EPCSA

European Port
Community Systems
Association

WHITE PAPER
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The role of PCS in the development
of the National Single Window

The vision for a Single Window system must go beyond the standards recommended by expert
international organisations or best practices examined from existing systems. Competitiveness
remains an essential element for motivation and differentiation. This principle applies to Single
Window systems regardless of the standardisation and harmonisation achieved between Port
Community Systems, Cargo Community Systems or other national or international Single Windows.

A Port Community System (PCS):

- is a neutral and open electronic platform enabling intelligent and secure exchange of information between public and private stakeholders in order to improve the competitive position of the sea and air ports' communities;

- optimises, manages and automates port and logistics efficient processes through a single submission of data and connecting transport and logistics chains.

A Single Window

A Single Window is a complex community undertaking which facilitates trade. Various business and functional models can be used for the design of a successful Single Window system. Whether implemented at the regional, national or international level, a major factor in accomplishing a Single Window project is a strong leading body to promote its benefits. These efforts, combined with strong political support and the appropriate project-centric organisation and resources, are the elements required for a Single Window project to succeed.

The Strategic Alliance – Port Community Systems and Single Window

A PCS provides for the electronic exchange of information between all port and logistics sectors and is acknowledged as the most advanced method for the exchange of information within a single or national port community infrastructure.

Europe is home to some of the most efficient Port Community Systems in the world. This development could only take place under competitive conditions. Business to Business areas should not be placed under state control. This safeguard will ensure that new technologies enter the logistics sector as quickly as possible, and that Europe remains the market leader in global logistics know-how and the development of Single Window.

For the full document, please go to www.epcsa.eu