

“Simulating LNG inventory management at the Gate terminal”

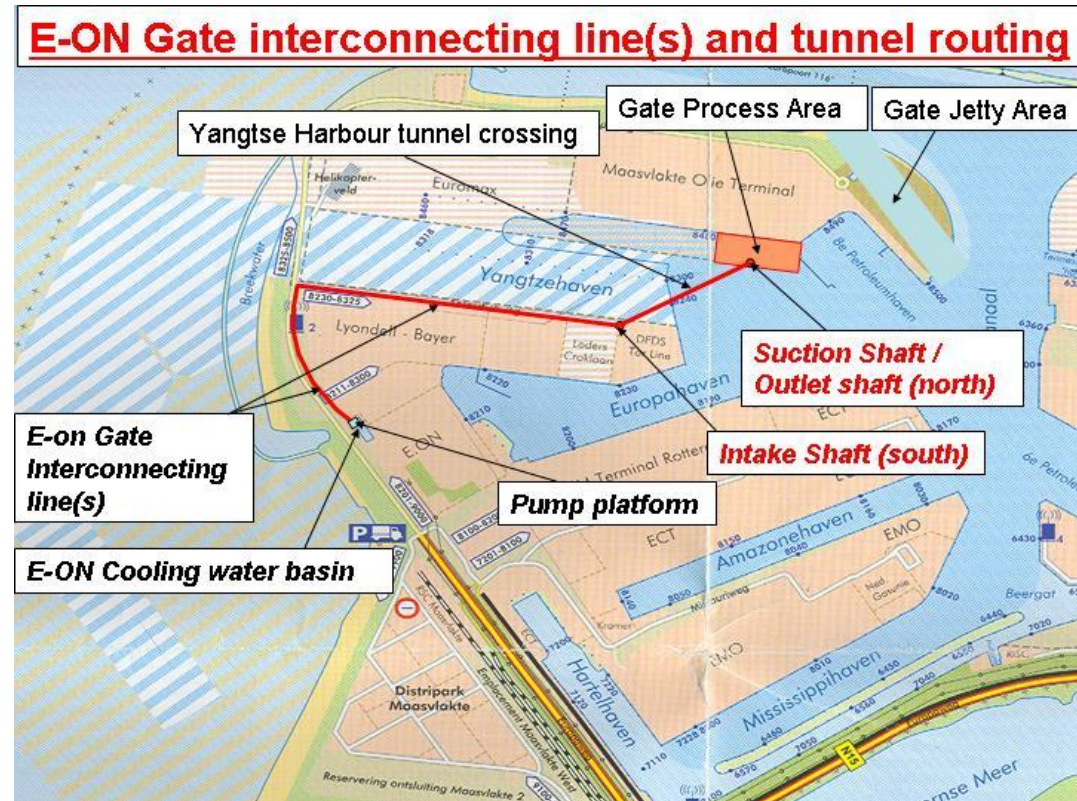
Feikje Wittermans

- 1. The Gate terminal**
- 2. Managing LNG inventory and throughput**
- 3. Simulation model(s) over time**
- 4. SIMA functionality**
- 5. Benefits of simulation**
- 6. Next steps**

