

Combined management report

The combined management report (hereinafter: management report) covers the course of business at the HHLA Group and Hamburger Hafen und Logistik Aktiengesellschaft (HHLA).

Group overview



Holding/Other

- Strategic corporate development
- Functional management of the Container segment
- Management of resources and processes
- Provision of shared services
- Floating crane operations
- Development and letting of port-related real estate

Port Logistics

subgroup

Listed class A shares

Real Estate

subgroup

Non-listed class S shares

Container segment

- Container terminal operations
- Container handling
- Container transfer between modes of transport (ship, rail, truck)
- Container-related services (e.g. storage, maintenance, repair)

Intermodal segment

- Container transport via rail and truck in the seaports' hinterland
- Loading and unloading of carriers
- Operation of inland terminals

Logistics segment

- Specialist handling of dry bulk, general cargo, vehicles, fruit, etc.
- New business activities, such as additive manufacturing, airborne logistics services, etc.
- Consulting and training

Real Estate segment

- Management of real estate in Hamburg's Speicherstadt historical warehouse district and Fischmarkt Hamburg-Altona
- Development
- Tenancy
- Facility management

Shareholder structure

Share capital: total of 74,404,715 no-par-value registered shares

of which 71,700,215 class A shares
– listed –

of which 2,704,500 class S shares
– non-listed –

31 %

69 %

100 %

Free float

22,238,863 class A shares

Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg

Shareholding: 49,461,352 class A shares + 2,704,500 class S shares

Group structure

Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA) is one of Europe's leading logistics companies. The Group is operated as a **strategic management holding** company divided into two subgroups, Port Logistics and Real Estate. The class A shares, which are listed on the stock exchange, relate to the **Port Logistics subgroup** and entitle shareholders to participate in the result and net assets of these operations. The **Real Estate subgroup** includes those HHLA properties that are not specific to port handling. The performance and economic result of the Real Estate subgroup, which also follows urban development objectives, are represented by the class S shares. These shares are not traded on the stock exchange and are held solely by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg (FHH). In the unlikely and unprecedented event of the Real Estate subgroup reporting a loss, this would be indirectly transferred to the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg in line with a separate agreement to assume losses.

The HHLA Group's operations are conducted by the 33 domestic and 18 foreign **subsidiaries and associated firms** that make up the consolidated group. In the 2020 financial year, HHLA increased its group of consolidated companies for the purpose of extending its Intermodal network and expanding its digital business activities. **Notes to the consolidated financial statements, no. 3 Composition of the Group** No other significant legal or organisational changes were made.

Operating activities

As an integrated provider of container handling, transport and logistics services, the **Port Logistics subgroup** offers services along the logistics chain between international ports and their European hinterland. The geographical focus of its operating activities is on the Port of Hamburg and its hinterland. The Port of Hamburg is an international hub for container transport by sea and land, with an optimal link to the economies of Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia and the Baltic region. The company's core lines of business are represented by the Container, Intermodal and Logistics segments.

The **Container segment** pools the Group's container handling operations and is the largest business unit in terms of revenue. Its activities consist primarily of handling container ships (loading and discharging containers) and transshipping containers to other carriers (rail, truck, feeder ship or barge). HHLA operates three container terminals in Hamburg – Altenwerder (CTA), Burchardkai (CTB) and Tollerort (CTT) – and further container terminals in Odessa, Ukraine (CTO) and Tallinn, Estonia (HHLA TK Estonia). The portfolio is rounded off by supplementary container services, such as maintenance and repairs.

The **Intermodal segment** is the largest of HHLA's segments in terms of earnings. As a further key element of HHLA's business model, which is vertically integrated along the transport chain, the segment provides a comprehensive rail and road network for seaport-hinterland traffic and, increasingly, continental traffic. HHLA's METRANS rail companies operate regular direct connections between the ports on the North and Baltic seas and between the Northern Adriatic and its hinterland, as well as inland terminals to provide a comprehensive range of services for maritime logistics. In addition to transshipment services at the Port of Hamburg, the trucking subsidiary CTD transports containers by road, both locally and over long-haul distances within Europe.

