The efficient and effective transportation of goods is compromised by congestion at key transport hubs and ports. The difficulty of managing the flow of goods at these hubs is exacerbated during periods of high-traffic volume, whether transport is by road, rail, sea or air. Better integrating the use of alternative modes of transport is one approach to reducing congestion and can contribute to reducing negative environmental outcomes and meeting climate policy targets.

Information and communications technologies are critical to effective management of intermodal traffic, and innovation in the use of ICT—technological, process and policy based—offers to improve the efficiency of transportation services and the management of hub bottlenecks. One approach is the development of open access web-based services to match loads but can they be extended to help optimise choices of mode, routing and the transport operator? The logistics sector is in constant evolution, with the rise of third party logistics providers for example; what further innovation can be foreseen?

Discussions at the Round Table will be initiated by a set of papers by renowned experts with different backgrounds. Leading logistics and ICT experts, researchers and industry will then address these issues and take stock of the potential for ICT to change the way freight transport is organised.

The purpose of the Round Table is to provide a report on the potential for ICT to improve freight transport for policy-makers to consider at the 2010 International Transport Forum on Innovation and Technology: Unleashing the Potential, to be held 26-28 May 2010, in Leipzig, Germany.
PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Monday, 8 March 2010

8.30    Registration

Welcome and opening

9.00    Welcome to Genoa
Mr. Luigi Merlo - Genoa Port Authority, President

*Expectations from the Round Table*
Mr. Fabio Capocaccia - IIC, Istituto Internazionale delle Comunicazioni, President
Mr. Fabio Croccolo - Ministry of Infrastructures and Transports
Mr. Jack Short - International Transport Forum, Secretary General

9.40    Introduction to Round Table topics and procedures
Professor George Giannopoulos, Chair

Session 1    Enhanced Information Communication Technologies: recent policy and operational improvements

9.50    Co-modality as a solution to enhance modal shift in freight transport: ICT applications can help
Prof. Enrico Musso - University of Genoa, Italy and Dr. Alberto Cappato - IIC, Italy

10.20   Challenges for using ICT to improve coordination in hinterland chains
Prof. Peter De Langen - University of Technology Eindhoven, Netherlands
Dr. Albert Douma - University of Twente, Netherlands

10.50    Break

11.20   Plenary discussion

13.00    Lunch
Session 2  Potential ICT applications for innovative global freight systems

14.15  *Potentials of open access web-based services*
      Mr. Franco Borasi - ElsagDatamat (Finmeccanica Group), ICT and Logistics Director

14:45  *How to implement a global system: Standards, systems, and services that make freight management work*
      Mr. Frank Knoors - Business Development Director, Logit Systems, Belgium

15.15  Break

15.45  *Plenary discussion*

17.00  *Summary of discussions*
      Professor George Giannopoulos - Chair

17.15  Visit at Genoa Port Centre (a short 5 min walk from the meeting venue)

20.30 Dinner at Villa Lo Zerbino ([www.villalozerbino.it](http://www.villalozerbino.it))

**DAY 2: Tuesday, 9 March 2010 - Technical Visit to Metrocargo (Savona - Vado)**

9:00  *Departure from Piazza Caricamento (besides the RT venue - Palazzo San Giorgio)*

10.00-12.00  Technical Visit - Demonstration of functionalities of Metrocargo System prototype with possibility to discuss with Mr. Guido Porta who conceived and carried out this innovative system for intermodal freight transport

12-12.30  Transfer to downtown Genoa with stop-over at Genoa International Airport
LOGISTICS

Organisers

The Round Table is co-organised by the Joint Transport Research Centre of the OECD and the International Transport Forum, Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Transports and the Italian International Institute for Communications (IIC).

Participants

The Round Table is by invitation only. However, a limited number of seats are available for freight transport specialists seeking to take part in the Round Table discussion.

The Venue

The Round Table will be organised at the headquarters of Genoa Port Authority in Genoa, Italy. Genoa is the most important Italian seaport, the capital of the Province of Genoa and of Liguria region. The headquarters of Genoa Port Authority are located in the Palazzo San Giorgio (via della Mercanzia 2) in the historic port area of the old town.

Catering

Lunch and breaks will be catered on the 8 March. Please contact Ms Sara Canevello, IIC on +39 010 27 22 383 or email canevello@iicgenova.it to indicate any particular dietary requirements.

At the end of the Round Table discussions, participants are invited to visit the first Port Center in the Mediterranean and then to join the wonderful Villa Lo Zerbino for a special dinner. Participants will reach independently the Villa (a taxi will take around 5 min from the city center).

Media

Participants should be advised that the Round Table may interest the local Italian or broader media outlets. Some requests for interviews may be made.

Contacts

For assistance or additional information relating to accommodation, venue and catering, please contact Ms Sara Canevello of the Istituto Internazionale delle Comunicazioni (canevello@iicgenova.it), tel. +39 01 02 72 23 83 or fax +39 010 99 98 651.

For additional information and registration, please contact Mr Jari Kauppila (jari.kauppila@oecd.org), tel. +33 (0)1 45 24 97 21.