IATA & the story of the electronic Air Waybill (e-AWB)

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UNCITRAL Webinar on "International experiences with the dematerialization of negotiable transport documents"

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# International trade is about moving goods

# But also is about information sharing

Each year, more than 7'800 tons of paper documents are processed

It's the equivalent of 80 Boeing 747 freighters filled with paper



### 2005: IATA kicks off the e-freight program

e-Freight is an industry-wide program that aims to build an end-to-end paperless transportation process for air cargo made possible with regulatory framework and electronic message standard





### 2005: IATA kicks off the e-freight program





### e-freight benefits

#### **Operational efficiency**



e-Freight brings operational efficiency through the reduction of the end-to-end processing time (up to 24h)

#### **Cost effectiveness**



e-Freight brings cost effectiveness through the reduction of document processing and archiving costs

#### Data quality



e-Freight improves data quality and accuracy (e.g. auto-checks, mandatory fields, ...)

#### Innovation



Standardization and digitization are key enablers for the development of new innovative services and solutions, thus increasing the value of the air freight to shippers (e.g. real time status update)

#### **Sustainability**



e-Freight will eliminate more than 7,800 tons of paper documents annually, the equivalent of 80 Boeing 747 freighters filled with paper





e-Freight implementation facilitates compliance to international and local regulations (e.g. facilitate Advance Electronic Information (AEI) requirements for security purpose)



# The 3 pillars of the e-freight program



Engaging regulators and governments worldwide to create an 'efreight route network' with fully electronic customs procedures and where regulations support paperless shipments

#### 2. Transport documents

Working collaboratively within the cargo supply chain to digitize the core industry transport documents, starting with the Air Waybill (AWB)

#### 3. Commercial & Special cargo documents

Developing a plan to digitize the commercial and special cargo documents typically accompanying airfreight today, in or outside of the 'Cargo pouch'



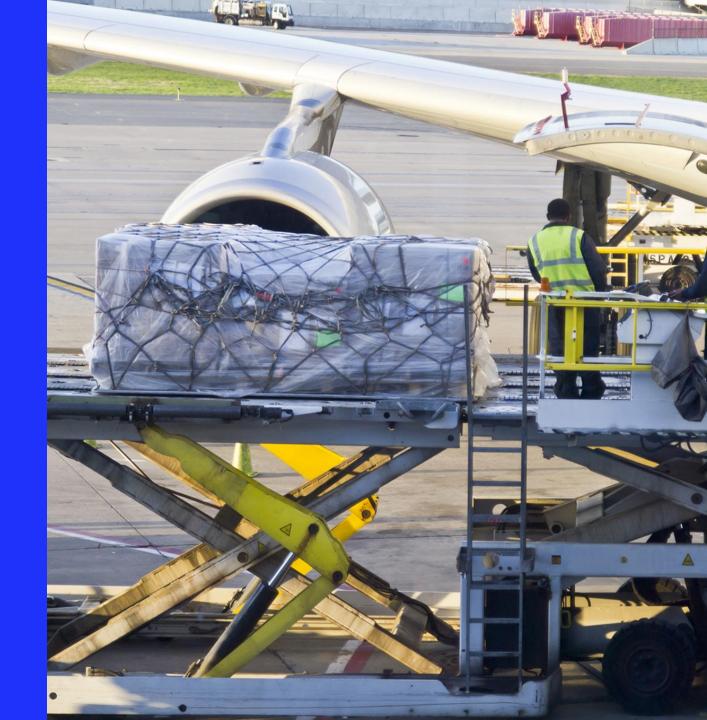


### The Air Waybill

The Air Waybill (AWB) is a critical air cargo document that constitutes the contract of carriage between the "shipper" and the "carrier" (airline).

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It is governed by IATA Resolution 600a "The Air Waybill" and 600b "Air Waybill Conditions of Contract".



