SUCCESS STORY

Building a Unified Multi-Terminal Operating Environment in Angola with Solvo.TOS

CLIENT

SOGESTER
A CARREGAR ANGOLA E A DESCARREGAR O MUNDO

Sogester S.A. is an Angolan terminal and logistics operator.

Container | General cargo | Ro-Ro

4 FACILITIES IN ANGOLA

Port:	Luanda		Namibe
			
Boavista	**ICD Viana**	**ICD Panguila**	
Site: Maritime container terminal	Site: Second line inland terminal	Site: Second line inland terminal	Site: Maritime multipurpose terminal
14 ha	9.5 ha	45 ha	12 ha
Annual capacity: 800,000 TEU			200,000 TEU

VENDOR

SOLVO World

Solvo Europe
The Hague, Netherlands

solvo-world.com

Solvo is an international provider of IT solutions for ports, cargo terminals and warehouse logistics with over 450 worldwide projects completed.

Solvo.TOS is a flexible terminal operating system designed to manage cargo handling, yard & gate operations, documentation, billing, equipment tasks, mobile workstations and integrations across container, Ro-Ro, bulk, breakbulk and general cargo operations.

IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS IN NUMBERS

40%
Reduction in Rehandling and Reshuffling

45%
Increase in Staff Performance

90%
Decrease in Fines and Returns

30%
Faster Truck Turnaround Times

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project

Phased Solvo.TOS rollout across Sogester's coastal and inland terminal network in Angola.

Main objective

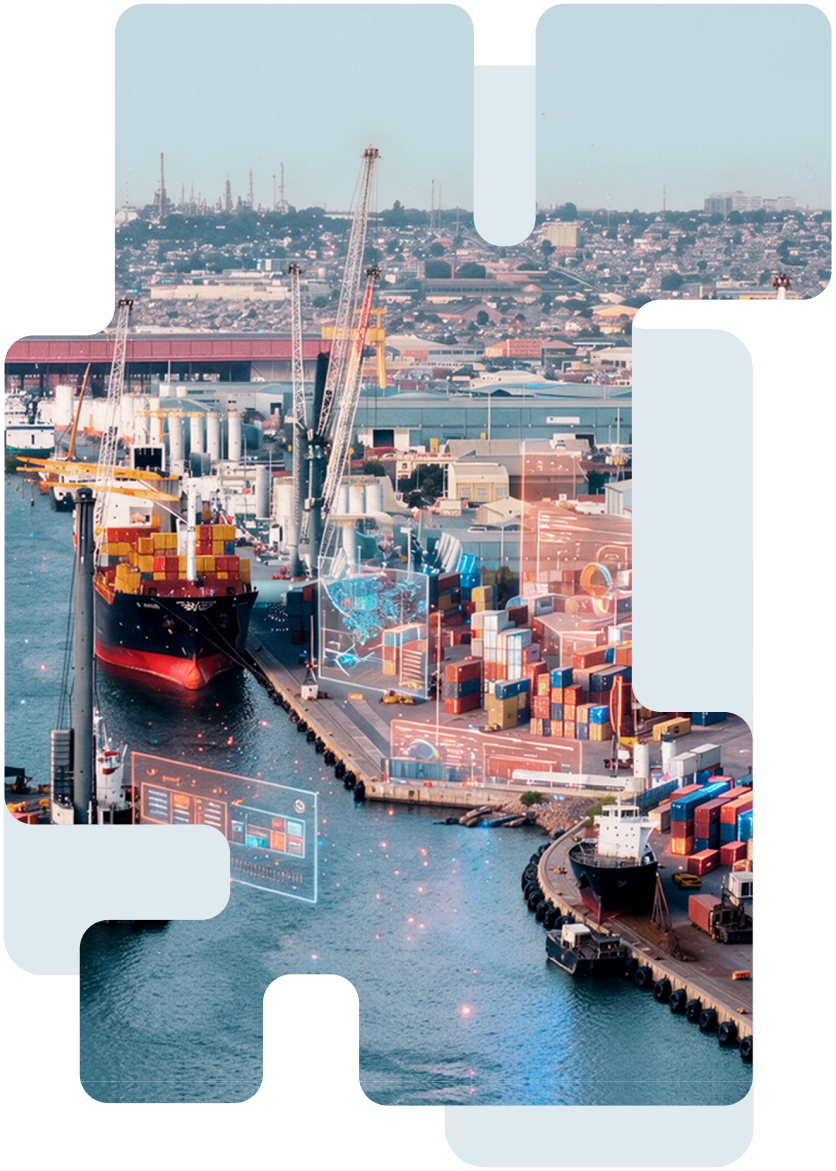
Replace fragmented site-level operational systems with a common digital operating environment and a shared integration foundation.

