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Rhine-Scheldt Delta Port Region, the advantages of a logistics mega cluster

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May 2013





ECONOMIC
BREAKBULK
FLOWS AND
ACTIVITIES
IN BELGIAN
PORTS

Report prepared for
ING
Report prepared by
ITMMA
Institute of Transport and
Maritime Management
Antwerpen



Economic
Warehousing &
Distribution
Market in North
west Europe

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ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE
RHINE-SCHELD T DELTA PORT REGION

Report prepared for
ING
Report prepared by
ITMMA
Institute of Transport and
Maritime Management
Antwerpen

- Based upon 3 ING publications:
 - Economic Analysis of the Rhine-Scheldt Delta Port Region
 - Economic Analysis of the Warehousing & Distribution Market in Northwest Europe
 - Economic Analysis of Breakbulk flows and activities in Belgian ports
- Authors: Indra Vonck & Theo Notteboom (ITMMA, University of Antwerp, www.itmma.ua.ac.be)
- For further information on the services of ING Bank in transport and logistics, please visit www.ing.lu
- Other recent ITMMA/ING studies:

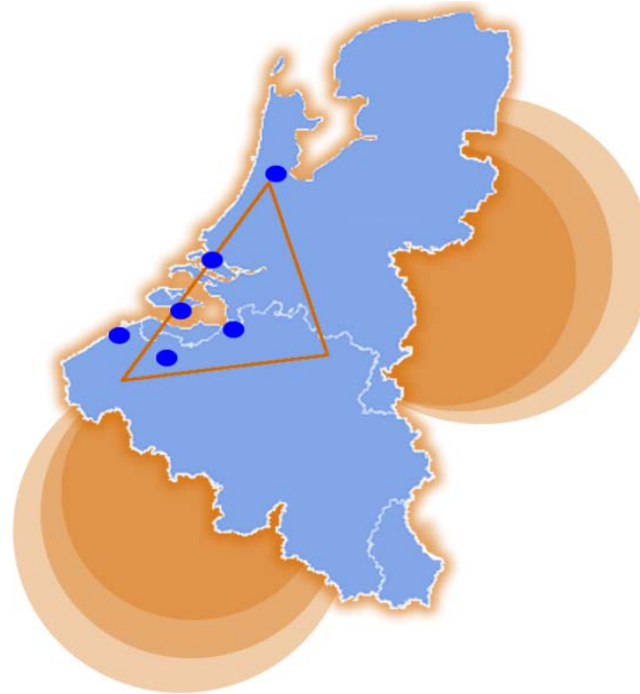
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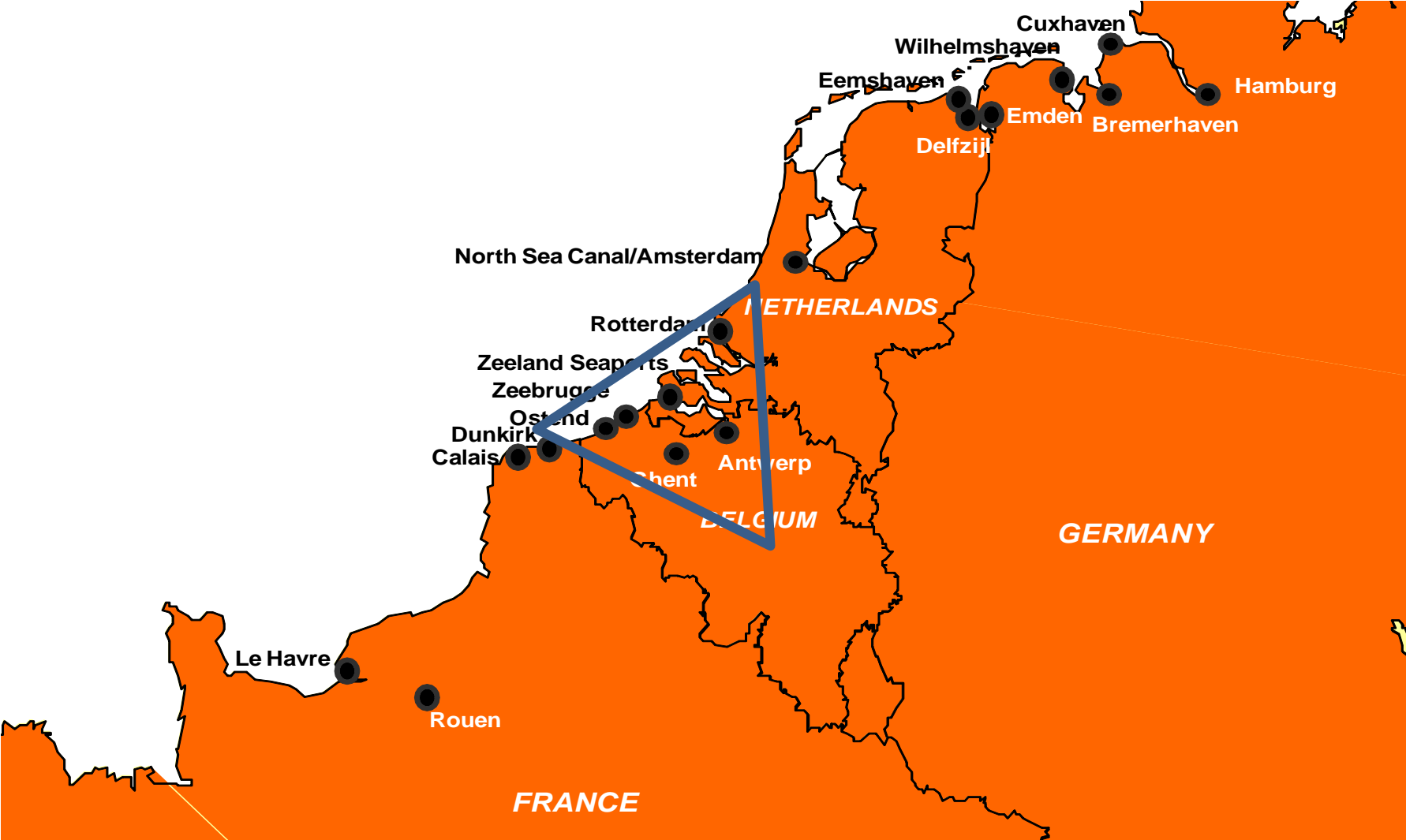
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The Rhine-Scheldt Delta