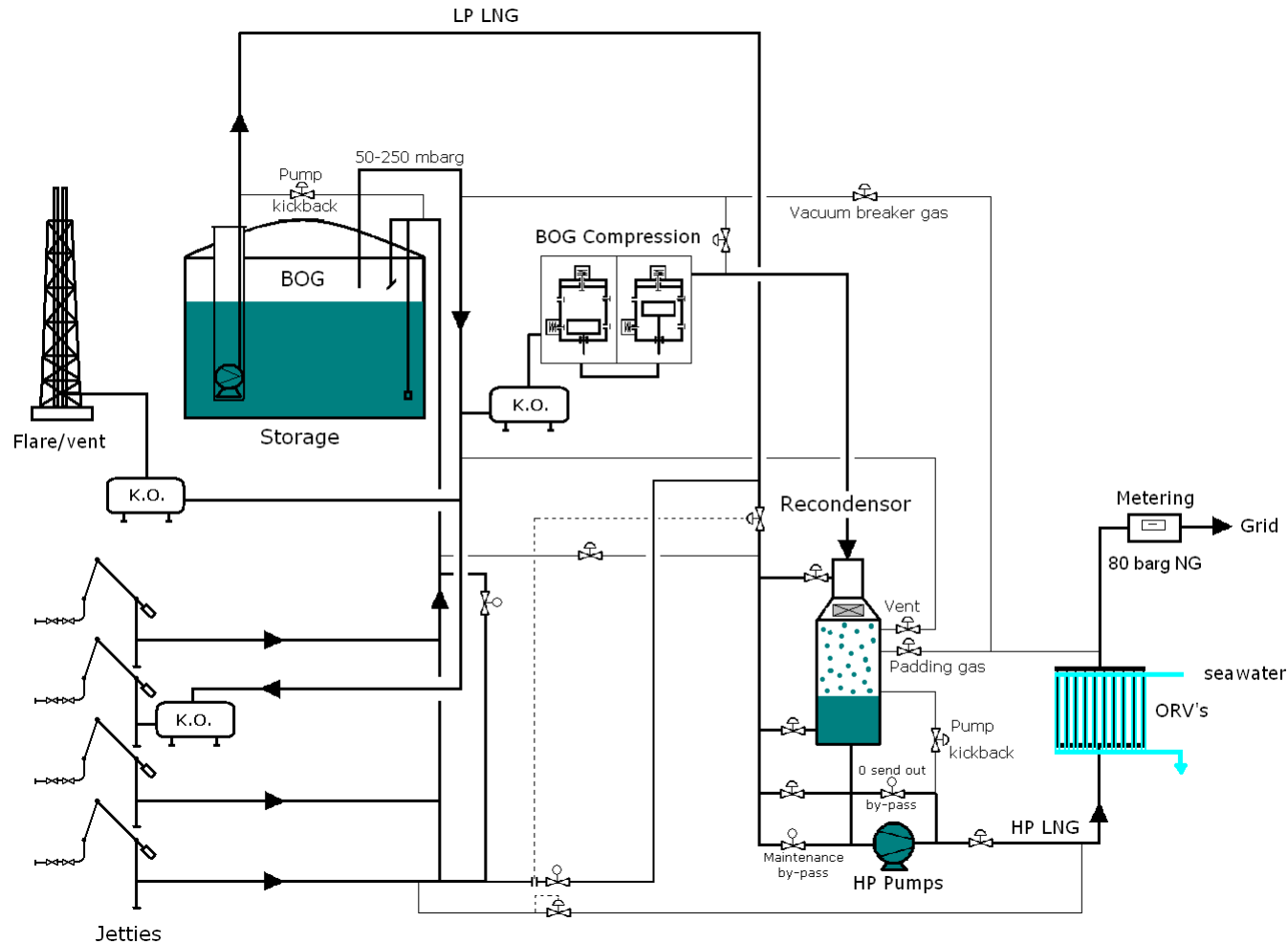
1. Gate terminal provides an alternative for pipeline gas

- The Gate terminal is considered as a major component of the Dutch strategy of becoming the ***Gas Roundabout of Europe***
- Gate terminal is an LNG regasification terminal where we
 - Receive LNG by unloading LNG carriers (2 jetties)
 - Store LNG temporary (3 storage tanks) and
 - Deliver Gas in the National Grid (GTS) by regasifying the LNG using cooling water from the Eon power plant
- Yearly output (in natural gas) of the terminal in Gas is 12 billion m³ (n) per year

- Cooling water used to regasify the LNG is transported via a pipeline and tunnel from the Eon Power station to the Gate terminal
- The terminal is considered a zero emission terminal