# Air Waybill and electronic Air Waybill

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The Electronic Air Waybill Resolution 672 (MeA) removes the requirement for a paper Air Waybill



The **original transportation contract is electronic** (shipment record)

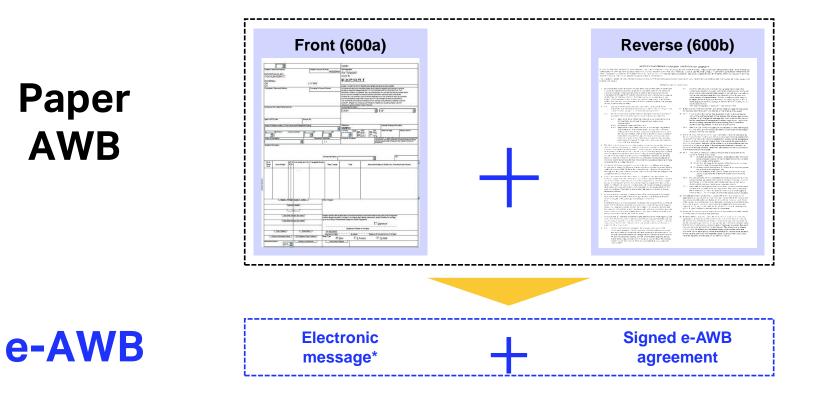


There is no longer a need to print, handle or archive the paper AWB simplifying the air cargo process



# Paper AWB versus electronic AWB

The 2 components of an AWB can be found both in the paper and in the electronic worlds

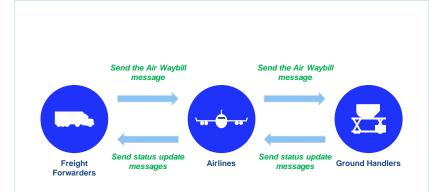


IATA message standards: Cargo IMP (FWB message), Cargo XML (XFWB message)



# IATA e-AWB messaging standard

Communicating effectively requires Freight Forwarders, Airlines and GHAs to exchange standard messages



The Resolution 670 rules the Cargo electronic data interchange message standard, supported by the recommended practice 1670 (Carriage of Cargo using Electronic Data Interchange), the recommended practice 1672 (Cargo-Fact/Cargo-IMP Message Standards) and the recommended practice 1675 (Cargo-XML Message Standards)

The table below describes the different messages as per the 2 IATA message standards – Cargo-IMP and Cargo-XML:

Message type	Cargo-XML	Cargo-IMP	
Air Waybill message	XFWB	FWB	
Status Update message (Freight on Hand - FOH, Ready for Carriage - RCS)	XFSU	FSU	
Error message	XFNM	FNA	
Message Acknowledgment	XFNM	FMA	

Cargo-IMP message standard is no longer maintained since 2014. IATA recommends to use standard IATA Cargo-XML to exchange electronic information along the air freight supply chain as the alternative to IATA Standard Cargo-IMP

For more information, please visit: www.iata.org/cargo-xml



	Required capability	T.	AL	Gri
Sen	d Air Waybill message	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Rec	eive Air Waybill message		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Sen	d Status Update message		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Rec	eive Status Update message	recom	mended	
Pro	duce Cargo Receipts for FF		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Arc	hive electronic messages	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Prir	t on-demand AWB information if need be	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$

Required canability

# Montreal Convention 1999 (MC99)

- MC99 is intended to replace the patchwork of regimes that developed since the Warsaw Convention in 1929
- Entered in to force in 2003
- It governs airline liability for passengers, baggage and cargo on international flights in cases of:
  - 1. death, injury or delay to passengers
  - 2. delay, loss or damage to baggage
  - 3. delay, loss or damage to cargo
- IATA and its member airlines continue to support ICAO in promoting MC99 as the single, global Convention on airline liability
- Ratified by 137 parties



# MC99 is modern and fair

	Warsaw Convention 1929	Hague Protocol 1955	Montreal Protocol 4	Montreal Convention 1999
Cargo	USD 20 per Kg	USD 20 per Kg	USD 25 per Kg	USD 31 per Kg
Provision for electronic AWB?	No	No	Yes	Yes

NB: Treaties don't express limits in USD but in IMF Special Drawing Rights (SDR). These have been calculated using xe.com for comparison purposes



