

#### Logistics and transport

# Efficient logistics boosts business

Finland's advanced transport infrastructure and logistics are a key strength of the domestic economy and a catalyst for the country's lively trade with the Nordic and Baltic countries, the EU, Russia and Asia.

### Modern infrastructure for business

Finnish business and commercial life is served by an excellent network of roads, railways, waterways, canals and sea lanes. Because of its geographical location at the eastern fringe of the EU, Finland is the natural and ideal business gateway to Russia. The two countries share the same rail gauge, so rail cars do not require any technical modifications or reloading when they cross the border.

Finland has 27 airports for freight and passenger transport, including the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport, which is recognised as one of the best international airports by industry bulletins, Skytrax and Monocle Magazine.

The Helsinki-Vantaa Airport offers global connections to about 120 international destinations, and is becoming an increasingly popular gateway to Asia.

Finland's fully automated, state-of-theart ports are highly specialised and rank among the safest and fastest in the world. Car ferries and container ships serve the region with regular daily departures. The strategic Vuosaari Harbour in Helsinki provides efficient transport connections to a market area of some 80 million consumers.

### Leading logistics know-how and advanced ICT infrastructure

Some of the world's leading logistical companies are represented in Finland, and offer a range of specialist aircraft, ships and vehicles, and the latest technology for automated warehousing and real-time monitoring for freight shipments.

Finland has been an early adopter of emerging digital and wireless technologies, with internet, broadband and mobile phone penetration being among the highest in the world.

#### Smart traffic services between Helsinki and St Petersburg

The E18 motorway or the Northern Growth Corridor, which is currently under construction, will link the cities of Oslo, Stockholm, Turku, Helsinki and St Petersburg and bring economic benefits, technological innovations as well as ecological and state-of-the-art transport services to Finland.

Part of the Northern Growth Corridor will include the implementation of smart or intelligent transport services between Russia and Finland along the Helsinki-St Petersburg axis – the so-called FITSRUS project, which is intended as a gateway to the Russian and Asian markets. The FITRUS project offers Finnish companies

the opportunity to compete in global intelligent transport markets.

The information and communication technologies from the FITSRUS pilot programmes will benefit transport service consumers from both sides of the Finnish-Russian border. The first stage of the pilot project will include the monitoring of road weather conditions and traffic flow disruptions. Up to date traffic monitoring and passenger information, as well as public transport information services will be provided, and the first pilot programmes are scheduled for completion in spring 2014.



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