1. Process overview of the terminal



2. Modeling LNG inventory and throughput management

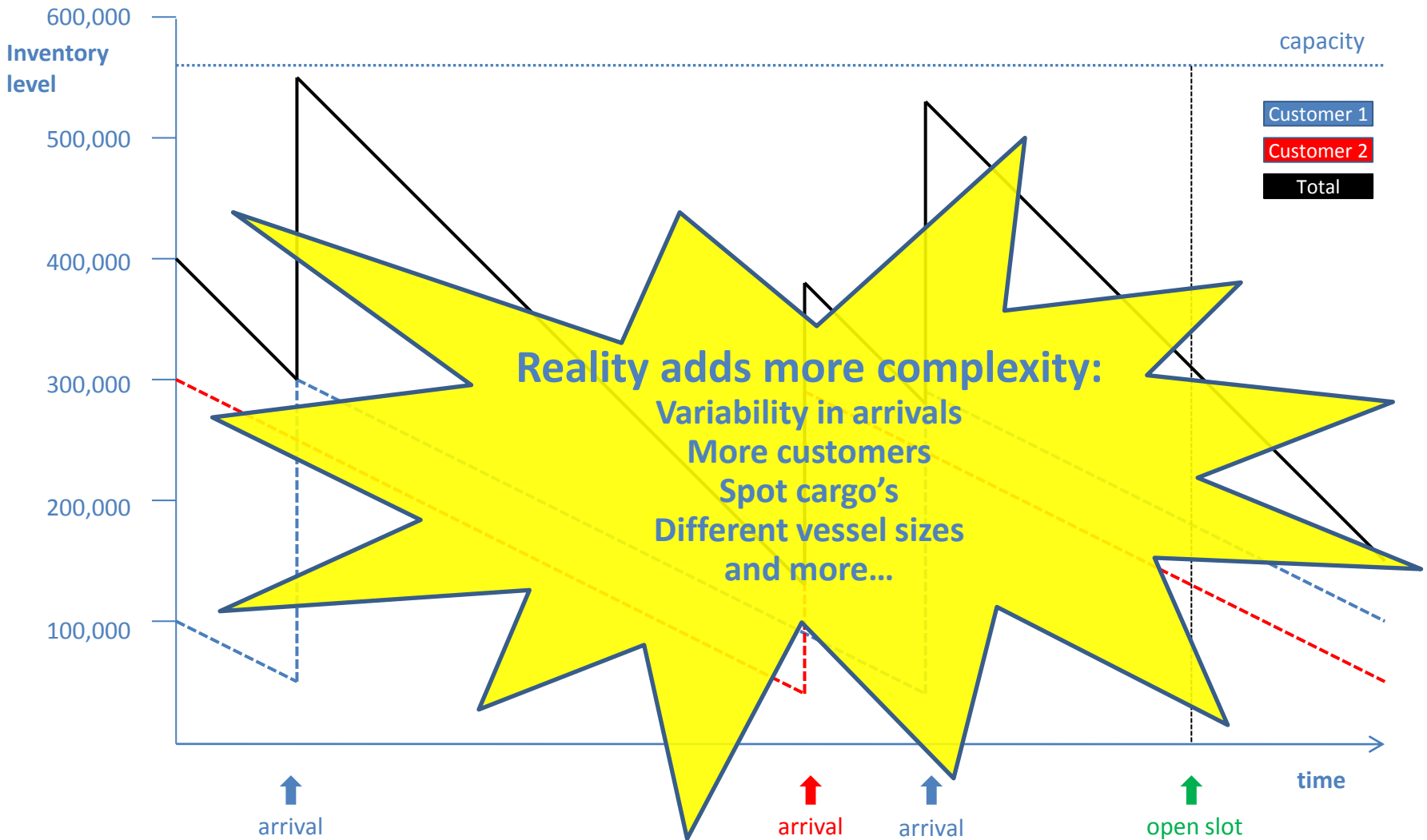
Setting:

- Multiple customers → 12 BCMa
- Terminal capacity = 540,000 m³ (3 tanks of 180.000 m³ each)
- Max parcel size (Q-Max = 266,000 m³ LNG)
- 2 jetties (unloading capacity of 15.000 m³ per hour)

Challenges:

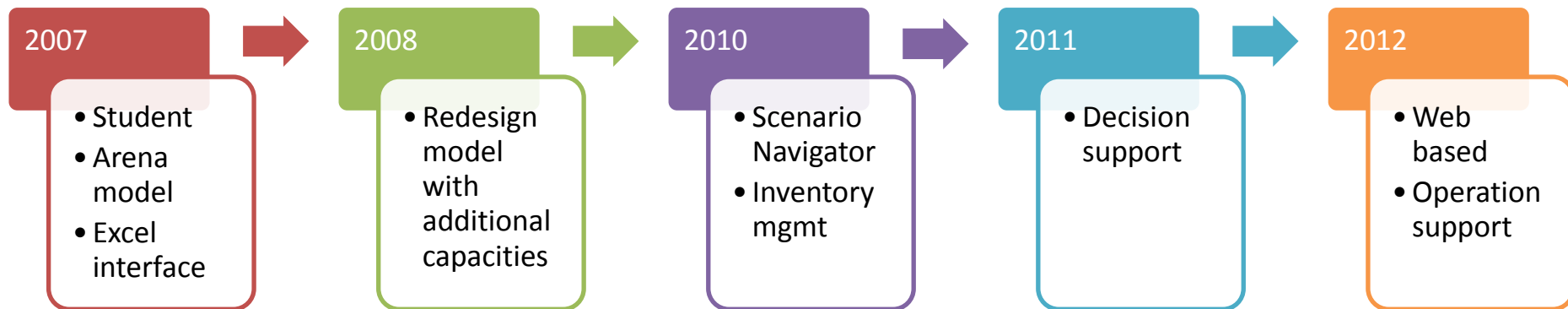
- Guarantee customer throughput
- Minimize demurrage
- Optimize capacity usage
- Manage send out rate for Gas delivery in the Grid

