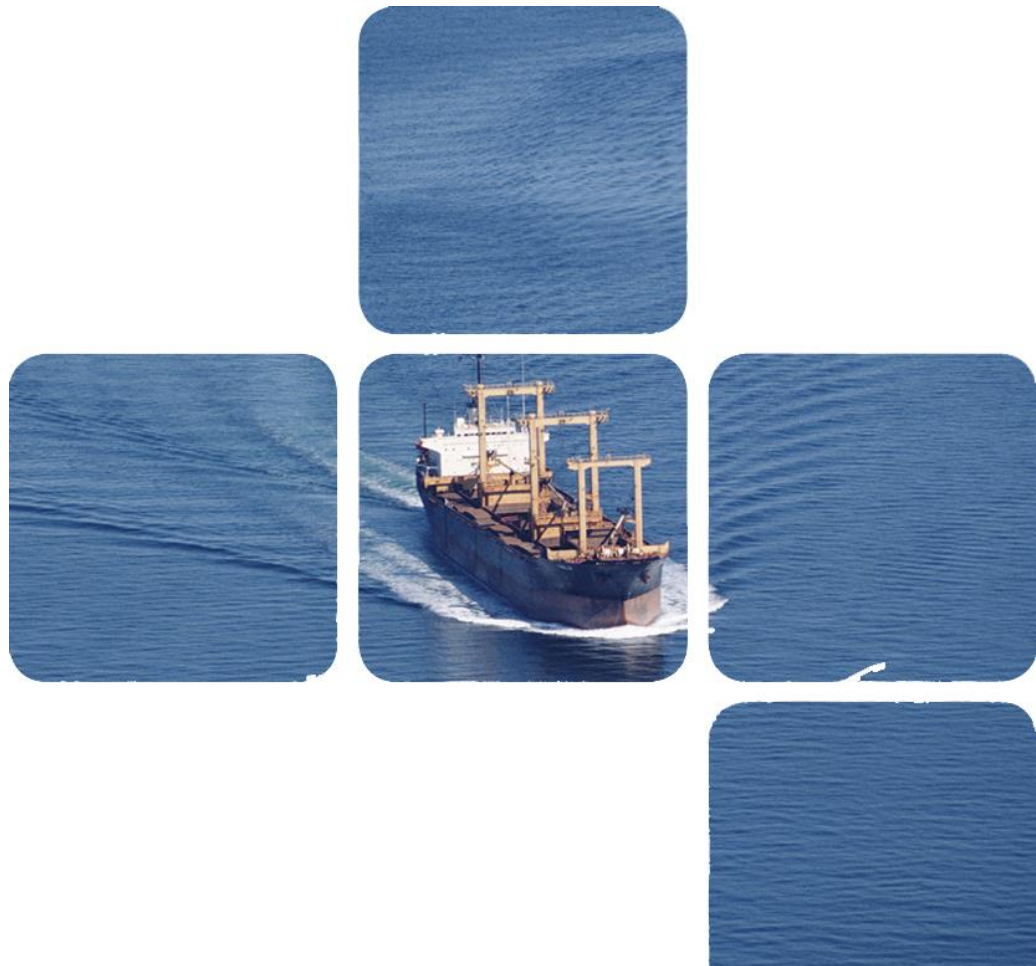# UN/CITRAL e-Commerce Colloquium

Single Window – Best Practice and the Way Forward

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Mission Statement

Open Trade with Transparent Rules

UN CEFACT International Trade Procedures Working Group - Objectives:

- **Identify, simplify, harmonise and align public and private sector practices, procedures and information flows in the international trade transaction**

- **Maintain existing and develop new UN CEFACT Recommendations**

- **Promote the adoption and implementation of trade facilitation tools and techniques**

- **United Nations' Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business**
  - **Trade facilitation:**
  - **"The simplification, standardization and harmonization of procedures and associated information flows required to move goods from seller to buyer and to make payment"**