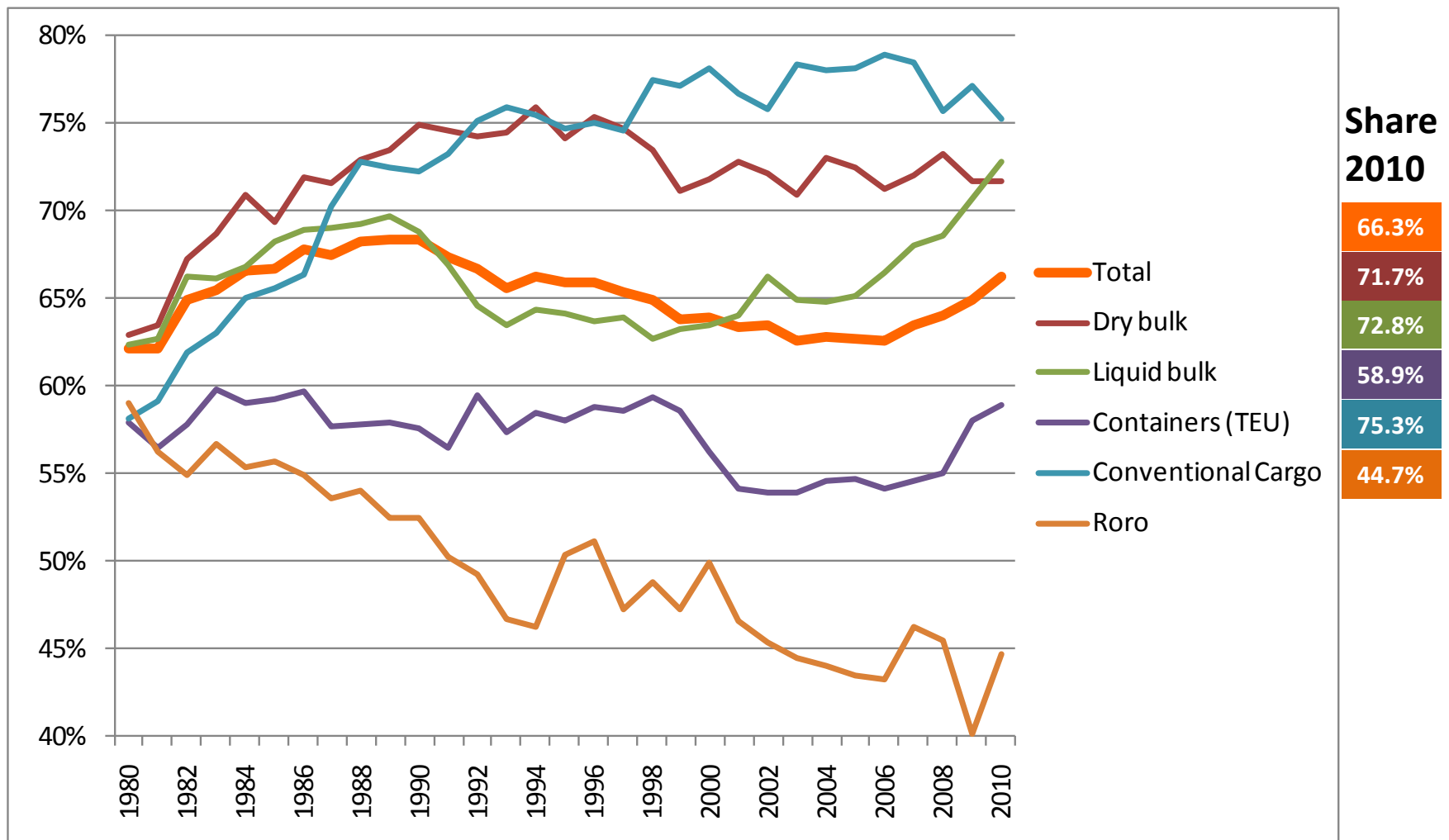


One of the largest logistics clusters in the world with unparalleled cargo consolidation power