The **Logistics segment** encompasses a wide range of services in the field of specialist handling, consulting and other business activities. Its service portfolio comprises both stand-alone and entire process chains for the international procurement and distribution of merchandise, including the operation of handling facilities for dry bulk, motor vehicles and fruit. The company also provides consulting and management services for clients in the international port and transport industry. New business activities, such as additive manufacturing and airborne logistics services, complete the portfolio. HHLA provides some of the activities in this segment together with partner companies.

The **Holding/Other** division is also part of the Port Logistics subgroup, although it does not constitute a separate segment as defined by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The Holding division is responsible for strategic corporate development, the functional management of the Container segment, the central management of resources and processes, and the provision of shared services for the operating companies. It also includes the properties specific to HHLA's port handling business and the Group's floating crane operations.

The **Real Estate segment** corresponds to the **Real Estate subgroup**. Its business activities encompass the development, letting and commercial and technical facility management of properties in the Port of Hamburg's peripheral area. These include the Speicherstadt historical warehouse district. The world's largest traditional warehouse quarter is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In this central location, HHLA offers some 300,000 m² of commercial space. Other prime properties totalling approximately 63,000 m² are managed by Fischmarkt Hamburg-Altona GmbH in the exclusive fish market area on the river Elbe's northern banks.

Market position

With its listed core business Port Logistics, HHLA competes with other companies on the European market for sea freight services. This market offers long-term growth prospects, as a number of key Central European countries strengthened their competitiveness after the debt crisis, thereby paving the way for a further increase in foreign trade and consumer spending. Eastern Europe also offers growth potential and stable forecasts. Whether these positive trends materialise depends in part on the resolution of regional conflicts and the development of raw material and energy prices.

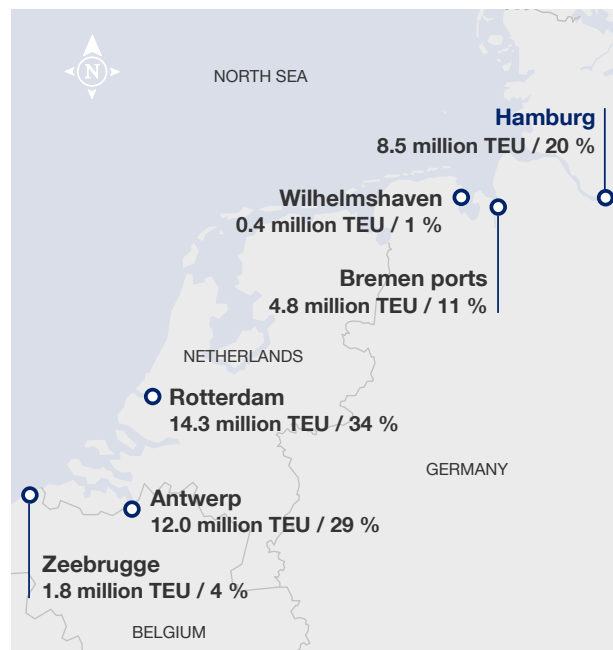
In 2020, the coronavirus pandemic had an adverse impact on the economy – and in particular on manufacturing and trade – albeit to a lesser extent than initially anticipated. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates the year-on-year decline in the economy and global trade in 2020 at 3.5 % and 9.6 %, respectively. **Economic environment**

In particular, the prospect of vaccinations and, consequently, an end to global lockdown measures in the foreseeable future are having a positive effect on forecasts for the development of the global economy and global trade. According to IMF estimates, global growth will be positive in 2021 following downward trends in 2020. **Business forecast**

