VESON
NAUTICAL

OPTIMIZE YOUR BERTH ROTATION
with Comprehensive Visibility & Control

The Problem

Effective berth scheduling and rotation require adherence to precise timelines with exact sequencing of cargoes. A suboptimal berth schedule or unanticipated backups at the berth can have an immediate cost impact in the form of demurrage as well as lasting negative effects on downstream processes.

The complexities involved in berth scheduling and rotation management are compounded by the vast number of variables that must be taken into account, such as the size of the vessel, the berth or port's infrastructure, anticipated activity times, ever-changing voyage ETAs, and commodity shortages or surpluses that could prevent operators from loading or discharging the vessel as planned. Despite its complexity and significant cost and process impact, the berth scheduling function is still widely managed through manual, disparate methods that leave room for error, inefficiency, backups at the berth, demurrage, missed internal and external commitments, and higher overall transportation costs.

Without a highly capable digital solution that is tightly aligned with marine supply chain workflows, the process of managing vessels, cargoes, timelines, and potential demurrage amid the evolving needs of business can be exceptionally difficult.

Let's take a closer look at some of the challenges berth schedulers and operators face without a digital solution for berth scheduling.

Cumbersome Spreadsheets & Disorganized Email

In the maritime industry, stakeholders receive an overwhelming amount of emails, and berth scheduling is no exception. Berth schedulers and operators are heavily reliant on email and manual spreadsheets to communicate and organize updates related to berth allocation, availability, port activities, and more. In addition to placing undue burden on berth schedulers and operators, high reliance on email dramatically increases the risk of demurrage and sequencing issues and creates a chasm between berth management and cargo management activities.
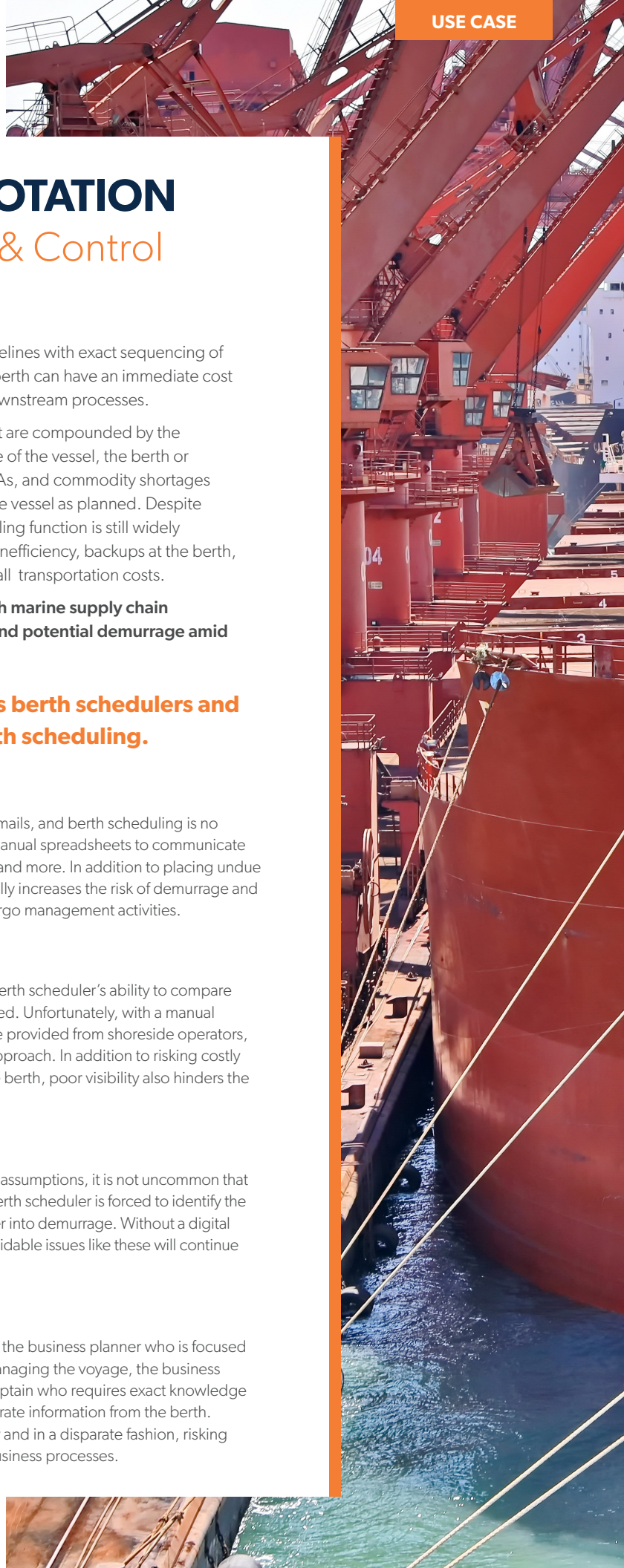
Restricted Berth & Port Visibility