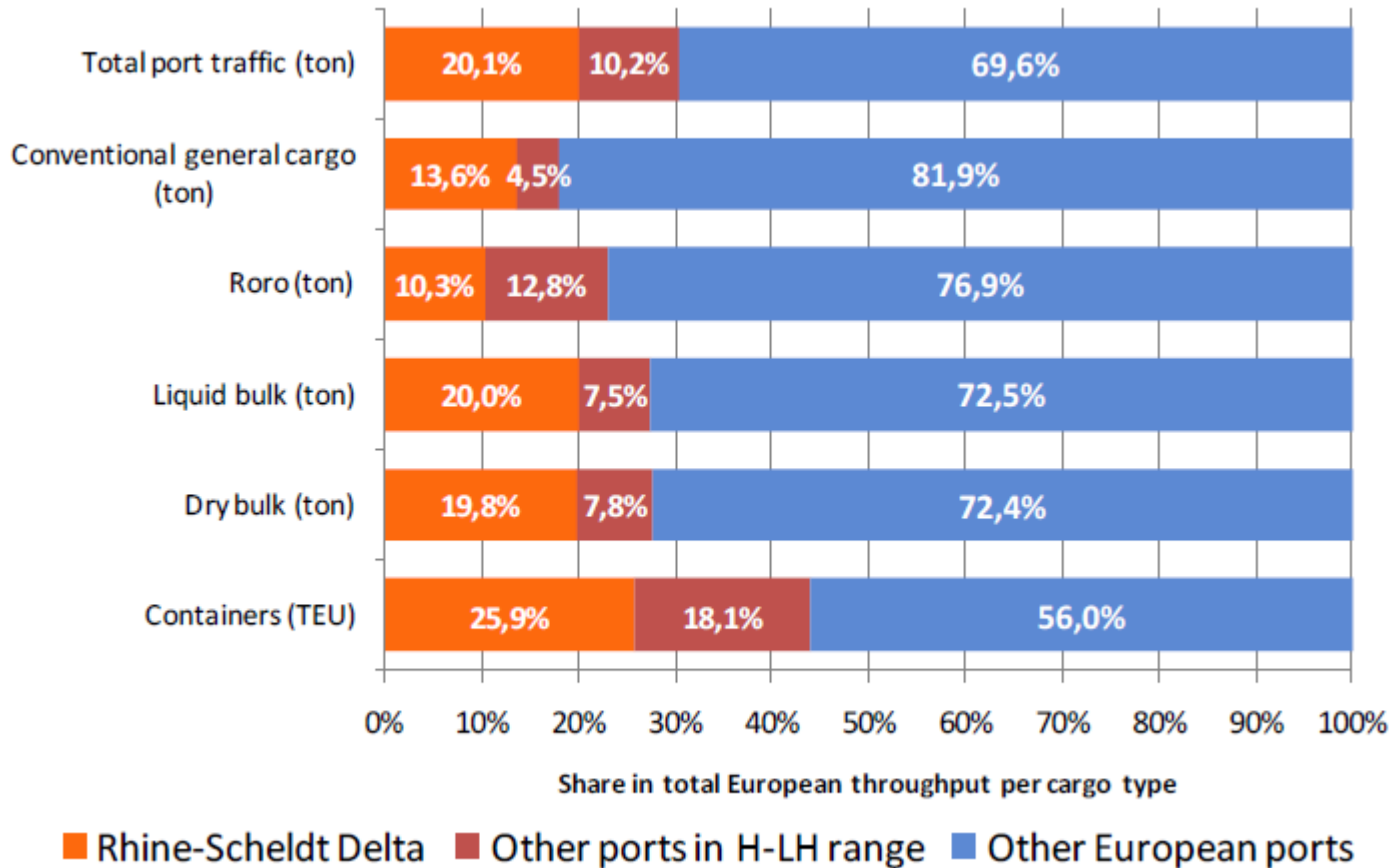
The Hamburg – Le Havre range



Traffic position of Rhine-Scheldt Delta in Hamburg-Le Havre range

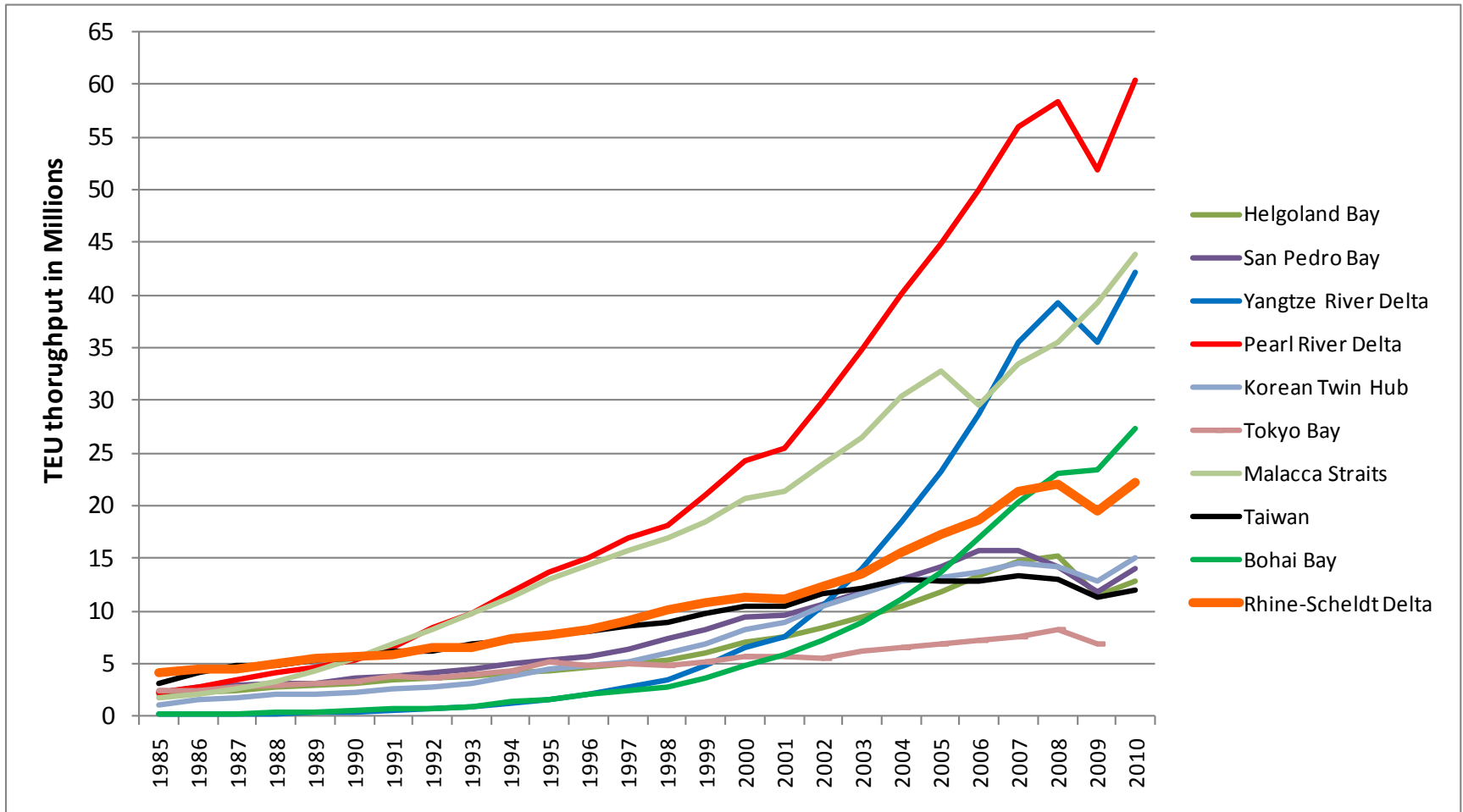


Traffic position of Rhine-Scheldt Delta port region in the European port system



Rhine-Scheldt Delta port region is the leading European port region in terms of cargo volumes

Container traffic of 22.3 million TEU:
5th container port region in the world



The economic significance of the Rhine-Scheldt Delta ports

- No unique standard methodology in the Rhine-Scheldt Delta => the figures for Flemish and Dutch ports can not be compared on an equal basis

National Bank of Belgium on four Flemish seaports (2009):

Direct value-added = 13 billion euro or 4.3% of total Belgian GDP
Indirect value-added = 14.1 billion euro
Direct employment = 105,000 jobs or 2.7% of Belgian employment
Indirect employment = 131,000 jobs

'Port Monitor' on Dutch sea ports (2009):

Direct value-added = 20.5 billion euro or 3.6% of total GDP of the Netherlands
Indirect value-added = 11.9 billion euro
Direct employment = 163,386 persons or 1.9% of total Dutch employment
Indirect employment = 108,617 units
Dutch seaports in Rhine-Scheldt Delta = share of about 95% of the above effects

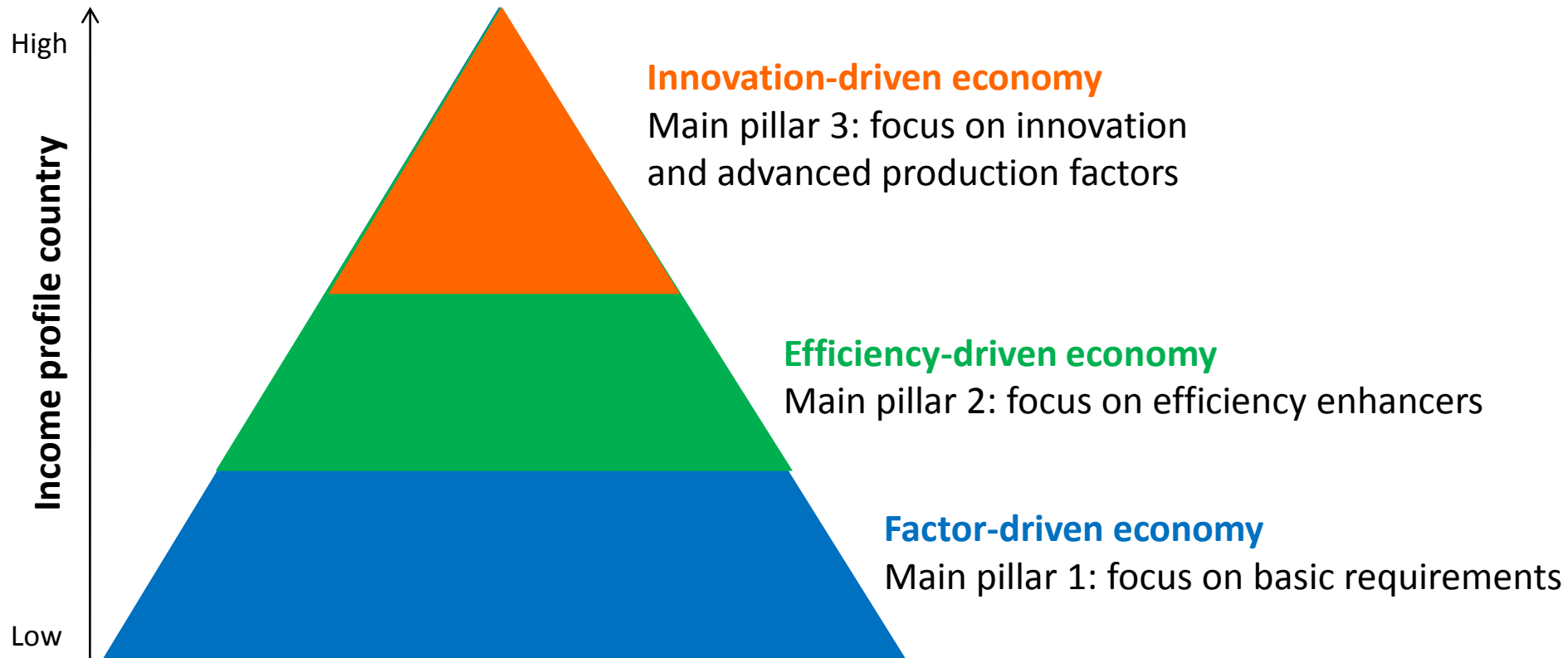
- Impact spread over a wide geographical area and among a large number of international players
- Port-related industry remains very important

