

eFTI

Regulation



Digitalising
freight transport
across the European Union

LEGAL ENABLERS FOR PAPERLESS TRADE: *LESSONS FROM THE EU EFTI EXPERIENCE*

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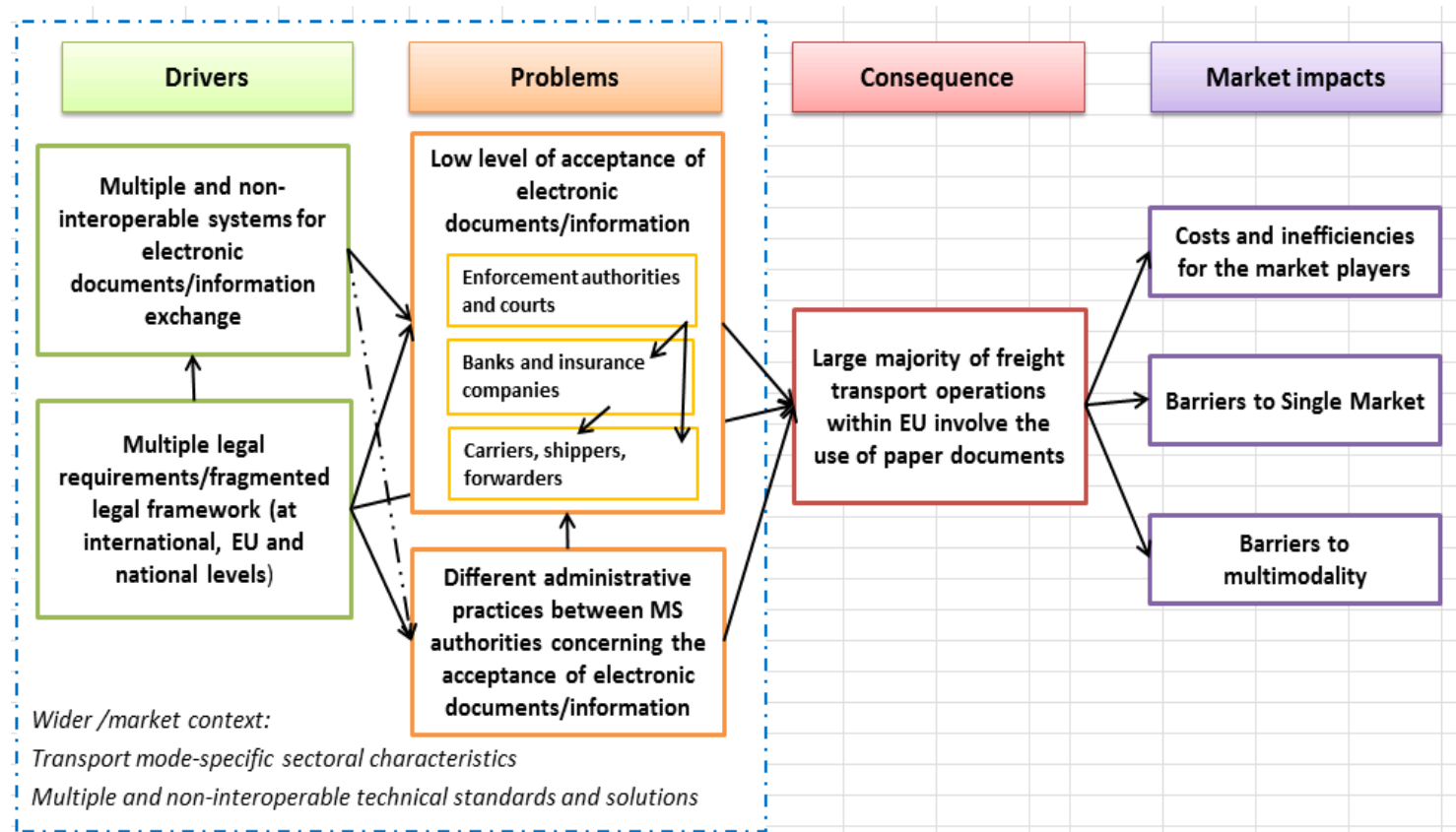
The solution to what problem?

• Missed potential benefits

- 380+ million hours spent processing paper-based transport information* (total EU, 2018 estimate)
- If electronic → estimated savings of €75-102 million*

• Root cause(s)

- Fragmented legal frameworks
- Diverging administrative practices
- Non-interoperable IT systems
- Low trust in electronic information

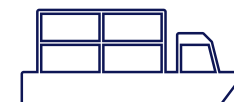


The core requirements

- Obligation for authorities to accept, uniformly, information provided electronically by operators
- Obligation for operators to use eFTI certified platforms, if opting to present information electronically
- Authorisation, auditability, cybersecurity features by design
- Machine-to-machine data sharing by default
- Harmonised certification process, with automatic recognition in all EU Member States



- Focus on business-to-administration (legal scope)
- Impact on business-to-business (implementation)





- Cargo transport information requirements in EU and Member States' laws
 - Rail, road, inland waterways, and air transport
 - Regular cargo as well as dangerous goods and waste transport