# Regulatory framework for e-AWB

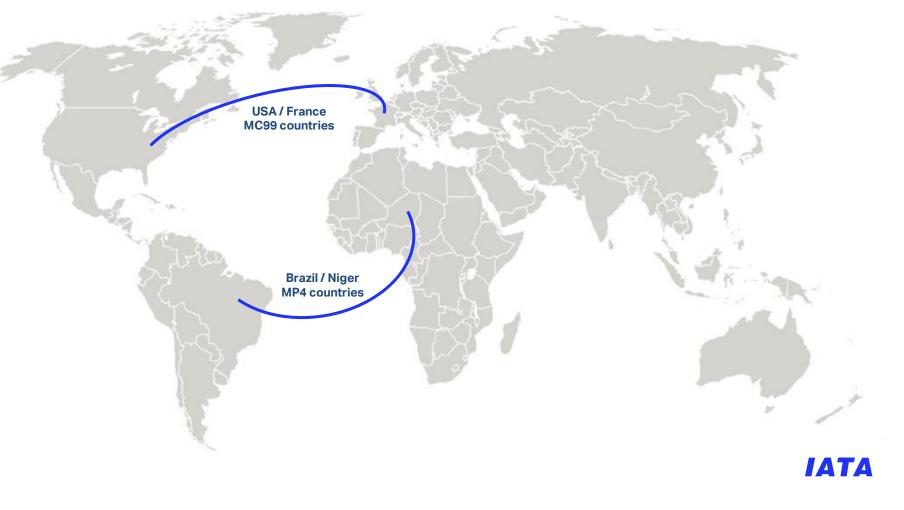
The use of e-AWB as a means to establish the contract of carriage is **only recommended on feasible trade lanes**. In February 2021, the **feasible trade lanes** represented **67%** of the AWBs.

**Feasible trade lane** is defined as such when country of **origin and country of destination ratified the same treaty** - either the Montreal Protocol No. 4 of 1975 (MP4) or the Montreal Convention of 1999 (MC99)