The strategic role of the ports in the Delta

- Seaports play an essential role in (1) facilitating trade, (2) increasing the competitiveness of a nation or region and (3) they are assets and sources of innovation in supply chains.
- Belgium and the Netherlands score high on economic performance indicators such as the Global Competitiveness Index and the Logistics Performance Index (LPI)

	2012 LPI			2007 LPI	
	LPI rank	LPI score	% of highest performer	LPI rank	LPI score
Singapore	1	4.13	100.0	1	4.19
Hong Kong	2	4.12	99.9	8	4.00
Finland	3	4.05	97.6	15	3.82
Germany	4	4.03	97.0	3	4.10
Netherlands	5	4.02	96.7	2	4.18
Denmark	6	4.02	96.6	13	3.86
Belgium	7	3.98	95.3	12	3.89
Japan	8	3.93	93.8	6	4.02
United States	9	3.93	93.7	14	3.84
United Kingdom	10	3.90	92.7	9	3.99

The growing importance of innovation



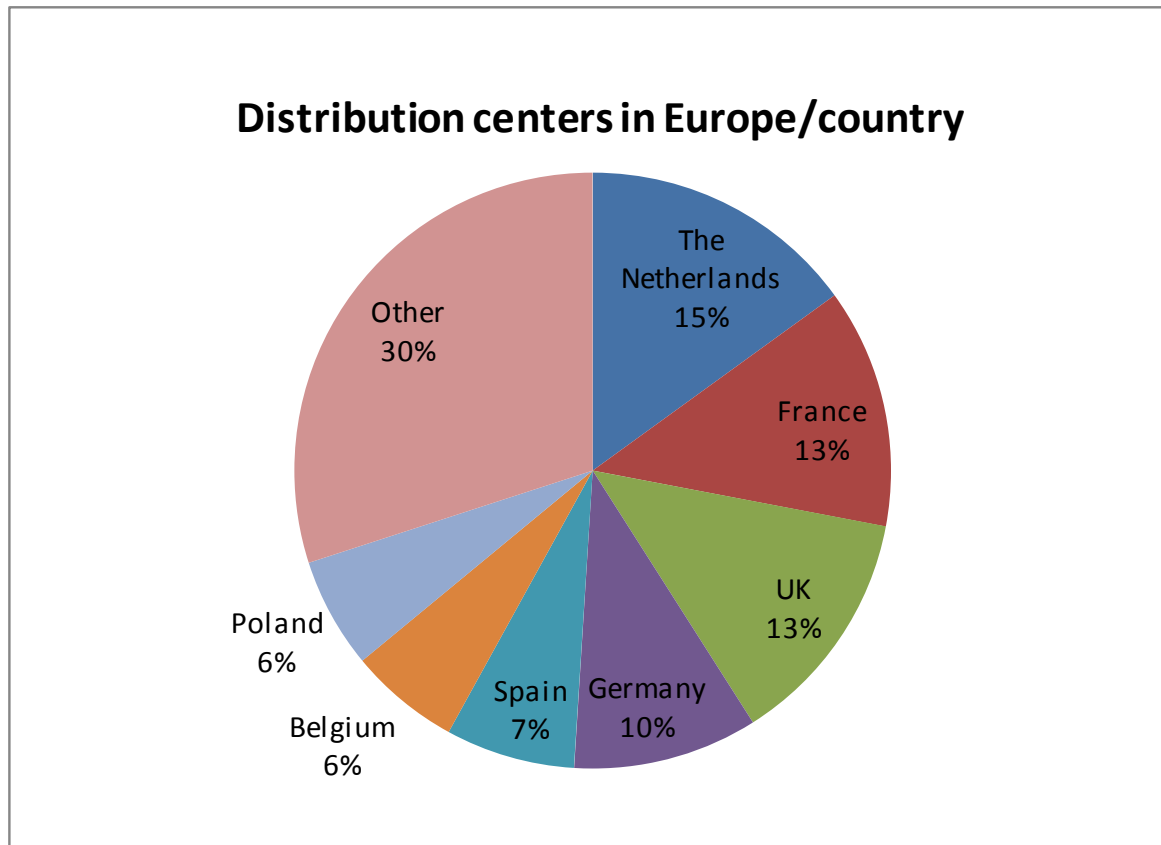
Belgium and the Netherlands at top positions in many warehousing and distribution segments

Distribution centres in Europe

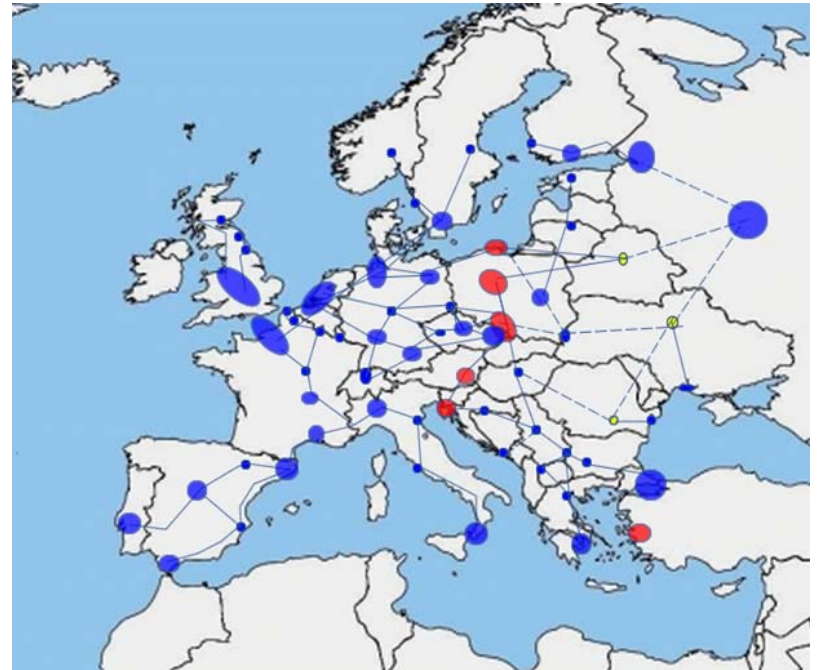
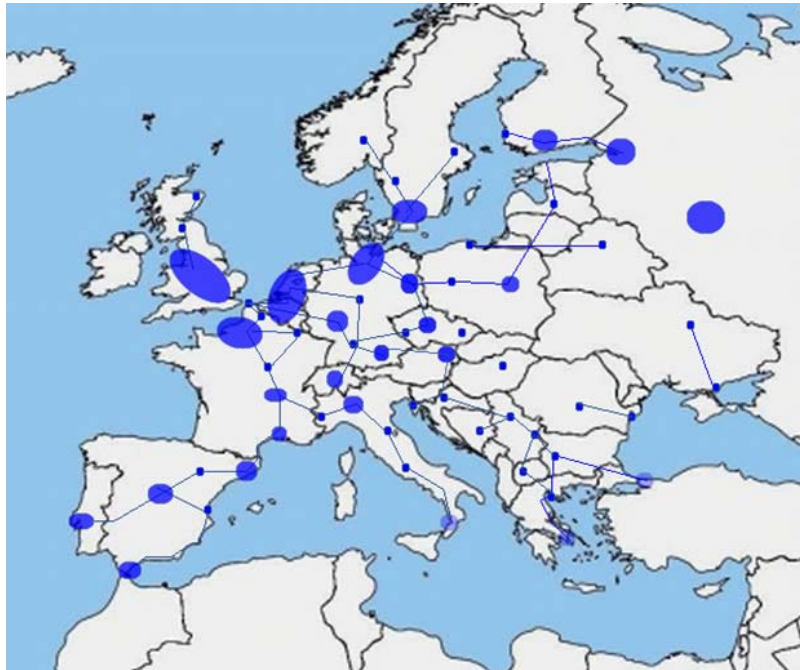
Rank	Food and beverage		High Tech		Consumer goods		Pharma	
1	The Netherlands	36%	The Netherlands	20%	France	40%	The Netherlands	15%
2	France	13%	Germany	17%	Belgium	17%	Spain	9%
3	Belgium	11%	France	13%	Spain	9%	Switzerland	9%
4	Germany	8%	UK	9%	The Netherlands	5%	France	6%
5	UK	8%	Spain	8%	Switzerland	5%	UK	6%
6	Spain	8%	Sweden	6%	Germany	5%	Belgium	6%
7	Poland	5%	Italy	6%	Sweden	5%	Italy	6%
8	Other	11%	Other	21%	Other	14%	Other	43%

