

December 24, 2025

MITSUI E&S Co., Ltd.
MITSUI-SOKO Co., Ltd.

Commencement of On-Site Demonstration of AI-Based Container Allocation Planning and Cargo Handling Procedure Planning at Ports

MITSUI E&S Co., Ltd. (“MITSUI E&S”), MITSUI-SOKO Co., Ltd. (“MITSUI-SOKO”), and Hitachi, Ltd. (“Hitachi”) have been commissioned under the Port Technology Development Program implemented by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) (FY2023–FY2025) to develop technologies that improve the efficiency of container terminal operations through the use of AI.

We are pleased to announce that an on-site demonstration commenced in November 2025 at the Rokko RC2 Container Terminal in Kobe Port, operated by MITSUI-SOKO. The demonstration is based on Hitachi’s AI-generated forecasts of container pick-up dates, allocation plans, and cargo handling procedures, which were pre-validated using MITSUI E&S’s cargo handling simulator.

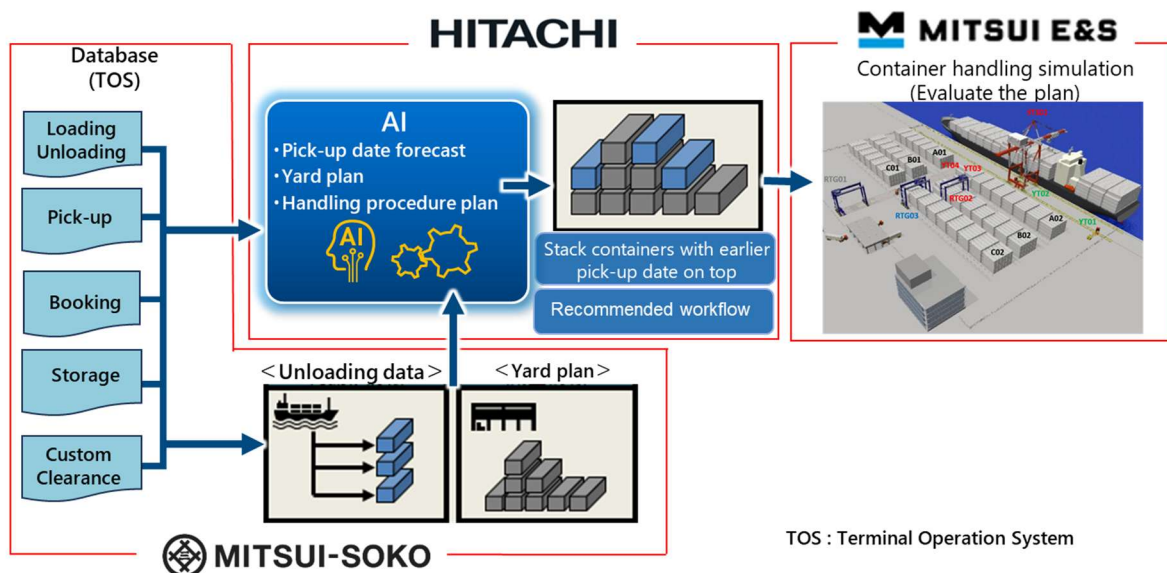


Figure 1: Outline of the Development Structure

Project Details

In this technology development project, MITSUI-SOKO's expertise in container terminal operations is combined with Hitachi's AI technology to forecast pick-up dates, plan container allocation, and design cargo handling procedures based on cargo characteristics data. These plans are then verified and evaluated for efficiency using MITSUI E&S's cargo handling simulator, with the aim of applying them to actual operations.

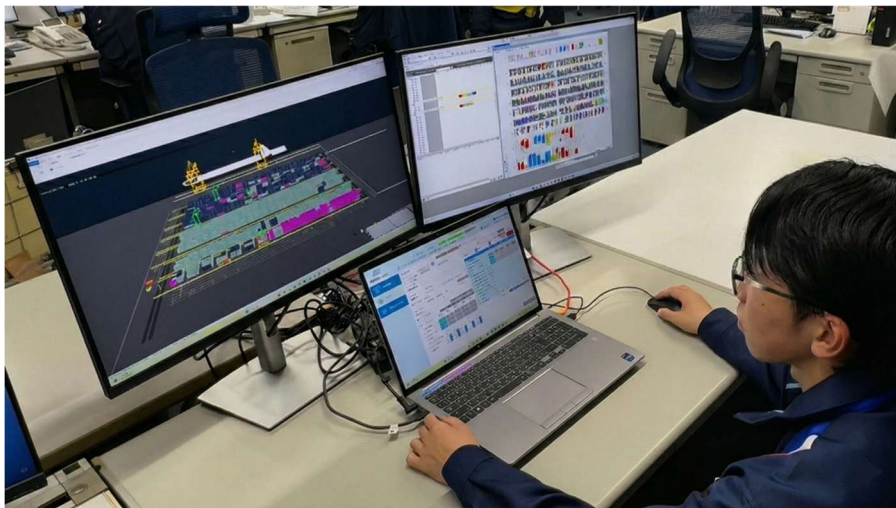


Photo 1: Demonstration scene (Simulation of cargo handling using AI)

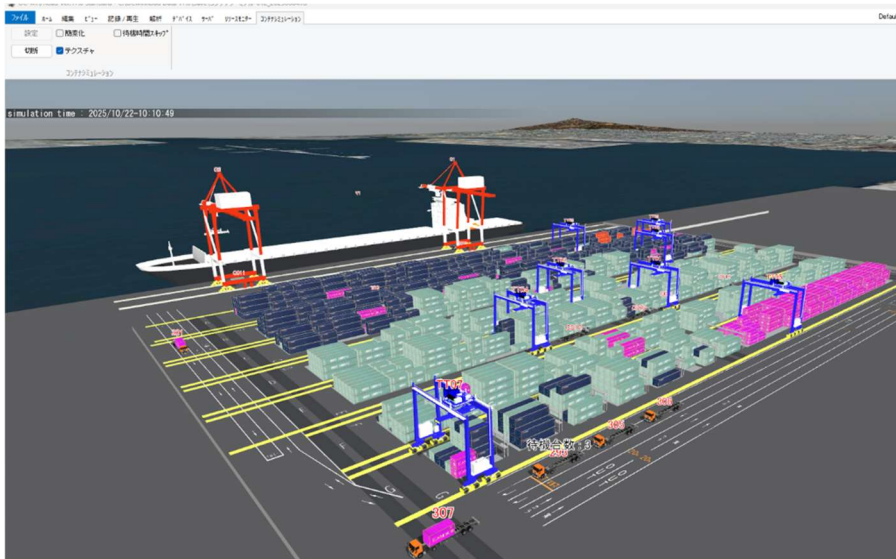


Figure 2: Simulation image of AI-based cargo handling plan

Traditionally, container terminal operations have relied heavily on the experience and knowledge of skilled planners. However, with the recent increase in cargo volumes and the constantly changing nature of container cargo information, planning tasks have

become increasingly complex. To address these changes, the three companies are promoting the advancement of operation planning through the use of digital technologies such as AI and simulation. This initiative aims not only to improve the efficiency and resilience of container terminal operations but also to contribute to building a sustainable port logistics system and solving social issues.

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