The market for port services on the Northern European coast (the North Range) of relevance for HHLA is characterised by its high concentration of ports. Competition is particularly strong between the four major North Range ports of Hamburg, HHLA's main hub, Bremerhaven, Rotterdam and Antwerp. Other handling sites – such as Wilhelmshaven and Zeebrugge – are considerably smaller in terms of their capacity and/or current freight volume. The Baltic Sea ports are served by high feeder traffic operating via central distribution points in the North Range. Ports such as Gdansk and Gothenburg, however, are providing more intense competition due to direct calls by ocean-going vessels. Gdansk is exhibiting particularly strong growth and is therefore developing into a serious competitor in this network system. Adriatic ports, such as Koper and Trieste, and the Polish ports have also improved their infrastructure and are competing with the Port of Hamburg for freight in the hinterland.

Container throughput at the North Range ports

Handling volumes and market shares in 2020



Source: Port Authorities / market shares according to own calculation

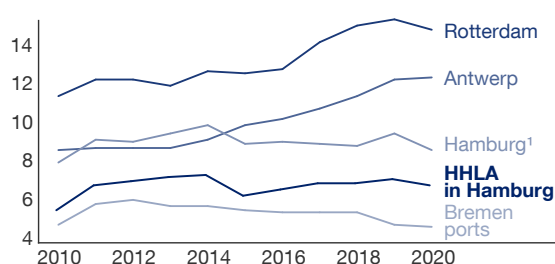
As well as the geographical position and hinterland links of a port, its accessibility from the sea affects the competitive position of terminal operators. Local freight volume in the direct catchment area of each port location plays an important role. Other key competitive factors that influence the market position include the reliability and speed of ship handling, as well as the scope and quality of services. Also of increasing importance is the performance of pre- and onward-carriage rail systems serving the hinterland (e.g. frequency, punctuality, pricing) and therefore the range of integrated transport solutions.

After APM Terminals (APMT) had signed a letter of intent in late 2019 regarding the sale of APM Terminals Rotterdam on Maasvlakte 1 to Hutchison Ports, the Dutch anti-trust authority approved the takeover by Hutchison Ports Netherlands, the parent company of ECT, in October 2020. Competition remains extremely fierce in Northern Europe and the ports are increasingly dependent on changing shipping company constellations. The resulting shift towards more geographically flexible feeder traffic is having an impact on handling volumes. By contrast, the market position for handling volumes that are tied to the natural catchment area onshore is largely stable. Here, it is vital to take the shortest route for the disproportionately more expensive land-bound transportation.

The **Container segment** benefits from the Port of Hamburg's position as the most easterly North Sea port, which makes it the ideal hub for the entire Baltic region and for hinterland traffic to and from Central and Eastern Europe. Furthermore, the long-standing trading relationships between the Port of Hamburg and the Asian markets are advancing Hamburg's role as an important European container hub.

Container throughput at the largest North Range ports

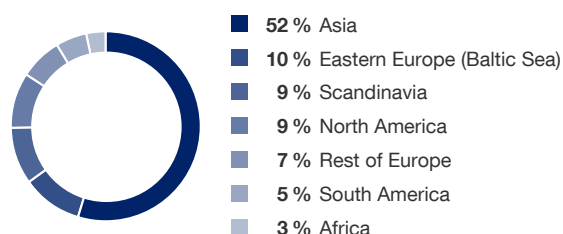
in million TEU



¹ incl. HHLA / Source: Port Authorities

Container throughput by shipping region

in the Port of Hamburg, 2020



Source: Hamburg Hafen Marketing e.V.

With a container throughput of 8.5 million TEU, Hamburg ranked 18th among the world's ports in 2020 and is thus still the third largest European container port after Rotterdam and Antwerp. In Hamburg, with a handling volume of 6.8 million TEU in 2020, HHLA remained the largest container handling company and was able to increase the market share of HHLA container terminals in handling in the Port of Hamburg to 80% (previous year: 75%). The most important shipping areas were the Far East, North America, Scandinavia and the Baltic region.