Source: Cushman and Wakefield

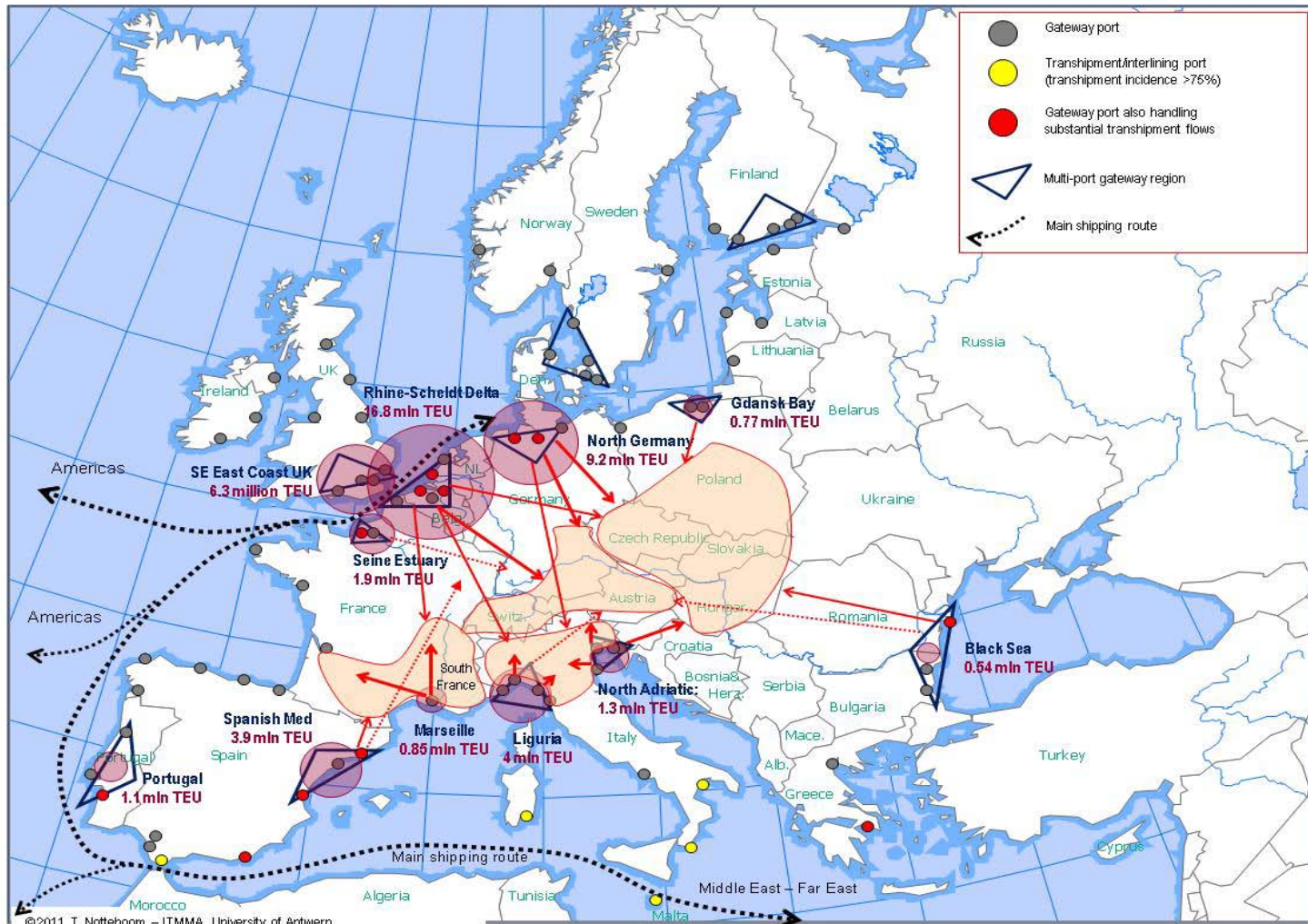
Center of gravity of distribution facilities still in Benelux, (northern) France and (western) Germany



... but new logistics hubs on the horizon?