2. Inventory and throughput is ruled by many variables



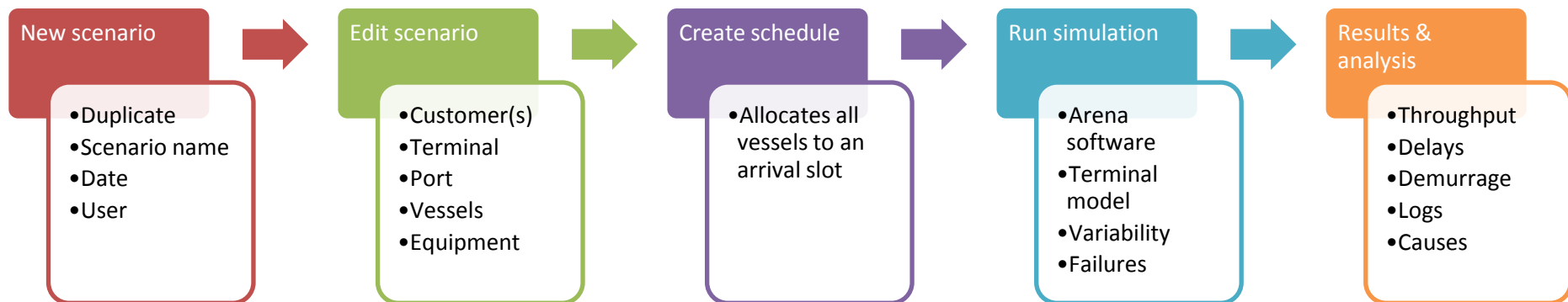
3. SIMA developed over time from a Decision support tool only into a general support tool

- The simulation models used for Decision support have developed from a complex, non-transparent model using huge excel files into a user friendly web based application allowing secured access from anywhere
- Now additional functionality (e.g. back loading) is easily added to the model
- The next version of the model will also support the terminal planning function



4. SIMA gives insight in the terminal's boundaries of the "hard- and software"

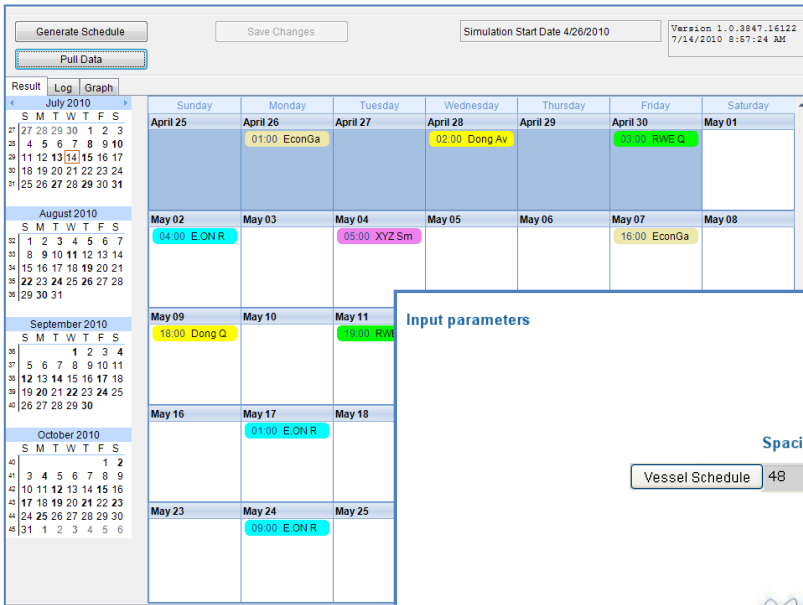
- Over several dimensions we are able to change inputs and parameters in order to analyse the impact of these changes on the performance of the terminal