In the **Intermodal segment**, HHLA primarily utilises the advantages of the Port of Hamburg's rail infrastructure – Europe's most important rail traffic hub handling 2.6 million TEU a year. HHLA's Intermodal network also comprises further ports along the North Sea and Baltic Sea coasts as well as the northern Adriatic and, increasingly, continental traffic. The companies that transport containers by train compete with a variety of other rail operators and intermodal transport firms in Germany and abroad, but also with other carriers such as trucks and barges or feeder ships. As the rail infrastructure is for the most

part publicly owned, various national authorities guard against discrimination in both access and usage fees. In addition to the density of the available network, key competitive factors include the frequency of departures, opportunities for freight pooling and storage in the hinterland, the geographical distance to destinations, punctuality and infrastructural capacity. The importance of these factors is growing as ports compete with one another.

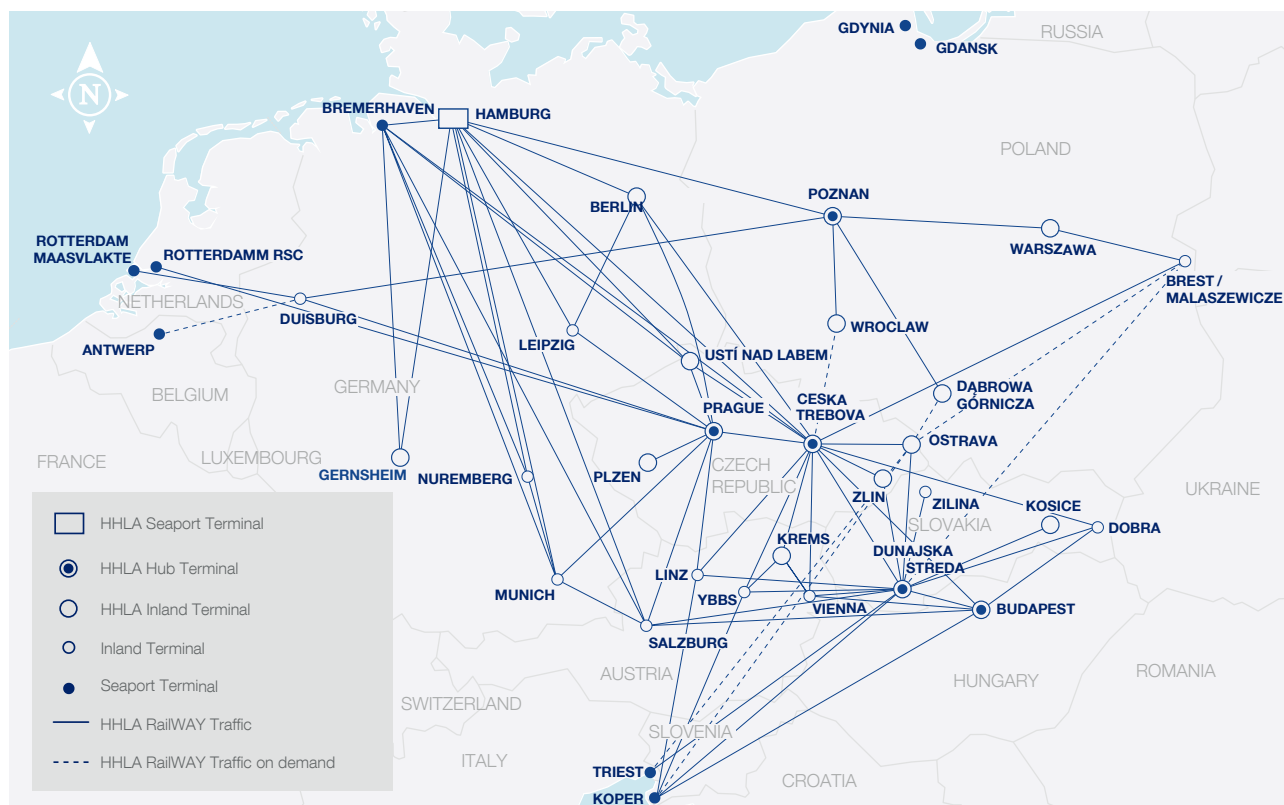
HHLA operates proprietary inland terminals in Central and Eastern Europe along with its own container wagons and traction fleet (locomotives). All of these factors play a major role in the company's service offering. This is necessary to enable it to run direct trains with frequent departures and to allow the efficient pooling of rail freight transported via the port, which is efficiently distributed by central handling facilities. HHLA occupies relevant market positions in the majority of the regions it serves. HHLA has a sound market position in the Hamburg Metropolitan Region in the delivery and collection of containers by truck.