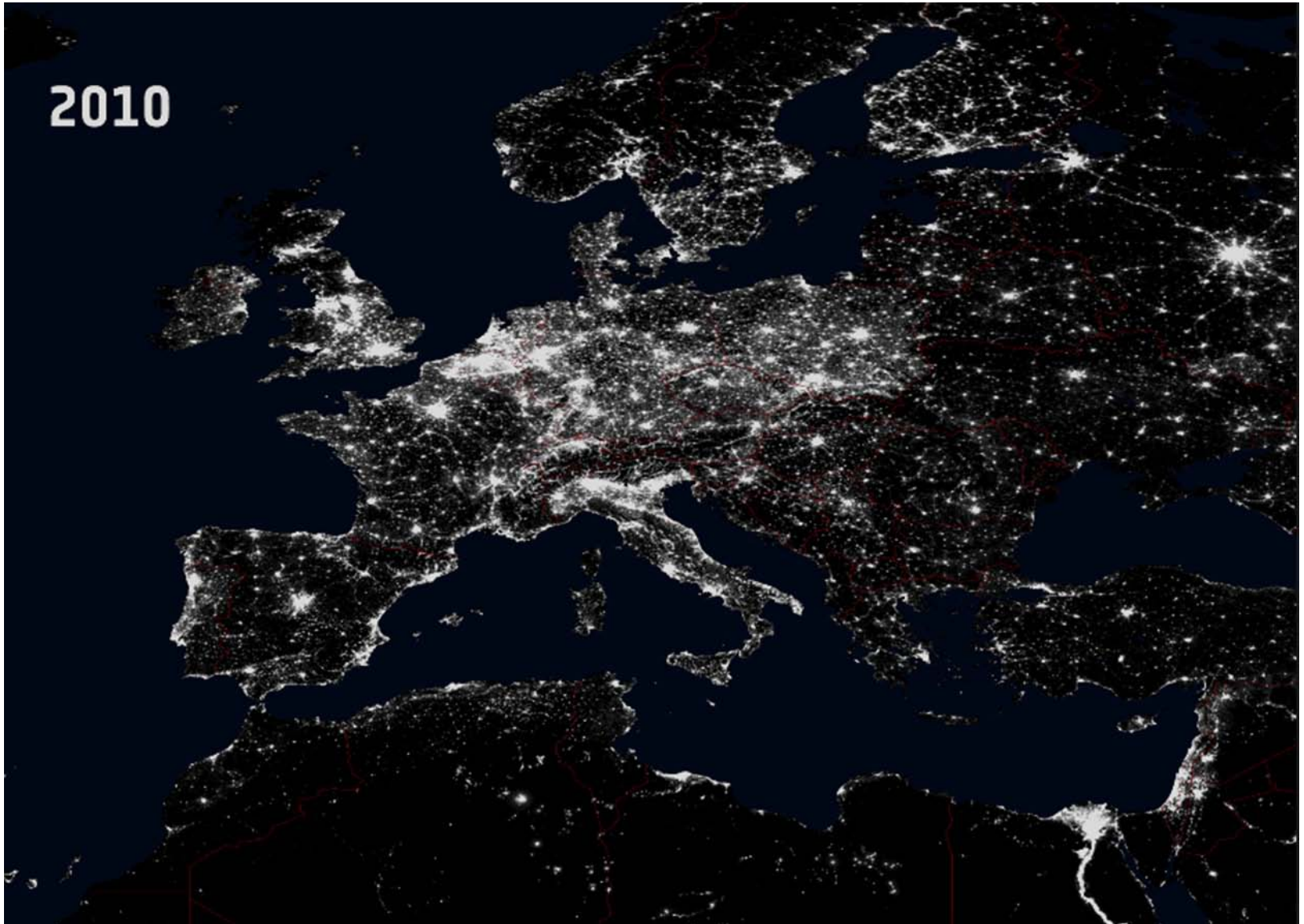
Gateways & Clusters





- Airport
- ⊙ Top 5 EU cargo
- ⊙ Top 10 EU cargo
- ⊙ Top 25 EU cargo

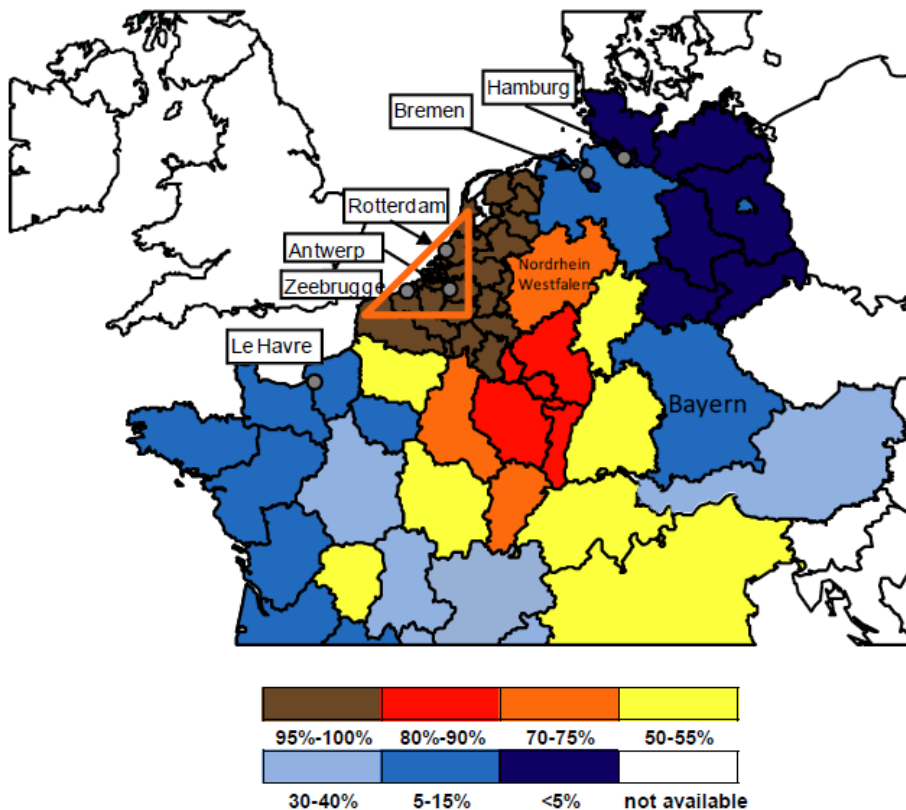
2010



Why here?

Proximity and access to target markets

Estimated shares of the Delta port region in containerized inland cargo (by road, rail and barge) compared to Hamburg, Bremerhaven and Le Havre (2007)



Strong in Benelux, West-Germany and northern and northeastern France ..

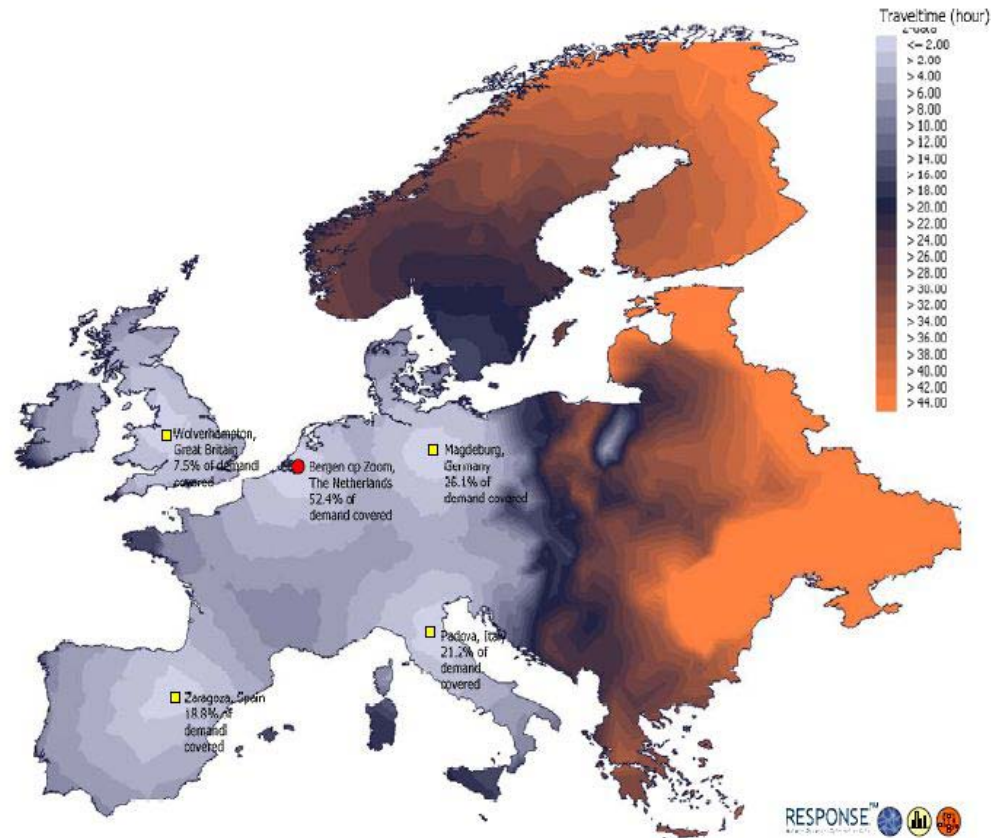
.. but weak in East, Central and South Europe.

