



## Freight logistics and Customs service providers: ITS solutions to facilitate intermodal transport

### Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24)

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## Who do we represent

- Brussels based organisation representing the interest of logistics service providers and freight forwarders
  - National federations and confederations
  - Associate and Related interest representatives
- Policy scope: EU legislation in transport, logistics and Customs
- Companies of all kind: Global players, SMEs and regional operators, small and family businesses
- Numbers
  - Over 19.000 companies
  - Business coverage: ≈ 90% of Customs, 70% maritime, 90% air, 50% road and rail operations in Europe

## Our role

- Removing barriers and burdens
- Practices to overcome or get around the barriers or reduce the burdens
- Build understanding
  - Convey the 'language of business' to politicians and European Commission and the language of politicians and the EC to industry
  - Between stakeholders (shippers, freight forwarders and carriers)

## ITS Solutions to facilitate Intermodal Transport

### Current solutions:

- Software as a Service (SaaS) offers TMS solutions as a shared software solution over the internet (SAP, Oracle etc)
- Customised in-house software to support logistics functions (rating, planning, time control, end to end order management)

## Challenges

- Lots of small business lacking knowledge, time and money
- Lack of interaction between different data exchange system used by shipper, 3PL and carrier
- Reluctance to abandon customised systems for logistics (e-platform)
- Costs of integration (too many standards within different modes of transport)

## Challenges

- Lots of non-standard paper, mail and faxes being used predominantly paper based
  - Need for signature
  - Requirement to accompany cargo
  - Technology limitations:
- Technology mismatch:
  - Sophisticated electronic booking and invoicing systems  
*vs.* Paper waybills and consignment notes
- Inefficiencies and inaccuracies

## Challenges in Summary

Complexity of freight transport information exchange in an intermodal context:

- **lack of interoperability** along the supply chain
- need for provision of information several times for different purposes
- Solutions are available but **implementations on a large scale are slow to appear**
- It is not only about technologies, but about change in organisation and behaviour
- Sharing of information requires **trust and co-operation**
- Interoperability requires standardised solutions

## Challenges from a legal perspective

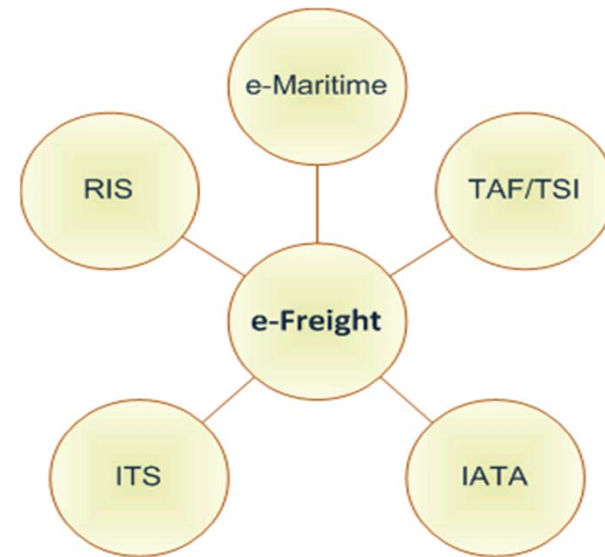
- Patchwork of **liability regimes**
  - International conventions, national legislation, contractual agreements, professional practices...
- Strong **modal** distinctions
  - Liability
  - Documents
- Lack of **harmonisation** and **clarity**