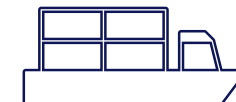


- Not transport documents as such (but the information from transport documents - consignment notes, waybills)
- No vehicle or personnel certificates requirements
- No legal requirements beyond transport or for crossing EU borders (e.g. taxation, eInvoicing, or statistical, customs or maritime, reporting requirements)
- No new information or language requirements



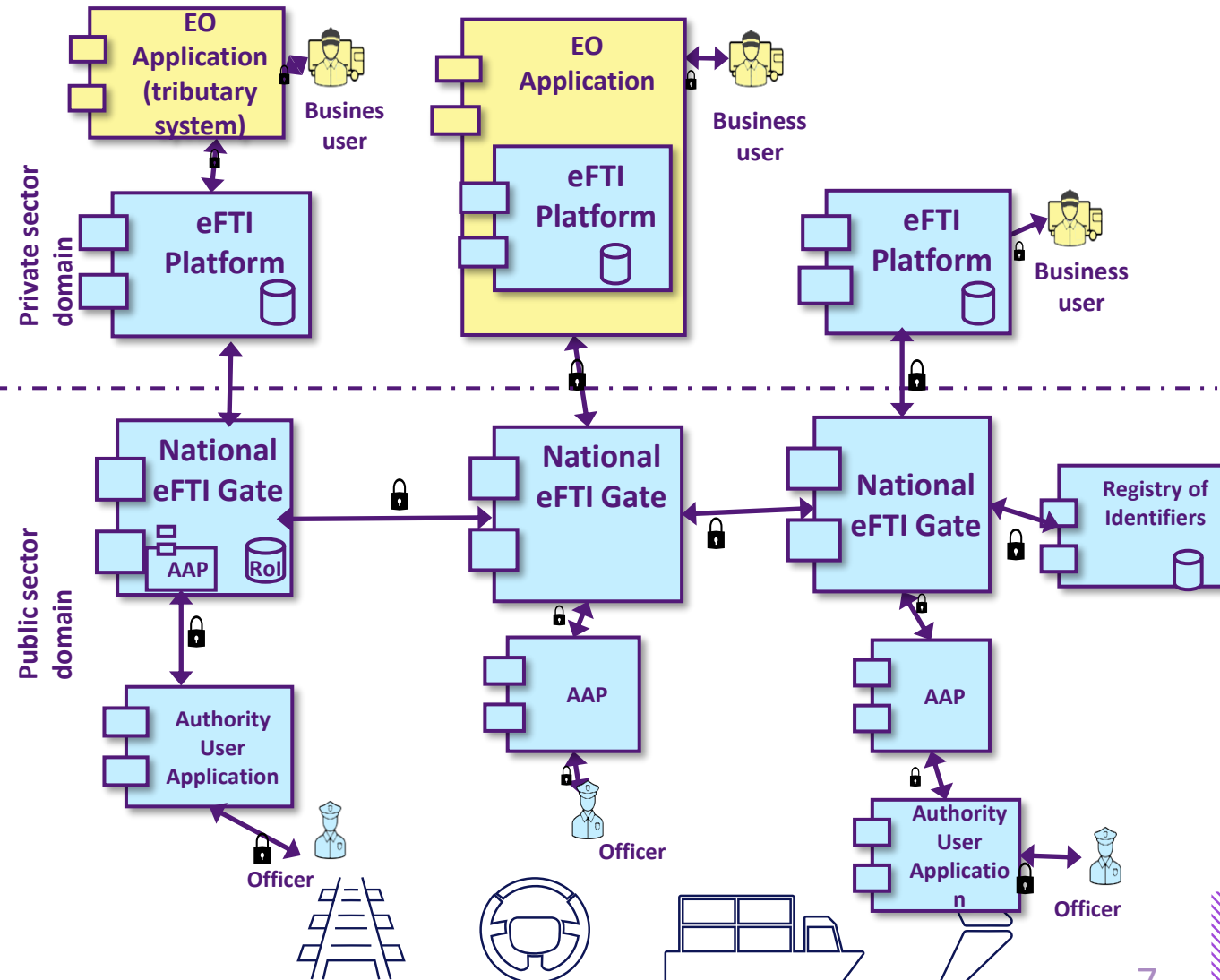
Implementation

- Framework regulation
 - Main requirements (actors, system)
- Delegated and implementing acts
 - Specifications for implementation
- Technical guidance (non-binding)
 - Additional, highly detailed specifications
- Stakeholder involvement
 - Early and continuous engagement (private and public experts)