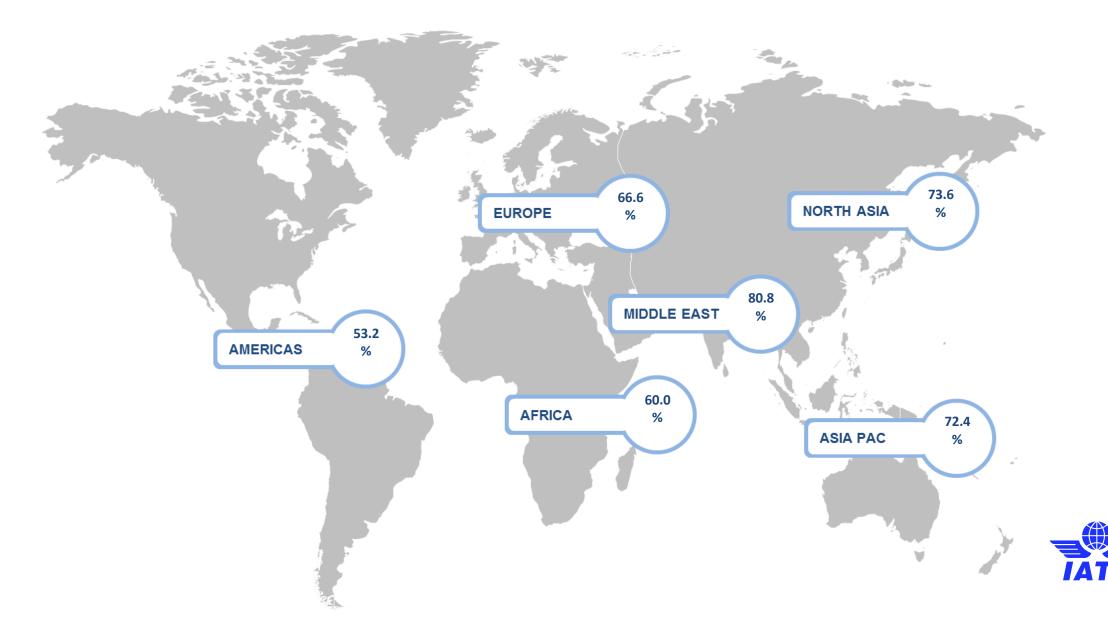


Countries that have ratified MP4

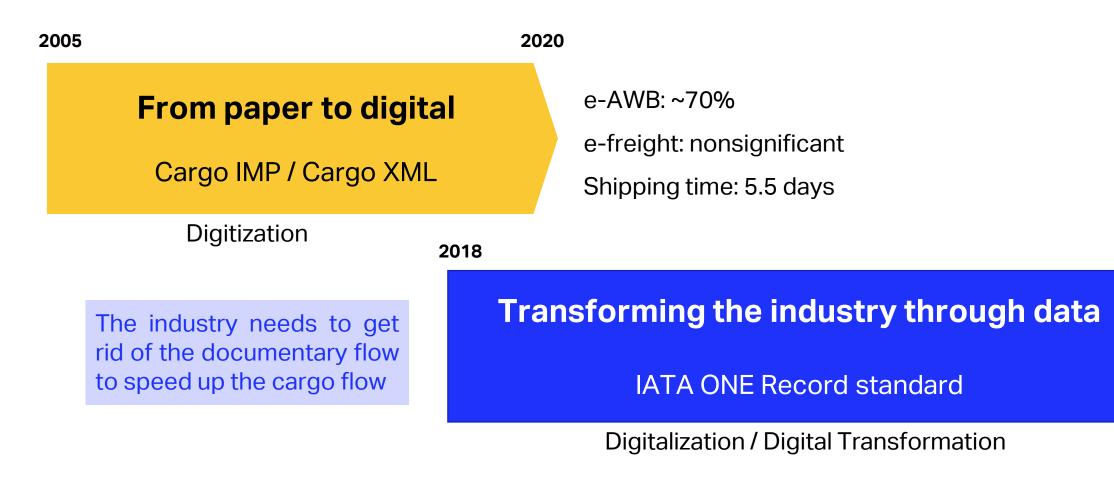
The use of e-AWB as a contract of carriage between the "shipper" and the "carrier" may also **depends on government authorities** recognizing and accepting the e-AWB



### e-AWB penetration: 72.0% as of FEB 2021



# The air cargo digital transformation journey



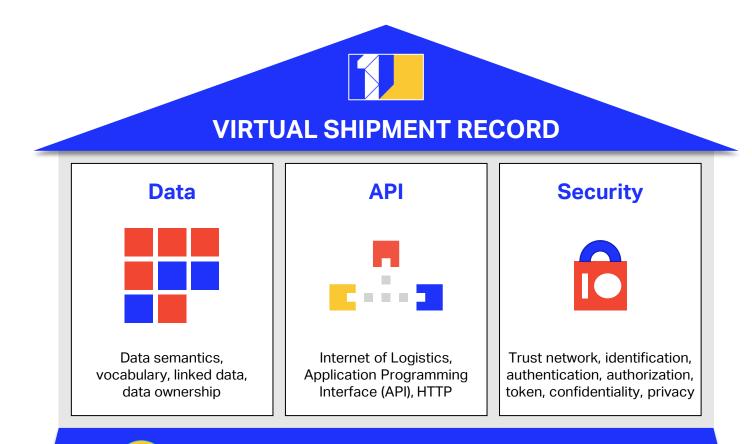


### **ONE Record concept**

The essence of the ONE Record is to move from a peer-to-peer messaging model to a data sharing model relying on a Virtual Shipment Record

SHIPMENT RECORD

### **ONE Record concept**



**Governance / Roles & Permissions** 

The ONE Record concept is based on 3 pillars enabling to define: WHAT, HOW, with WHOM

data can be shared



# ONE Record

#### is a data-centric model and NOT a document-centric model

Provide better visibility and transparency



Eliminate duplicate



Improve data quality





# Industry benefits





- Data shared by data
  owner
- Full control of data
- Data stays at the source
- Owner determines
  data access



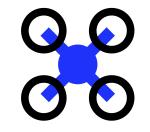
Visibility and transparency

- End-to-end transportation chain
- Share data of the shipment with relevant parties
- Enhanced visibility
  and transparency



Plug & Play Connectivity

- Facilitate the direct connectivity between all the stakeholders
- Use of web API
- New cooperative IT solutions and innovation



Future of digital cargo

- Foundation for true digital air cargo
- Develop collaborative and automated digital services



#### Welcome a new generation

 Technology platform that is ready for a new generation of digital natives



# Stop looking back when the future is ahead



# Thank You