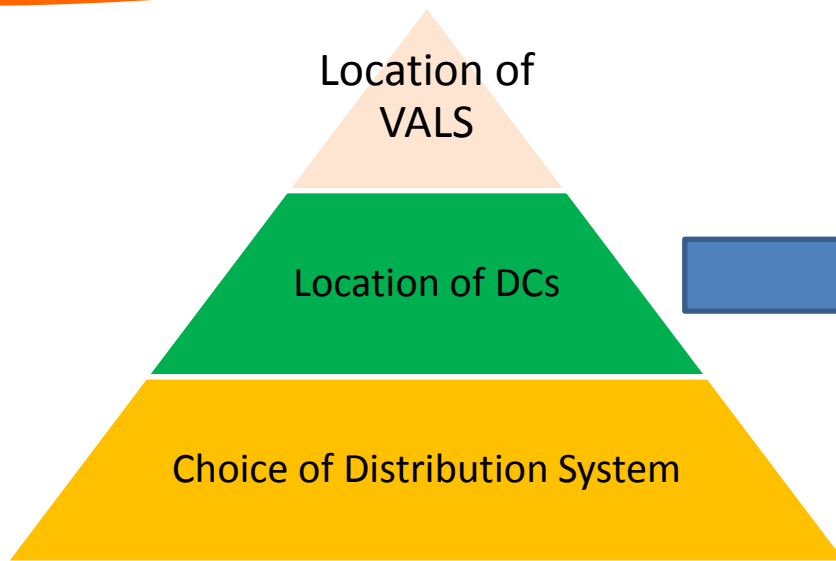
Growing importance of 24h rule puts pressure on centralised distribution systems

Proximity and access to target markets

The increasing importance of the '24h rule' and its impact on distribution systems

Shipment time direct delivery (5 locations)





Cost factors

+

Quality factors

+

Time factors

- Labor costs
- Transportation costs
- Occupancy costs
- Incentives (-/-)

- Labor quality/flexib.
- Labor regulations
- Customs
- Transport situation
- Facilities & utilities
- Sites

- Inbound transit time
- Outbound transit time

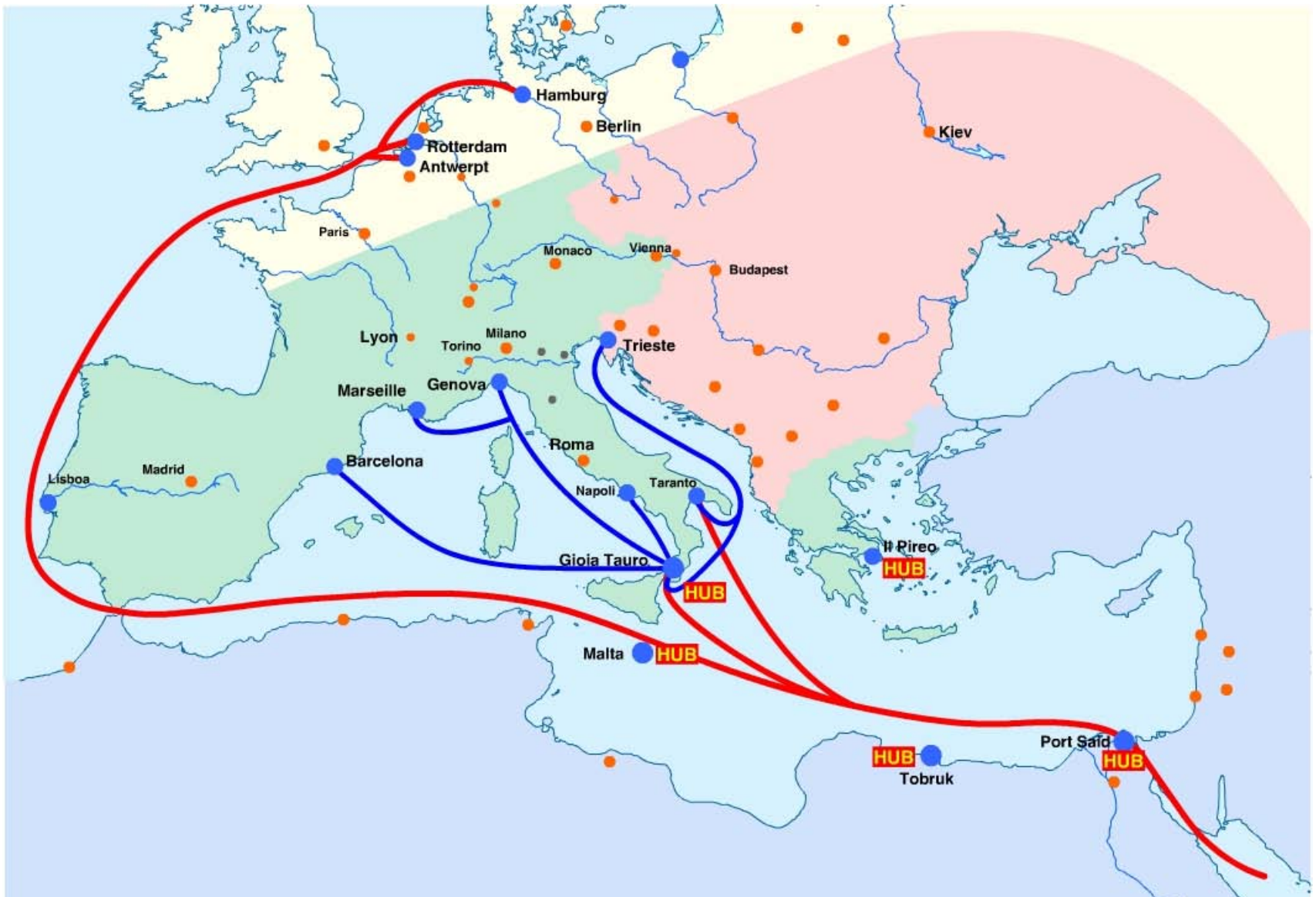
- **Bulk flows** are more captive to the Delta than general cargo flows.
- Changes in the traffic position of the Delta in major bulks (dry and liquid) linked to:
 - Economic cycles: expect more volatility
 - Terminal and inland transport supply in the Delta
 - Environmental space
 - Energy policies in the Benelux and Germany
 - Location decisions of major steel and chemical companies (global competition)

- Increased processing of crude oil at the source => diversify.
- Shift from fossil fuels to non-fossil fuels => adopt a leading role in this transition.
- Leading the way in innovation in sustainable production methods and ‘ecologies of scale’ at individual port level (e.g. via co-siting), but also on a regional cross-border scale (the chemical industry in the Delta).
- ‘Ecologies of scale’ should be fully acknowledged in environmental policy.