The **Logistics segment** serves various market sectors, some of them heavily specialised. With its multi-function terminal, HHLA is the leading provider of specialist handling services in Hamburg. Via Hansaport, HHLA has a stake in Germany's biggest seaport terminal for handling iron ore and coal. HHLA also provides fruit handling services for Northern Europe with its Frucht- und Kühl-Zentrum. In the field of consultancy, work is conducted on pioneering development projects around the world. The portfolio is rounded off by new business activities, such as additive manufacturing and airborne logistics services.

With a population of approximately 1.8 million and its significance as an economic centre, Hamburg is one of the largest property markets in Germany for the **Real Estate segment**. What makes the portfolio particularly attractive are its unique buildings and favourable locations in Hamburg's Speicherstadt historical warehouse district and on the northern banks of the river Elbe/fish market area. The company has built up a wealth of development and implementation expertise dedicated to finding the right balance between market-based tenant demands and the careful handling of its landmarked buildings with world heritage status. The properties compete with German and international investors marketing high-quality properties in comparable locations.

Intermodal network of HHLA

Selected connections



Customer structure and sales

The customer base in the Container and Intermodal segments consists mainly of shipping companies and freight forwarders. The services provided in the Logistics segment are aimed at various customer groups, ranging from steel companies and power plants (in the field of bulk cargo handling) to international operators of ports and other logistics centres (in the field of port consulting). The Real Estate segment lets its office space and commercial premises to German and international customers from a variety of sectors, ranging from logistics and trading companies to media, consulting and advertising agencies, fashion labels, hotels and restaurants, companies from the creative sector and start-ups.

Globally operating container shipping companies account for the largest share of HHLA's revenue. In ship handling, HHLA's container terminals work with shipping companies on a neutral basis (multi-user principle) and offer a wide range of high-quality services. The **HHLA customer base** remains in a state of flux due to consolidation in the container shipping segment in recent years and regular changes to the network. In the past two years, however, there have been no further mergers or acquisitions among the top ten container shipping companies.

Top 10 shipping companies

by carrying capacity in thousand TEU as of 31.12.2020

Shipping company	Alliance 2020	2020
1. APM-Maersk	2M	4,137
2. MSC	2M	3,856
3. COSCO Group (incl. OOCL)	OCEAN Alliance	3,030
4. CMA CGM Group	OCEAN Alliance	3,007
5. Hapag-Lloyd	THE Alliance	1,729
6. ONE (MOL, NYK, K Line)	THE Alliance	1,596
7. Evergreen	OCEAN Alliance	1,278
8. HMM	THE Alliance	719
9. Yang Ming	THE Alliance	616
10. ZIM	2M — Slot Sharing	360

Source: Alphaliner Monthly Monitor, January 2021

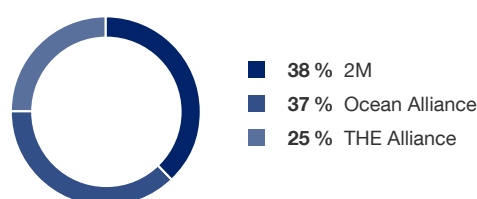
In the reporting year, HHLA's customer base included all of the world's top ten container shipping companies. HHLA therefore considers itself well placed to also meet the future requirements of its clients in the shipping sector. **Business forecast**