Key focus

Vessel, yard, gate and rail workflows; container and general cargo; billing and external interfaces; mobile operations and reefer integration.

Implementation approach

Namibe pilot first, followed y network rollout. Configuration and support continued remotely during COVID restrictions, with onsite training and commissioning when travel resumed.



CHALLENGE

Sogester's expansion created a systems problem as much as an operational one. The pre-project IT-landscape was disjointed. Different locations used separate databases; the legacy TOS had only a semi-automated interface with the ERP environment; and several capabilities required for Sogester's next stage were absent, including reefer monitoring, a general-cargo module, mobile terminals and handheld support, truck appointments, consolidated accounting, and maintenance/inventory modules. At the same time, the growth was prominent: Luanda alone handled around 300,000 TEU in 2019, illustrating the scale at which the new platform had to work.

The business requirement was therefore broader than replacing one TOS. Sogester needed a common operational platform capable of supporting different cargo types in one data environment and connecting finance, reefer monitoring, gate automation, authorities, shipping lines and customer-facing services. The rollout also had to work across sites with very different operating profiles — from high-volume container operations in Luanda to the multipurpose Namibe terminal, where granite blocks arrive by rail and are stuffed into containers for export.

SOLUTION

1. Pilot project: Namibe

Sogester selected Namibe as the pilot site. The operational part of the implementation was completed by the end of December 2019. The pilot created a controlled environment in which the teams could validate terminal topology, operating rules, data migration and integration requirements before extending the program to larger sites. The project included site analysis and methodology selection, preparation and coordination of technical requirements, terminal-topology configuration, creation of a test environment, system testing, production server and software setup, configuration of handhelds, tablets and kiosks, legacy-data migration, personnel training, commissioning and onsite hypercare.

2. Main project: Solvo.TOS as a core operational platform

The next stage was planned for Luanda from January 2020, just as COVID-19 travel restrictions disrupted the implementation program. Sogester and Solvo continued configuration and fine-tuning remotely, then returned to onsite training and commissioning when restrictions allowed.

Solvo.TOS became the digital layer connecting Sogester's core terminal workflows: vessel planning, yard management, gate operations, rail workflows, container handling, depot processes, EDI, KPI monitoring, resource and equipment management, and billing. Beside containers, the platform supported general cargo and Ro-Ro-oriented workflows.

The project included integration with the wider terminal technology landscape, including IFS-10 financial environment interconnection, together with reefer monitoring and data exchange with banks, shipping lines, the Port Authority and Customs. Container lifecycle events, bills of lading, terminal departure reports, gate confirmations and service triggers were synchronized between operations and finance.

The platform is continuing beyond the initial rollout, including Solvo.Tally and Solvo.Survey mobile applications implementation, yard automation and OCR.



RESULTS

The faster the pilot, the stronger the foundation

The Namibe operational pilot was completed by the end of December 2019. That milestone gave Sogester a live reference site before COVID complicated the larger network rollout.

Different sites, different cargo — one operating system

The cluster of isolated site databases were replaced by Solvo.TOS as a shared platform functioning as one operating environment for coastal and inland terminals, different cargo types and third-party systems.

A strong backbone for future integrations

Solvo.TOS became the operational system around which financial, reefer, gate and external interfaces could be connected. It also enables the implementation of future innovations, such as digital twins and autonomous cargo handling equipment.

Advanced support for future expansion

What began as a container-terminal modernization project developed into building a platform for containers, general cargo and Ro-Ro-related processes. With its modular approach, Solvo.TOS allows to promptly launch new types of cargo, such as bulk and livestock.

NEXT STAGE

In 2026, Sogester expanded its operational footprint with 20-year concessions for the passenger and cargo terminals at the ports of Cabinda and Soyo. Solvo.TOS is now planned for rollout at both locations, extending the platform to two strategically linked terminals in northern Angola.

The two sites support national cabotage and the movement of passengers and cargo between Cabinda, Soyo and the wider Angolan transport network. Their operating profile differs significantly from Sogester's original container-terminal environment, further extending the multi-site and multi-operational scope of the Solvo.TOS deployment.

FEEDBACK

“As we began to expand, the need for a unified infrastructure became urgent. We studied the TOS market and chose Solvo.TOS. We believe these innovations will significantly boost our terminals' performance in high-load conditions.”

Frans Jol

CEO, SOGESTER — Sociedade Gestora de Terminais, S.A.