4. The User interface for creating scenario's and running the model only needs 4 buttons:



4. SIMA's parameters are "easy" built up over several dimensions

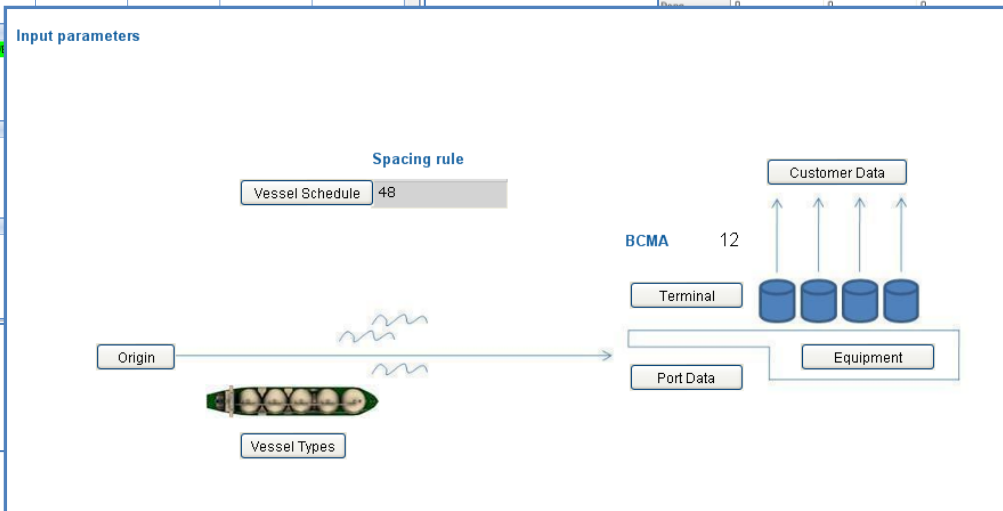


Customer Data

ID	Customer Name	ACQ (BCMA)	BDR	TQ (Hrs)	Tier 1 (m ³)	Tier 2 (m ³)	Tier 1 and Tier 2 (m ³)	Inventory Mgmt Type	Spot (%)	Starting IP (m ³)	Starting hour
1	EconGas	3	34246	36	50000	85000	135000	Throughput	0	21074	
2	Dong	3	34246	36	50000	85000	135000	Throughput	33	21074	
3	RWE	3	34246	36	50000	85000	135000	Throughput	33	21074	
4	E.ON Ruhrgas	3	34246	36	50000	85000	135000	Keep Stock	0	21074	

Customer Scheduled Vessel Types (%)

	Qatar Max	Q Flex	Large	Average	Mediterranean	Small
EconGas	0	0	0	100	0	0
Dong	0	0	0	66.7	33.3	0
RWE	0	0	0	0	0	0



Tanks

ID	Capacity (m ³ LNG)
1	180000
2	180000
3	180000

! Total tank capacity can't exceed aggregate Tier 1 + Tier 2 entitlements of all customers

Expected annual throughput

BCMA: 12

! Total terminal throughput can't exceed aggregate ACQs of all customers

Sendout LNG

Vessel dismissal

Activate: No

Max time at berth (hrs): 120

! "No" is chosen, the vessel will start unloading when physical ullage is available.

! "Yes" is chosen, the vessel will depart from terminal without unload after period of time. If "No" is chosen, the vessel will remain at berth until it unloads in full.

	Hr 6	Hr 7	Hr 8	Hr 9	Hr 10	Hr 11	Hr 12
Port Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Port Exit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

MEAN Duration Bad Weather (Hr)	First day Bad weather occurrence	Last day Bad weather occurrence	Number of Bad weather occurrences per year	MIN Duration Bad Weather (Hr)	MAX Duration Bad Weather (Hr)	Vessels allowed to be pulled in backwards	Vessels allowed to be pulled out from berth
36	300	110	2	24	72	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Mooring (hr)	Cooling the lines (hr)	Departure process (hr)	Probability of bunkering (%)	Bunkering duration (hr)	Sail to berth duration (hr)	Sail out of the channel duration (hr)
2	2.5	2	0	4	2	1