The major shipping line alliances formed in 2017 – 2M, OCEAN Alliance and THE Alliance – remain in place. The OCEAN Alliance contract runs until 2027, whereas the contractual part-

nership of THE Alliance runs until 2030. In April 2020, HMM officially became the fourth full member of THE Alliance. In the reporting year, several shipping companies ordered new large vessels with capacities of between 23,000 and 24,000 TEU which are expected to be delivered in 2023 and 2024. Whereas the COSCO Group (OOCL) ordered a total of twelve newbuilds, Hapag-Lloyd, ONE and MSC each ordered six newbuilds.

Capacity breakdown by shipping line alliance

on Far East–Europe services as of 31.12.2020



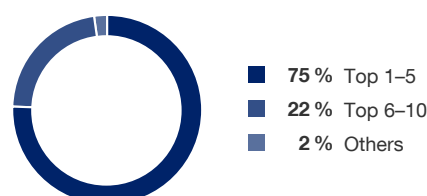
Source: Alphaliner Monthly Monitor, January 2021

Sales activities in the Container segment are organised by means of key account management. In the Intermodal and Logistics segments, sales are generally managed locally by the individual companies. As far as possible, all activities follow the strategic approach of vertical integration, i.e. offering comprehensive transport and logistics services from a single source. The Real Estate segment's sales team offers potential clients and tenants a wide range of services for properties in its two main districts – Hamburg's Speicherstadt historical warehouse district and the northern banks of the river Elbe/fish market area – as well as for logistics properties in and around the port.

The share of revenue attributable to HHLA's five most important customers of its Hamburg container terminals fell in the 2020 financial year to 75 % in total (previous year: 80 %). However, the share of revenue attributable to the ten most important customers of the Hamburg terminals rose slightly to 98 % (previous year: 96 %). HHLA has maintained commercial relationships with the majority of its most important customers for well over two decades.

Revenue distribution by customer

of the container terminals at the main hub of Hamburg in 2020



HHLA concludes framework contracts with its shipping customers that set out both the scope and remuneration of services. As the usage volume for these services is not fixed, there is no order backlog in the traditional sense for the specific services provided by HHLA.

Legal framework

In its business operations, HHLA is subject to numerous German and foreign statutory provisions and regulations such as public law, trade, customs, labour, capital market and competition regulations. Its pricing is determined by the market and is, as a matter of principle, not regulated.

The regulatory environment for HHLA's commercial activities in and around the Port of Hamburg is largely determined by the Hamburg Port Development Act (Hamburgisches Hafenentwicklungsgesetz – HafenEG). HafenEG's objectives are to maintain the Port of Hamburg's competitiveness as an international all-purpose port, to safeguard freight volumes and to use the public infrastructure as efficiently as possible. To this end, the Port of Hamburg employs a "landlord model", by which the Hamburg Port Authority (HPA) owns the port areas and is responsible for building, developing and maintaining the infrastructure, while the privately owned port operators are responsible for the development and maintenance of the superstructure (buildings and facilities). HHLA has concluded long-term lease agreements with HPA for those port areas of importance for its business operations. Lease agreements are largely based on HPA's general terms and conditions for port-related real estate.

For the construction, operation, expansion and alteration of its handling facilities, HHLA is reliant on the issuance and continued existence of authorisations under public law, especially authorisations in accordance with the German Federal Emissions Control Act (Bundesimmissionsschutzgesetz – BImSchG), the applicable local building regulations, water and waterways laws, as well as any necessary planning permissions. HHLA's affiliated companies are subject to a number of strict regulatory requirements, especially regulations concerning the handling, storage and transport of environmentally harmful substances and hazardous goods, as well as rules concerning technical safety, health and safety in the workplace and environmental protection.

