

SMDG Cooperation with DCSA, BIC, UN/CEFACT, PROTECT



Cooperation with DCSA



The [DCSA](#) (Digital Container Shipping Association) was founded in 2019 by several of the the largest container shipping companies as their digital voice. DCSA's mission is to drive technology standards and set frameworks that will enable carriers to bring innovative solutions to market.

The DCSA output includes an *Industry Blueprint*, *Glossary of Terms*, an own *Information Model*, on which the *DCSA API definitions are based*, covering wide range of business areas, for example Track&Trace, Smart Container Communication or Vessel Schedule. These documents are perceived and discussed in SMDG working groups.

Members of the SMDG are carriers, terminals, and other stakeholders from the maritime industry such as software vendors or standardization organizations. Some carriers are active in both DCSA and SMDG. Focus of the SMDG continues to be to develop, maintain and publish *EDIFACT message formats* for the maritime industry. Another focus are *standard code lists* which are used globally in electronic communication.

The DCSA information model and APIs make reference to some of the SMDG code lists, for example for *terminal codes*, *carrier codes*, or *delay reason codes*. The EDIFACT messages used in the maritime industry, for example BAPLIE, COPRAR, IFTSAI, TPFREP etc, remain under the auspices of SMDG.

Cooperation with BIC



Both [BIC](#) and SMDG have a long history as non-profit organizations providing global standards to the maritime industry. BIC provides the global container prefix registry, the global container database “Boxtech”, the Global ACEP Database, and a code list for inland depots, container yards and M&R vendors named “BIC Facility Codes”.

The **BIC Facility Codes** for inland container facilities are complementary to the **SMDG Terminal Codes** for sea port terminals. Both are used by the maritime industry. Both are official child codes of the UN/LOCODE.

In 2020 a **joint API** was launched which provides both the BIC Facility Codes and the SMDG Terminal Codes. The API is available for free, after registration on the BIC website.

Both BIC and SMDG code lists, along with the new API are recognized by the DCSA. The BIC has worked closely with the DCSA over the past year on a major harmonization effort of BIC Facility Codes and to ensure the joint BIC-SMDG API is aligned with DCSA API standards.