- Rec 33 Recommendation and Guidelines on establishing a Single Window

- Rec 34 Data Simplification and Standardization for International Trade

- Rec 35 Establishing a legal framework for international trade Single Window

- Project on Draft Rec 36 Single Window Interoperability

- UN/CEFACT Recommmendation 33
- "*a Single Window is defined as a facility that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfil all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements. If information is electronic, then individual data elements should only be submitted once.*"
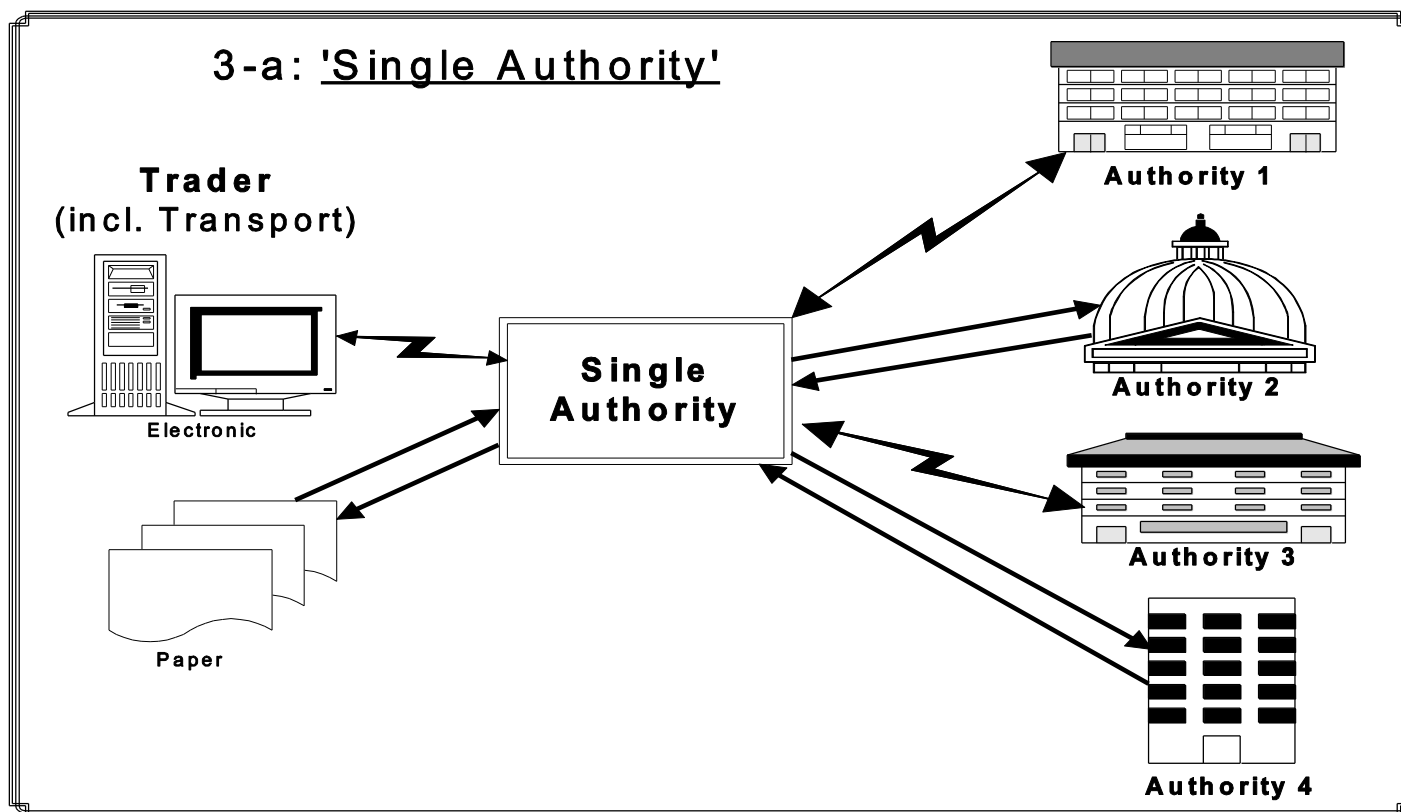
- Advantages for both administrations AND traders
- Reduced administrative burden
- Reduced number of errors since information is given only once
- Eliminates monotonous work tasks
- Faster information flows
- Increased predictability and reduced leadtimes
- Increased and more correct revenue collection?
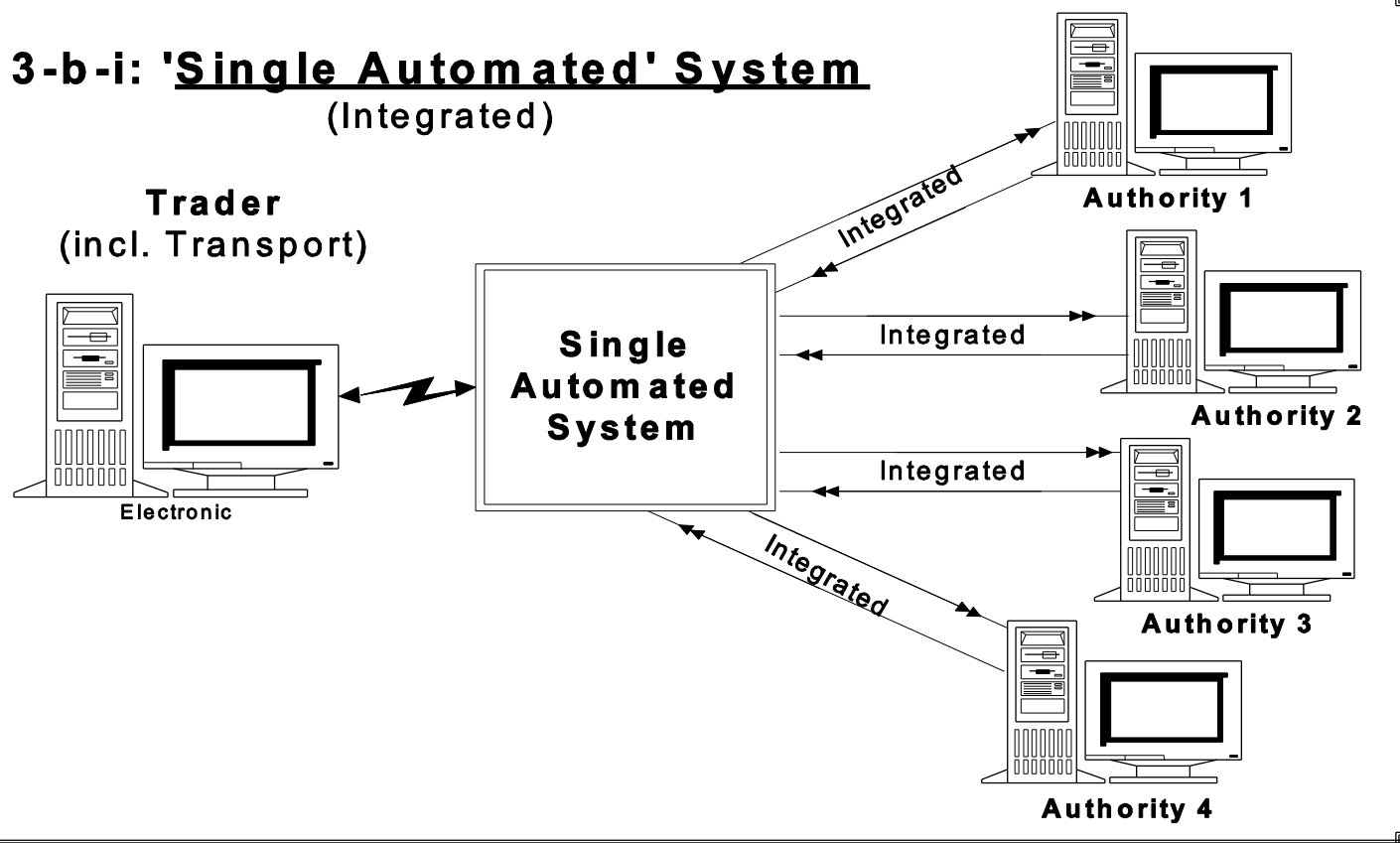- Reduced corruption?