Another significant issue is limited berth and port visibility, which hinders a berth scheduler's ability to compare estimated and actual activity times and adapt when things don't go as planned. Unfortunately, with a manual approach, the berth scheduler's knowledge is limited to the updates that are provided from shoreside operators, which have high latency when compared to an automated and integrated approach. In addition to risking costly demurrage by increasing the time it takes to spot and react to backups at the berth, poor visibility also hinders the ability to utilize data in order to optimize discharge rates in the future.

Mismatched Vessel & Berth Capacity

With a manual approach that relies heavily on tribal knowledge and unwritten assumptions, it is not uncommon that vessels arrive and are unable to fit into their assigned berth. In this case, the berth scheduler is forced to identify the next available berth of adequate size, while the awaiting vessel is likely to enter into demurrage. Without a digital solution to automate the consideration of vessel and berth characteristics, avoidable issues like these will continue to plague berth schedulers and operators.

Data Gaps Among Stakeholders

From the end customer or internal stakeholder who is receiving the cargo to the business planner who is focused on aligning internal expectations, the marine logistics professional who is managing the voyage, the business leader who is managing costs across commodities divisions, and the ship captain who requires exact knowledge of ETA, a myriad of internal and external stakeholders rely on timely and accurate information from the berth. Without a digital solution, the transfer of this knowledge is handled manually and in a disparate fashion, risking data gaps that can compromise the efficiency and effectiveness of related business processes.

The Solution

IMOS Berth Scheduling brings new efficiency and control to the berth scheduling process, enabling you to centrally view and optimize your berth rotation.
Here's what the IMOS Platform empowers berth schedulers to do.

Streamline & Standardize Workflows

With IMOS Berth Scheduling, users can shift away from cumbersome, non-standardized spreadsheets and unorganized, easy-to-misplace email communications as they embrace a single, dynamic workspace that can do it all. The solution enables key stakeholders to visualize their entire berth schedule in an intuitive Gantt Chart, actualized planned events, and integrate seamlessly with voyage and cargo activities to standardize planning and eliminate guesswork.

Consider Variables Automatically

IMOS Berth Scheduling enables berth schedulers and operators to standardize processes, reduce reliance on tribal knowledge, and systematically consider the full range of variables to ensure the right vessel is assigned to the right berth at the right time. When realities change, IMOS Berth Scheduling enables stakeholders to rapidly adapt to mitigate backups that lead to costly demurrage.

See Every Activity, At All Times

For berth schedulers, real-time information, visualization, and insight can make all the difference when it comes to optimally managing the berth rotation and reducing the chance of demurrage. IMOS Berth Scheduling's "Live" view enables users to see what is happening at the berth at all times, compare planned vs. actual activities, automatically pull past-due activities forward, and proactively make scheduling adjustments.

Inform Stakeholders with Seamless Integrations

Port and berth activities can have dramatic cascading effects for internal and external processes and stakeholders. Standardized data from IMOS Berth Scheduling flows seamlessly across stages of the voyage to ensure every stakeholder, from the marine logistics professional to the end customer, has access to the timely and accurate information they need to work efficiently and effectively.

THE RESULTS

Veson's user community is 21,000+ strong, and the Berth Scheduling module affords them incredible benefits that include:

- **Automated berth scheduling process** that optimizes berth rotations and reduces demurrage.

- **Improved communication efficiency and effectiveness** by replacing spreadsheets and emails with centralized, standardized data.

- **Reduced demurrage expenses** with the ability to adapt to unanticipated events with greater agility.

- **Enhanced continuity and shared knowledge** across internal and external stakeholders.

> " Effective berth scheduling and rotation requires a precise balance of many intricate variables, but the vast majority of berth schedulers and marine planners are currently trying to manage these variables through manual processes. IMOS Berth Scheduling addresses this problem with a digital solution."
>
> **—Josh Luby,**
> *Product Manager, Veson Nautical*