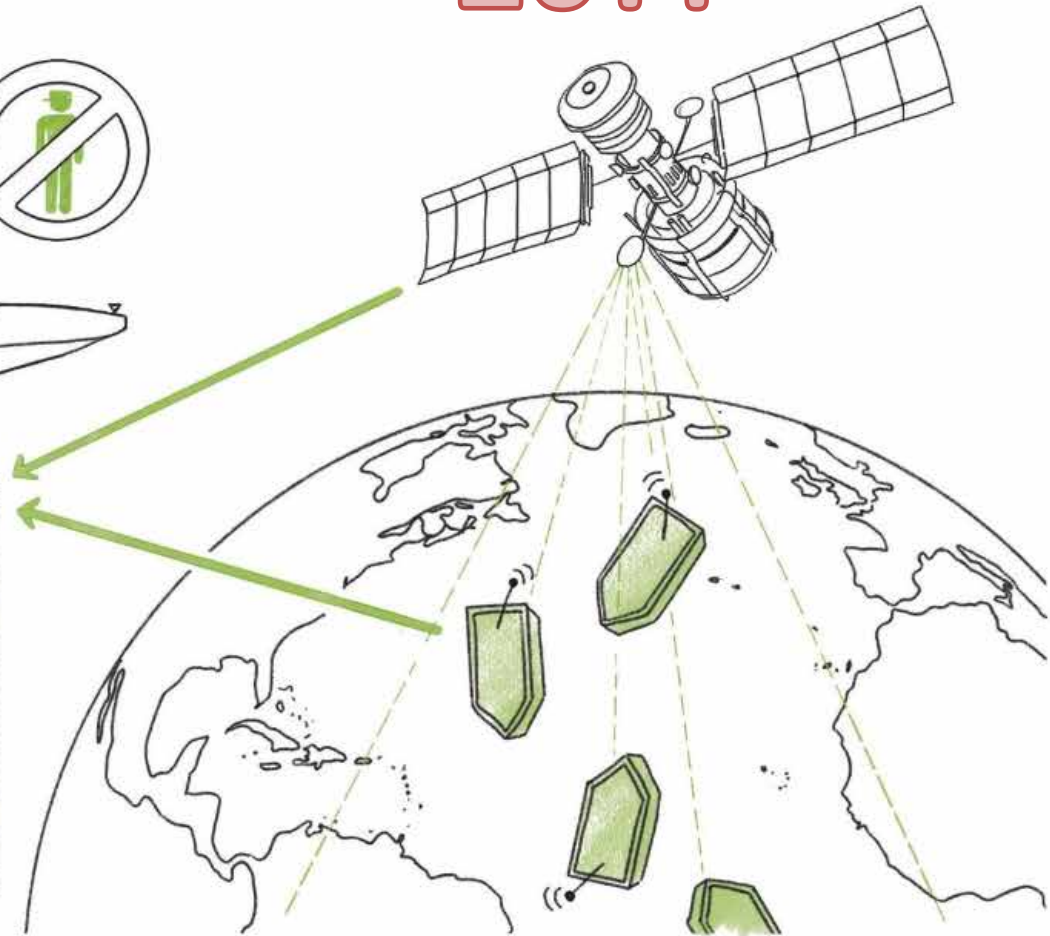
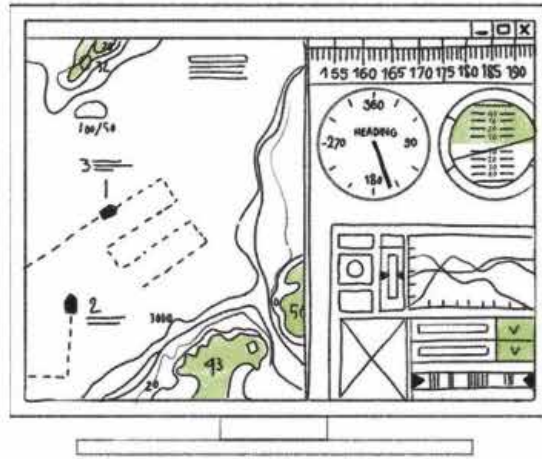
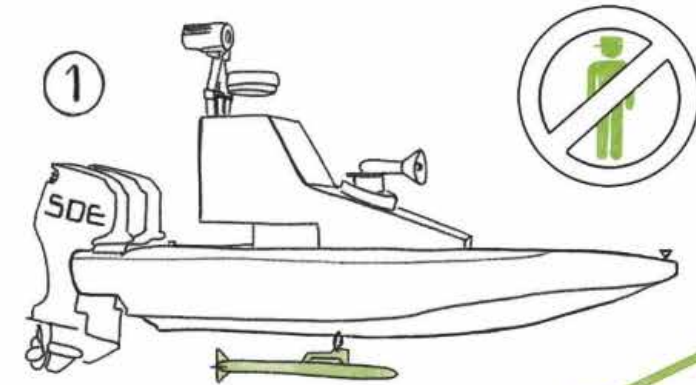
Meteo: wind strength,  
direction, temp, .....



- **Merge data in platform:**
  - nautical data including actual depth, direction, current, wind strength, direction
  - Data about the ship: condition, nautical characteristic
  - Situational awareness
  - Port environment data
  - Logistical data
  - Communication data
- **Need for protocols, communication standards**
- **Artificial intelligence**
- **Psychology of handling many different ships**

2019

20??



2025

**THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION**



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