3-a: 'Single Authority'

3-b-i: 'Single Automated' System
(Integrated)

Trader
(incl. Transport)

Single Automated System

Electronic

Integrated

Authority 1

Integrated

Authority 2

Integrated

Authority 3

Integrated

Authority 4

3-c: 'Automated Information Transaction' System

Trader
(incl. Transport)

Documents/ Data

Payment Confirmation

Electronic

Single Information Transaction System

Integrated

Integrated

Integrated

Integrated

Authority 1

Authority 2

Authority 3

Authority 4
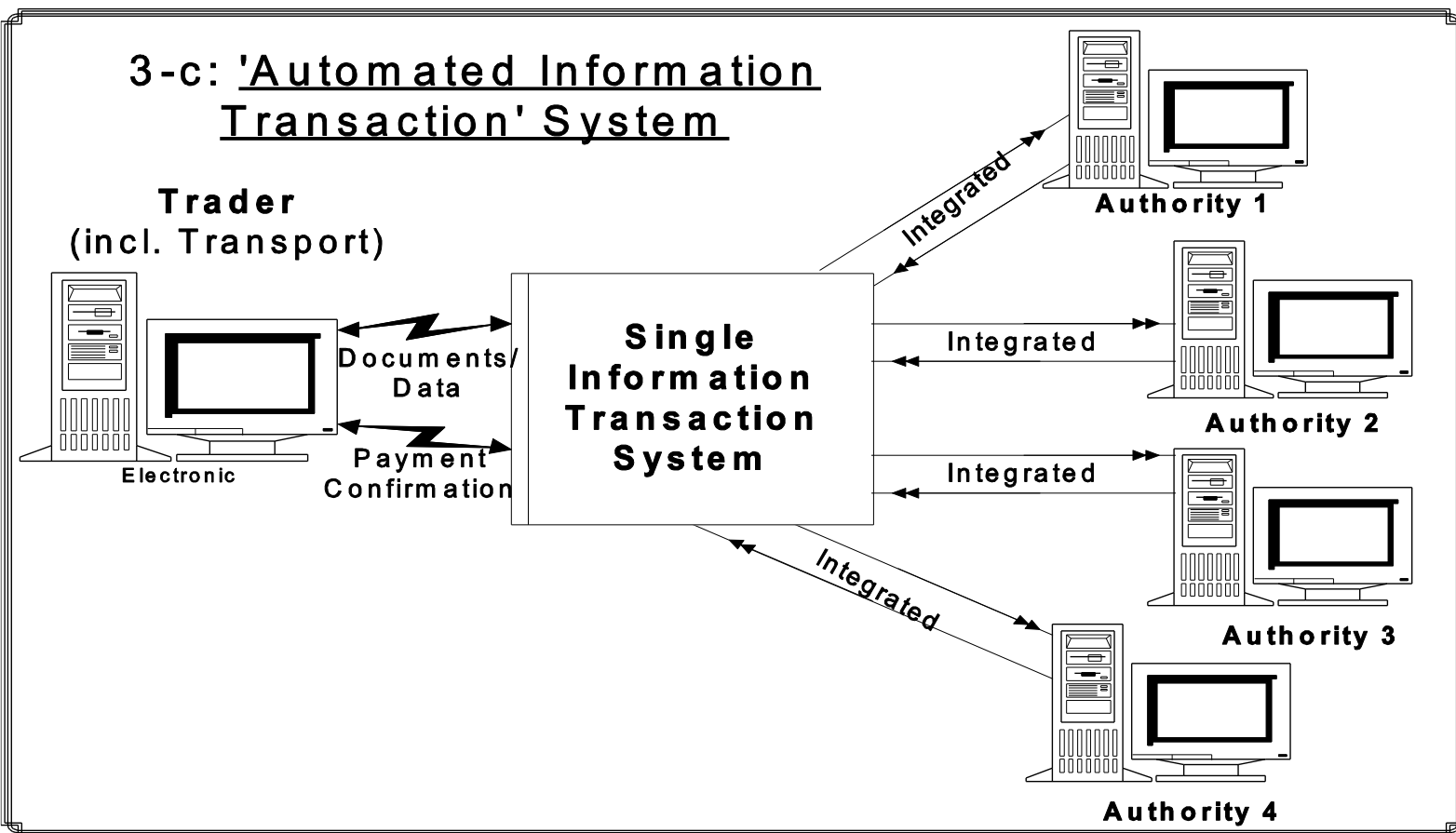
- **Single Windows Interoperability**

  - Dedicated interconnection between national Single Window facilities, or

  - network of NSWs interconnected, or

  - individual NSWs connected to a central secure hub, or

  - a network of networks such as private sector Value Added Networks (VAN) or Local Area Networks (LAN)

- **Legal & business requirements are at the core of these models**

- **ASEAN**

- **EU**

- **EAC, Western Africa (Gainde 2000)**

"To enable the seamless flow of data between the administrations of exporting and importing countries, as well as between customs authorities and economic operators, allowing data entered in the system to be re-used."

DECISION No 70/2008/EC of 15 January 2008 on a paperless environment for customs and trade, article 2 (f)

- E-Customs decision 70/2008/EC

- MASP

- Working group for Single Window (10 MS + FYROM+COM)

- Specifications for electronic real time validations of…

- 2 types of documents:

- Common Veterinary Entry Document (CVED)

- Agricultural documents/licenses

- Interoperability between national SW

- IT is a bottle neck – lessons learned from the Security amendment

- Business Process Modelling needed for correct legislation – very time consuming

- Generally lowered ambition and pace

- Single Window Interoperability – not a EU Single Window

- The devil is in the detail – will the measures mean simplifications?

- Three developments to consider:
  - Fragmentation of value chains drives Cloud Computing
  - AEO – Trusted traders
  - Globally Networked Customs at WCO

- Fragmentation of value chains drives Cloud Computing
  - Production of complex good split into many parts produced in many countries
  - Complex non-core business prime target for service providers
  - Information on trade will be lodged outside the company – in the cloud

- ## AEO – Trusted traders

  - ### Authorised Economic Operators – simplifications as reward for standardised routines

  - ### Close integration between companies and customs – especially in EU AEO

    - "allow the customs authority physical or electronic access to its customs and, where appropriate, transport records" MCC

  - ### Simplifications for Customs Storages

- # Globally Networked Customs at WCO

  - *An inclusive, interconnected Customs-to-Customs information-sharing system to support and improve the functioning of the international trading system, national economic performance, and the protection of society and fiscal management. A GNC will […] reduce the compliance burden for legitimate traders, and enhance enforcement through the sharing of information and intelligence.*

- ## Conclusions:

- SW very successful and solves a number of problems

- SW Integration will need legal solutions in the regional context

- SW risks cementing "Push" at the detriment of "Pull"

- New technique asks for new solutions

- Legal issues around the integrity of information and the storage of aggregated information may be focus for discussions in this area for the future

Questions?

- *www.kommers.se*
- *www.unece.org/cefact*