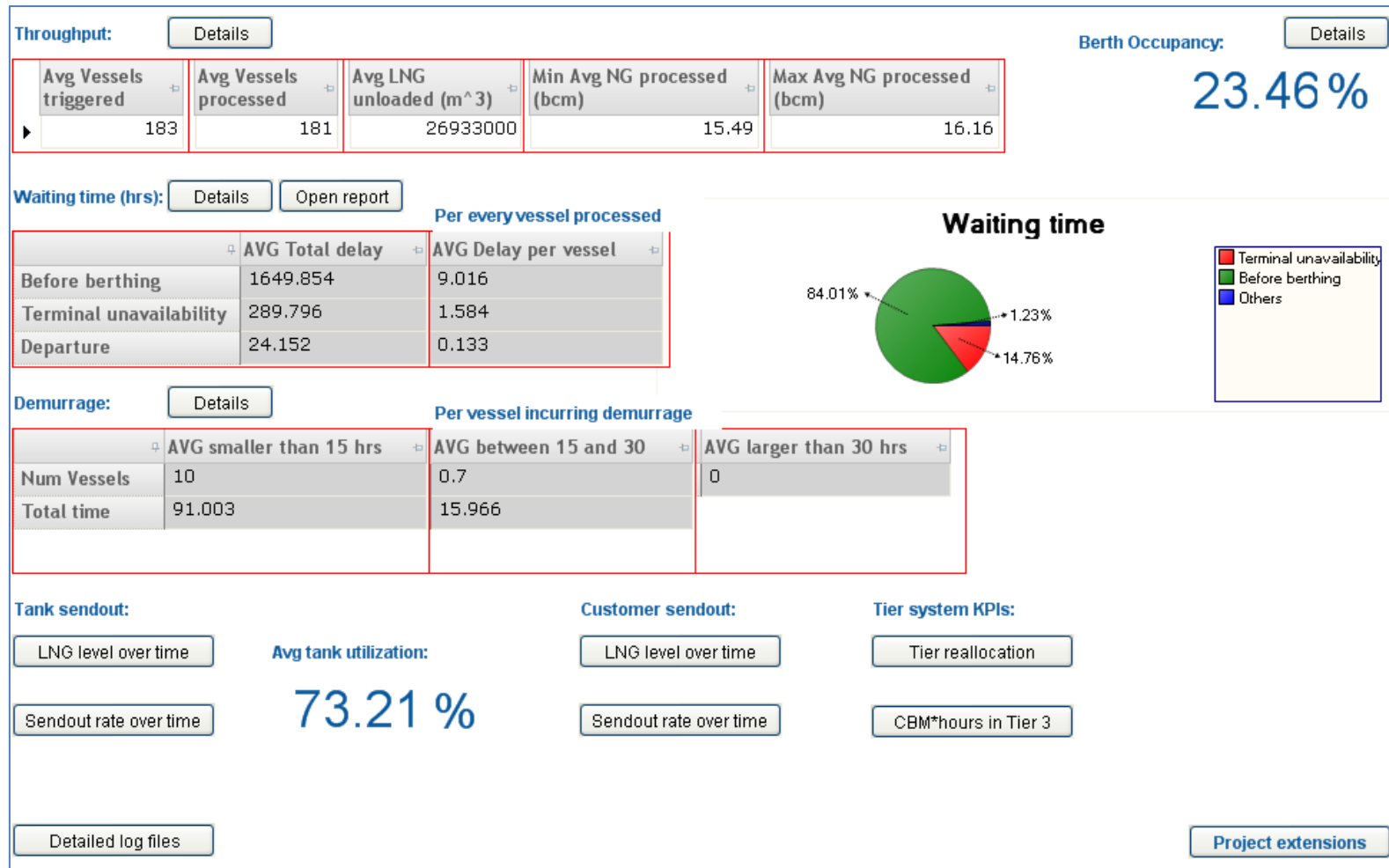
4. SIMA functionality also contains animation