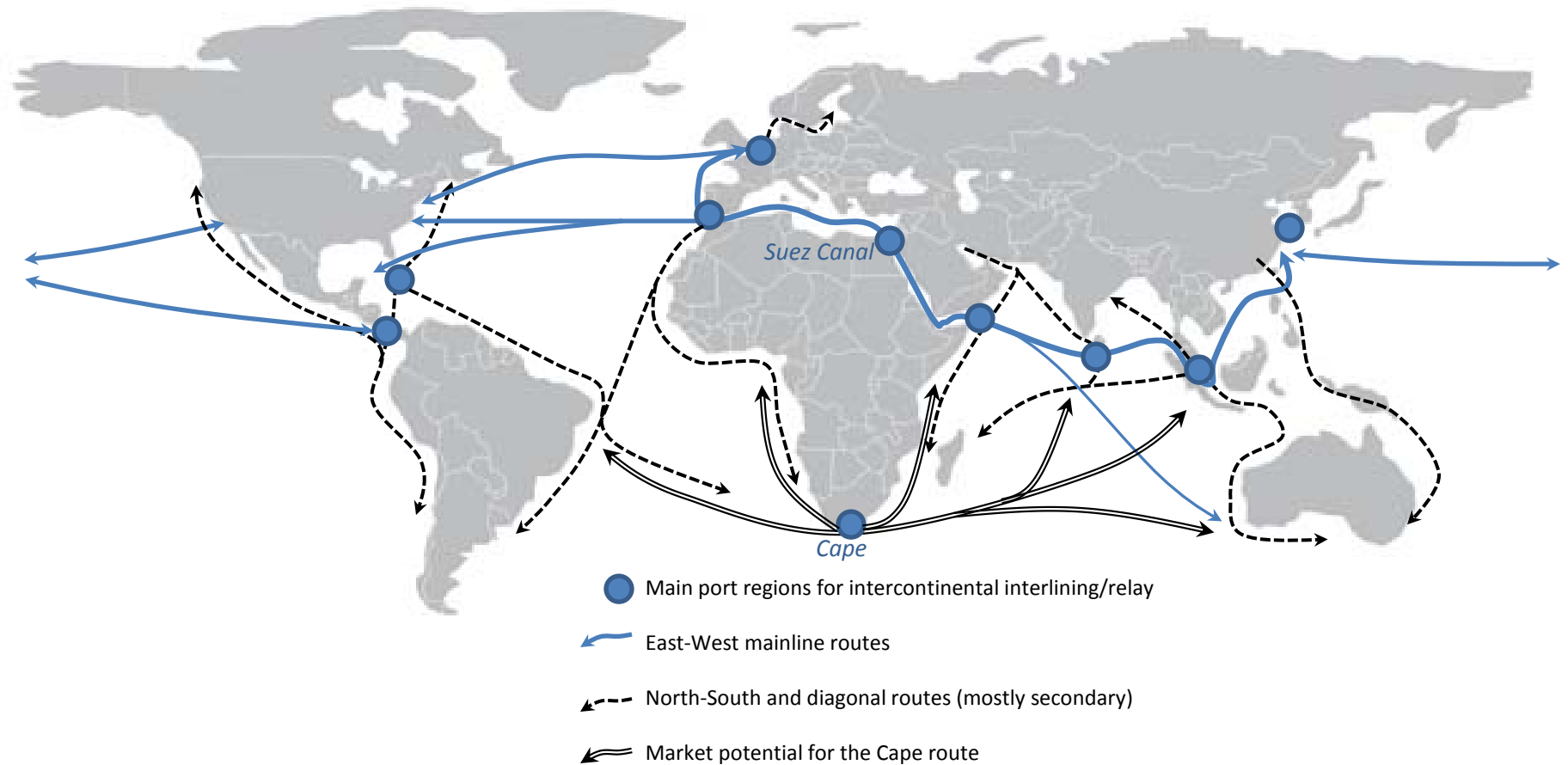
- Unaccompanied ro-ro freight transport to/from central and northern part of the UK, Scandinavia and Iberian peninsula
- New cars: rising demand in Eastern and Central Europe, Russia and Turkey
=> strengthen position in hub-feeder networks.
- Car recycling industry and the rise of hybrid and electric cars
=> diversify know how and develop new business.



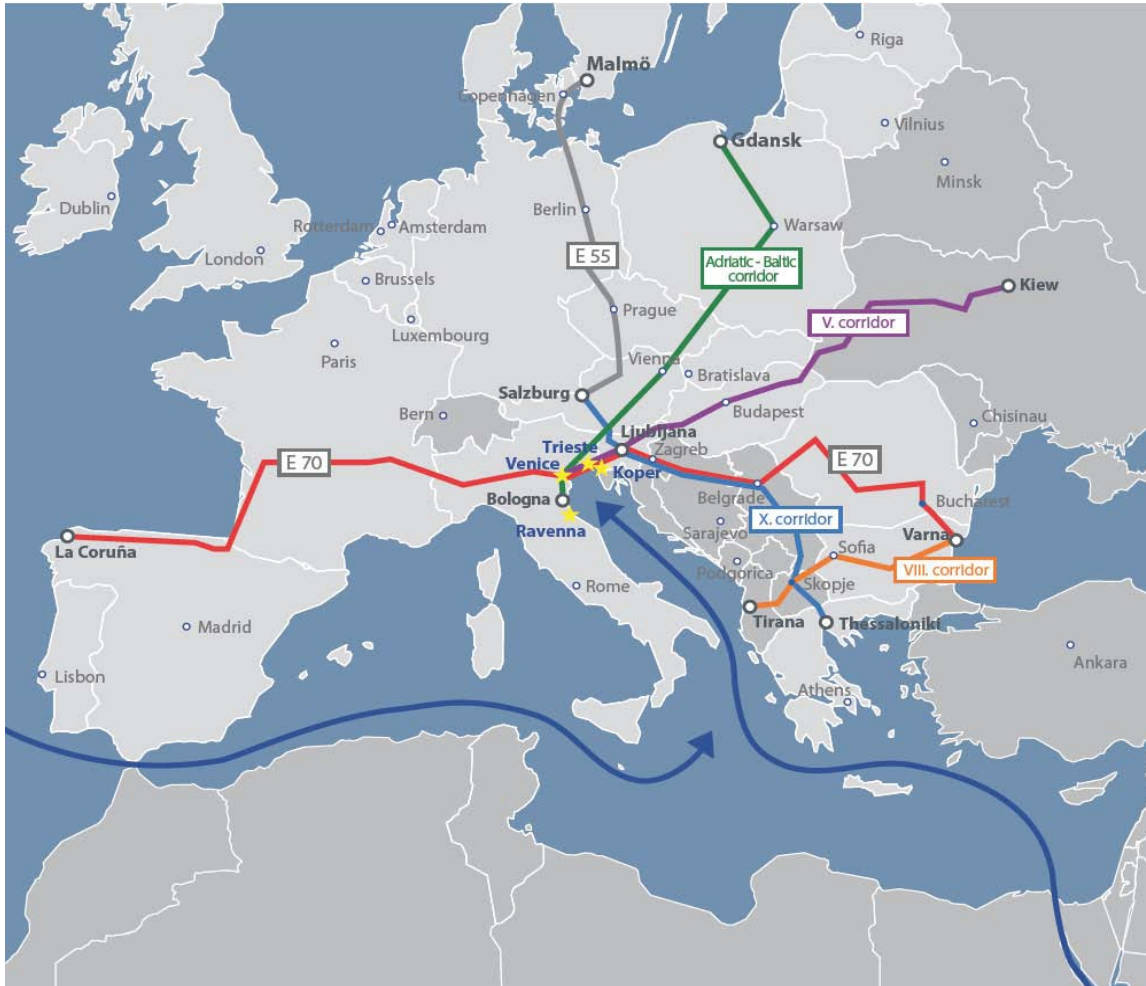


Future shifting?

New maritime corridors to respond to a changing economic geography



Multi-port gateway regions around Europe are organising themselves



Example of NAPA
(North Adriatic Ports Association)



General mega-trends impact on logistics sector

- Globalization of production and trade
- Mass customization and time to market
- Liner shipping network developments
- Increased logistics outsourcing and the rise of 3PL and 4PL
- Safety and ecology
- The rise of intermodality (?)

Specific trends on a smaller scale

- Lean warehousing aimed at reducing 'waste' or activities which do not generate added value for the customer.
- Green and sustainable warehouses (energy use, rolling stock, construction materials, exterior design, recycling, etc..)
- Collaborative warehousing
- IT and technology:
 - Improved product flow visibility, event management, performance management
 - WMS (Warehousing Management System) and TMS (Transport Management System) integration
 - labour management software
 - voice-enabled technology

Concluding remarks

Warehousing is a key economic activity, an important component of distribution systems and supply chain solutions and an enabler of gateway and industrial activities

Belgium and the Netherlands remain top locations but reconfigurations and adaptations to logistics networks are eminent (e.g. twin EDC-concept, rise of eastern Europe, etc..)

Ports are business ventures.

Key themes for future port development:

Space: Delta focus

Accessibility: co-modality, road, information flows

Efficiency in dealing with supply chains: orchestration/control type of services without de-prioritizing the accommodation of physical flows and industrial activities

Sustainability: high environmental performance

Delta ports should extend their **frontrunner's position** through **innovation** in developing business cases and new cooperation and coordination models

Thank you for your attention!

