

Preface

The *Handbook of Terminal Planning* is a collection of individual contributions that deal with selected issues in the context of the suprastructure planning of seaport container terminals. It thus has the character of an anthology in which chapters are contributed by an international authorship.

Seaport container terminals form a bimodal or trimodal interface of water-, rail- and road-based transport systems. If the function of the interface is limited to a bimodal cross-linking of transportation systems, such terminals typically enable a connection of container sea transport in the main run with road transports in the pre- and on-carriage of the intermodal transport chain.

The main tasks of terminal planning on the level of suprastructure comprise layout design, quantitative dimensioning of terminal resources and the derivation of requirements for single suprastructure elements considering given operator requirements for the entire terminal. Requirements engineering usually starts with the elaboration of (necessary) functional properties which are specified in the course of the planning process and are eventually 'translated' into specific technical and process-related requirements. In later project phases, the results of suprastructure planning form the basis for the equipment procurement process, construction measures and the commissioning of projected terminal structures.

The success of suprastructure planning is primarily measurable by the extent elaborated planning results may create the necessary prerequisites so that (later) day-to-day operation fulfills existing requirements. The latter are especially derived from the site conditions of the particular terminal and the target system of the terminal operator.

The contributions of the Handbook give an overview of important technological and organizational system basics from a planning point of view. They also describe promising analysis and planning approaches for typical problems of the suprastructure planning and discuss instrumental issues of planning support.

This book is the result of time and effort of many, who have participated in the creation process, partly directly and indirectly, with great energy and (hopefully) also joy. I thank the authors of the chapters that have contributed to the success of the project through their commitment and professional co-operation. I would

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