- Arena model animation



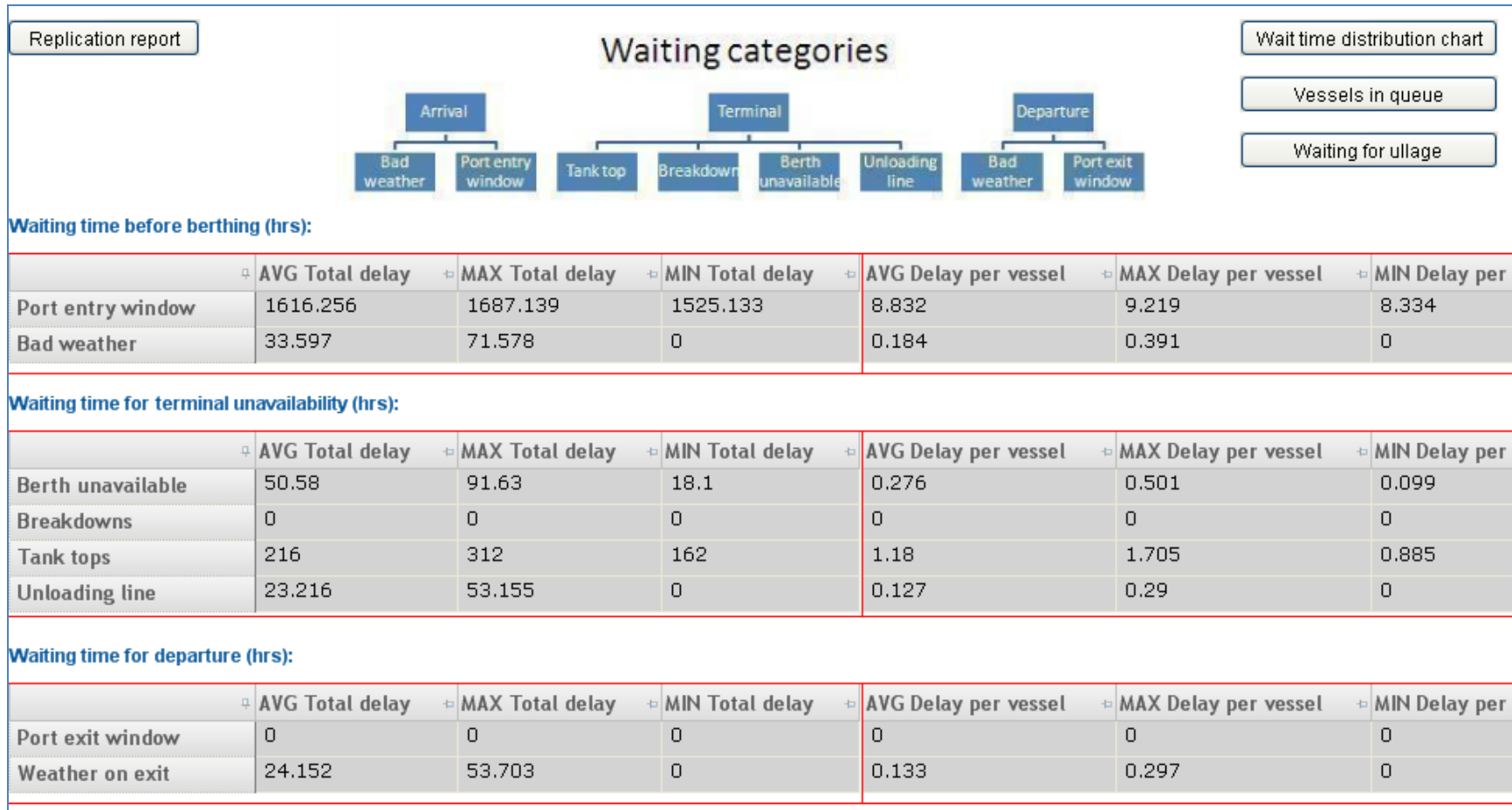
4. SIMA 's dashboard shows the bottlenecks in one overview

- SIMA results overview



4. Per issue, we can drill down into more detail to look for the cause

- SIMA results on waiting



- With the **first Arena model** we were able to optimize the dimensions of the terminal and the business model for Gate first and later on other LNG terminals to be planned
- Later on, simulations helped us to learn how the several parameters impacted each other
- We used these insights in defining the optimum parameters for **future expansion in both size and functionality**
- Simulations enable us to show current customers the impact of any expansions

- **Operational planning support**
 - Import annual unloading schedule
 - Cancellation of berth slots
 - Client dedicated dashboards
 - Actual versus scheduled user interface

- **Web deployment**
 - SIMA online
 - Global access by iPad, PC & Notebook