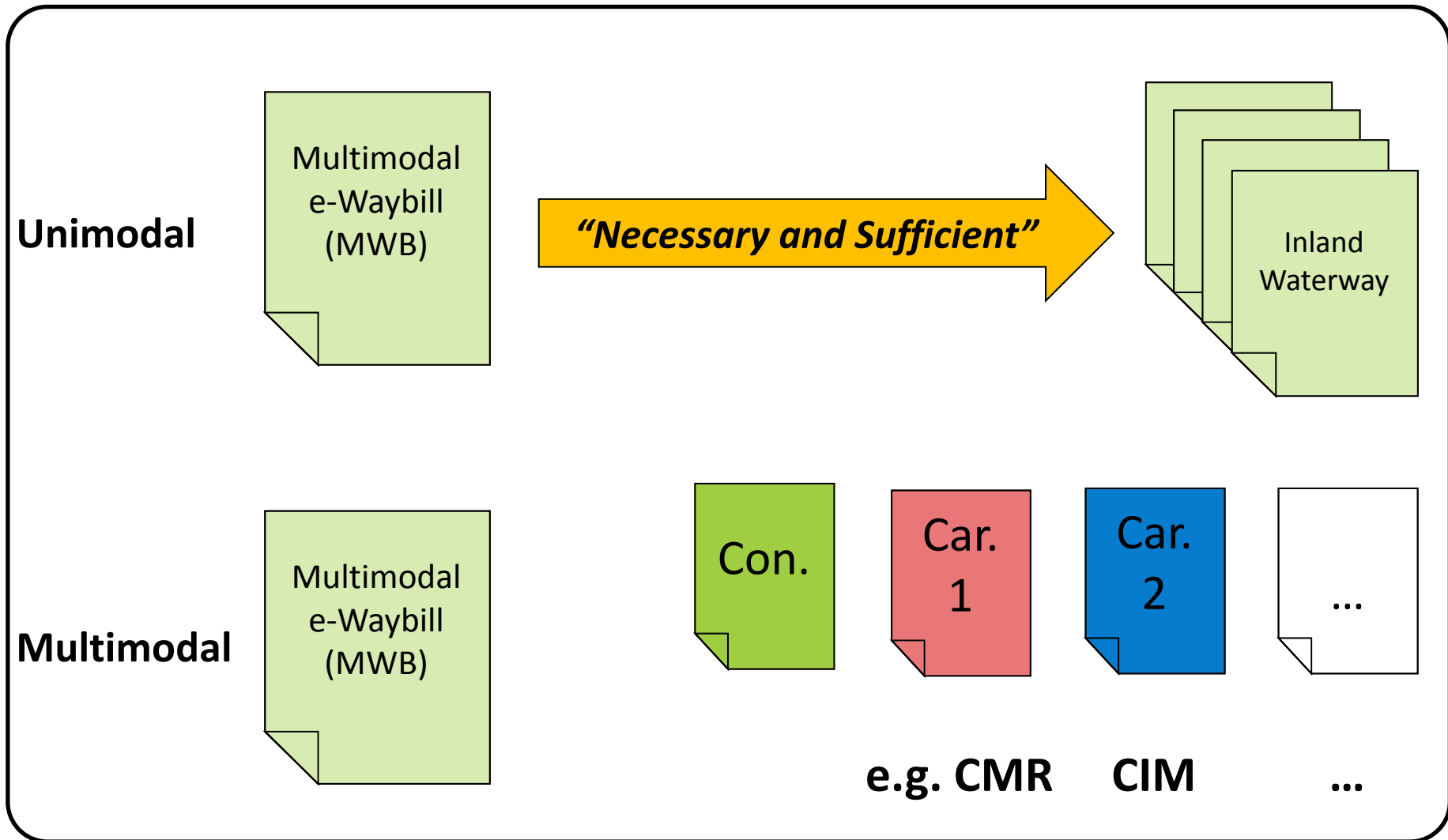
## EU White Paper Vision

### Enable interoperability for paperless freight transport in a multimodal context

- Across modes
  - Across countries
  - Along the whole supply chain : planning, execution, monitoring and reporting
- ⇒ Zero paper documents, zero waiting time at hubs, technology independent
- ⇒ Driver carbon emissions, modal shift etc



# A Flexible Solution



e-Freight receives funding from the EC FP7 Sustainable Surface Transport Programme

## Possible outcome of Efreight

- Interoperability of transport ICT systems = make actors understand each other easily
- Interconnectivity for SMEs
- Run transport business processes smoothly across organisational boundaries
- Reduce administrative burden and facilitate multimodal transport
- Enhanced supply chain visibility and security
- Optimisation of logistics chains may help to increase also environmental performance and cost efficiency

## Digitalisation of documents

- Digitalisation of FIATA documents
- Moving away from paper-based documents: more reliable information exchange, reduced administrative burden, enhanced accuracy of data
- Advantages of using a standard, multimodal waybill (electronic transport document) rather than individual/proprietary multimodal bills



**Thank you for your  
attention**