The security requirements at ports are mainly set out in the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code), which, in the area of the Port of Hamburg, is implemented and specified by the German Port Security Act (Hafensicherheitsgesetz – HafenSG). Pursuant to the aforementioned legislation, the operators of port facilities – and thus also HHLA – are required to observe strict access control requirements and numerous other measures for averting danger.

The regulatory environment for business activities in the Inter-modal segment is largely determined by the EU directive establishing a single European railway area (Directive 2012/34/EU) and the national implementing legislation. In particular, these include regulations governing the licensing of rail companies, the use of railway infrastructure, the associated charges as well as rail operation. The main legislation in Germany are the General Railways Act (Allgemeines Eisenbahngesetz – AEG), which sets out the requirements for rail operation, and the Railway Regulation Act (Eisenbahnregulierungsgesetz – ERegG), which, in particular, contains provisions on network access and route pricing. In addition, there are further national, European and – especially for transnational rail transport – international regulations.

The legal framework for HHLA is subject to constant change at national, European and international level in order to keep pace with technical progress and increasing sensitivity with regard to safety and environmental concerns, among other issues. In the reporting period, however, there were no amendments to the legal framework with a significant impact on the Group's operating activities or its assets, financial or earnings position.

Corporate strategy

HHLA is one of Europe's leading port and logistics companies with activities stretching beyond the Port of Hamburg into many parts of Europe. Together with its customers, HHLA develops logistical and digital hubs for the transport flows of the future. As a result, HHLA is paving the way for sustainable growth in its enterprise value.

The Executive Board of HHLA is continuing the existing transformation process. Its aim is to strengthen the company's future viability and creative power over the long term. The necessary changes are linked across all segments and underpinned by numerous measures. The defined objectives are pursued consistently.

HHLA's market environment is changing at an ever-greater pace. HHLA aims to harness this change quickly and successfully and in a determined and focused manner.

To this end, HHLA is increasing its

- focus on identifying and interpreting relevant trends in order to derive value-adding initiatives.
- flexibility with the aim and benefit of acting and evolving quickly.
- efficiency and networking in order to remain ahead of the competition and generate added value.
- search for, and integration of, new ideas.

HHLA draws on its considerable **creative power** to focus on the development of additional values. This involves strengthening customer loyalty and its customer base.

HHLA is guided by key milestones as it builds its **future viability**. We come from Hamburg and are at home in Europe. As a gateway to the future, we offer our customers the best way to transport their goods safely, quickly and efficiently. We are currently sowing the seeds for additional, sustainable and profitable growth in our value creation to safeguard our future enterprise value. Four initiatives have been identified to achieve these objectives:



Fit for the world of tomorrow

Our core business is being strengthened to be able to enter the world of tomorrow sustainably and profitably. A corresponding programme for the future is being implemented. This programme aims to enhance competitiveness, quality and profitability.



Exploiting additional growth areas

HHLA is tapping growth potential along the transport streams of the future, along the logistics value chain and in new, digital business models.



Organisation and corporate culture

The company's organisational structure and corporate culture are being aligned with tomorrow's world. The client is being placed more than ever at the centre of activity.



Investments and finance

The company will continue to gear its investments and operating results towards sustainable, profitable growth. HHLA applies a value-oriented approach to its strategic investments. The most important investment criteria are the growth prospects and anticipated return on capital of the investment projects.

In addition to the continued development of our core business and the development of new growth fields, **sustainability and climate protection** are an integral component of HHLA's business model. The aim is to make the entire Group climate neutral by 2040. As an interim goal, HHLA will halve its absolute CO₂ emissions by 2030, compared to the 2018 figure. HHLA is thus underlining its commitment to being both economically successful as well as socially and ecologically responsible.