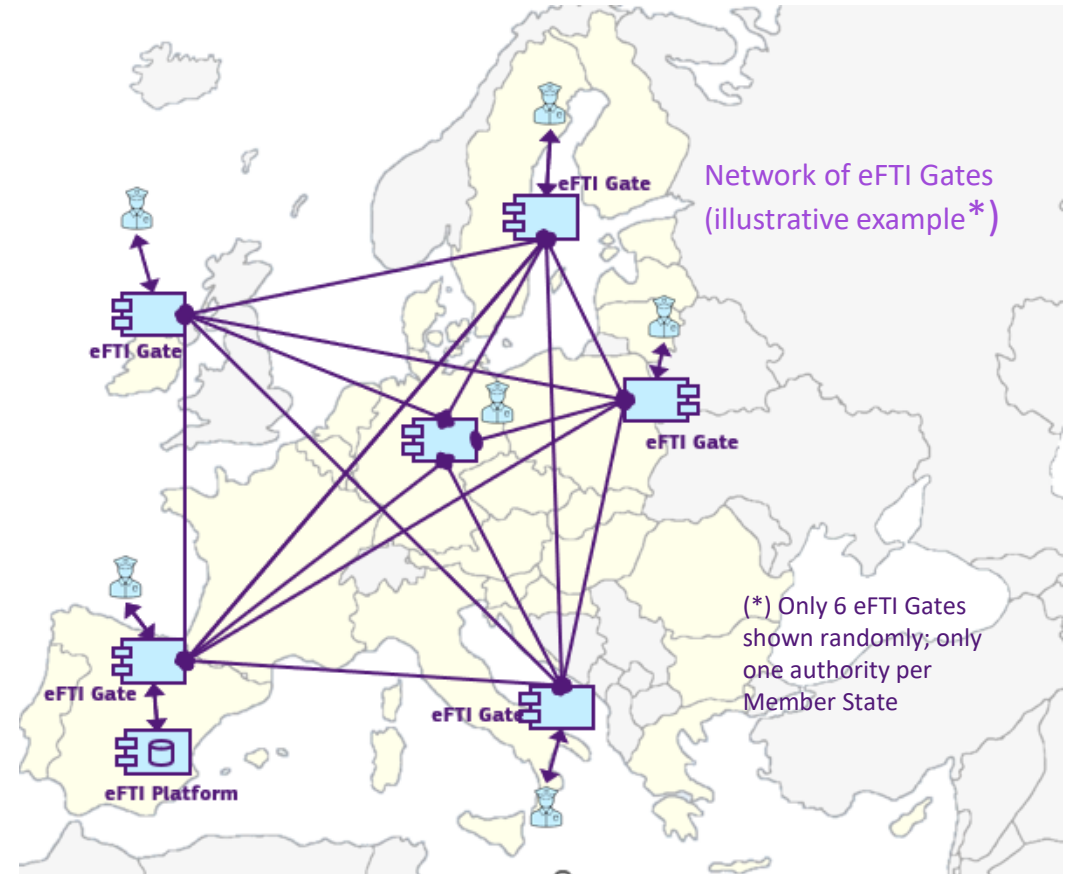
Implementation design choices

- ✓ Distributed IT architecture environment
 - ✗ No centralised EU system
- ✓ Interoperability by design / minimum common functional and technical requirements
 - ✓ Common functionalities
 - ✗ No single (technical) implementation (solution)
 - ✓ Certification of platforms hosting business data ('eFTI platforms')
- ✓ Focus on business-to-authority exchanges
 - ✗ No regulation of B2B exchanges
- ✓ Focus on facilitating compliance / administrative burden reduction
 - ✗ No harmonization of transport law



Implementation challenges

- Limited resources
- Coordination of implementation at national level
- Data specifications harmonisation
- Understand the business use cases
 - Authorities
 - Businesses
- Ensuring harmonised implementation across the EU Member States



Implementation state of play

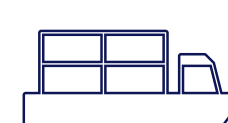
What has been adopted so far

- 1. Rules and procedures, including technical specifications, for authorities (implementing act) – July 2024
- 2. List of national provisions in scope (delegated act) – July 2024
- 3. eFTI common data set and subsets (delegated act) – July 2024
- Specifications for eFTI platforms (implementing act) – September 2025

What's Still to Come in 2026

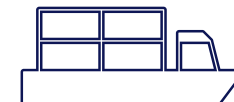
- Specifications for eFTI service providers
- Certification rules for eFTI platforms and service providers
- Certification rules for eFTI service providers
- Updated technical guidance documents
- Reference implementation (pilots, EU funded)

➔ 9 July 2027 (going live)



A blueprint for legislating digitalisation of B2A information exchanges?

- Legal obligations are not enough
 - Not just what should be achieved, but also harmonised requirements on the how
- Technology is an enabler
 - Start from existing solutions, but do not let them set the limits
 - Technological neutrality should be the goal, but may never be fully attained
- Think big, but stay pragmatic
 - Design your ideal outcome, but ground implementation in the business reality
- Think Lego (re-use and scalability)
 - Innovate rather than revolutionise; modular building blocks that can be mixed and matched
- Trust is of the essence
 - A network of trust rather than a single source of truth
- Keep stakeholders engaged all along



THANK YOU!

- Stay informed via the European Commission's eFTI page: https://transport.ec.europa.eu/transport-themes/logistics-and-multimodal-transport/efti-regulation_en
- Follow-us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/eu-transport>
- Follow the EU-funded projects that pilot the eFTI implementation ([eFTI4EU](#), [eFTI4ALL](#), [eFTI4LIVE](#))

