



**IPCSA Annual Conference
"Globally Connected Logistics"
Brussels, 23/11/2017**

EU Single Window environment for customs

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EU CUSTOMS UNION

- EU Customs Union: 28 Member States
- Single Customs regulatory framework adopted at EU level and implemented by 28 different customs administrations.
- Operational and administrative aspects, restrictions and prohibitions, regulated nationally
- ICT & Automatic Exchange of information with common data requirements become crucial to ensure an EU wide harmonized implementation of customs regulation to achieve the dual objective of enhancing security at the EU's external borders and facilitating trade.

Background: the road to customs modernisation

- ❑ **1968 Completion of the Customs Union** (1st July 1968)
- ❑ **1997 NCTS** - First step to the EU-wide electronic exchange of customs declarations
- ❑ **2008 e-Customs Decision:** Decision No 70/2008/EC on a paperless environment for Customs and trade sets the basic framework laying down objectives, as well as structure, means and major deadlines. **Multi-Annual Strategic Plan (MASP).**
- ❑ **2013 UCC adoption.** Application as of **1 May 2016.** Completes shift by customs to a paperless and fully electronic and interoperable environment
- ❑ **2020-2027 EU Customs Single Window:** cooperation between customs and other authorities acting at the border³

KEY LEGAL AND STRATEGY DOCUMENTS

- “E-Customs decision” ([Decision No 70/2008/EC on a paperless environment for Customs and trade](#)) sets key objectives
 - The e-Customs decision was evaluated in the course of 2014 ([see report](#)) : [need to progress on Single Window with interfacing/interoperability between customs systems](#)
 - Link to related legislation: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/policy_issues/electronic_customs_initiative/electronic_customs_legislation/index_en.htm
- [Union Customs Code \(UCC\)](#) provides legal base for e-Customs as well
- DG TAXUD’s Multi-Annual Strategic Plan ([MASP](#)) provides a framework & timeline for creating systems, up to 2024.
 - Strategic Framework
 - Supports e-Customs decision
 - Contains milestones, description of projects and requirements

EU Customs Single Window: context

COMPLEXITY derives from the EU structure where both national and EU legislation are applicable to cross-border movements of goods (certificates/licenses issued at EU level + certificates/licenses issued at national level based on EU legislation + certificates/licenses issued at national level based on national legislation)

Concept of EU SW environment for customs rather than a single EU SW. EU SW services would coexist with interoperable national SW.

Development through a **phase by phase approach: first phase focused on automated acceptance of supporting documents to the Customs Declaration**

EU Customs Single Window: A phased approach

- ✓ **More than 60 pieces of EU legislation for protecting citizens and environment** are enforced by customs at the EU external borders.
- ✓ **EU Customs SW:** trade facilitation measure that enables EO to submit data in a standardised format to multiple recipients via a single-entry point to fulfil import, export or transit related requirements for the cross-border movement of goods.
- ✓ **First step: The automated acceptance by MS Customs administrations of electronic certificates** submitted with the customs declaration for which a data base exists at EU level . From EU SW-CVED to EU SW-CERTEX

Benefits

- ***Harmonised and facilitated application of EU legislation***
- ***Optimised certificates' processing in the EU***
- ***Saved resources for the traders and customs administrations***
- ***Faster customs controls***
- ***Reduction of the risk of human errors***
- ***Reduction of the possibilities for potential fraud***

Legal initiative EU SW environment for customs

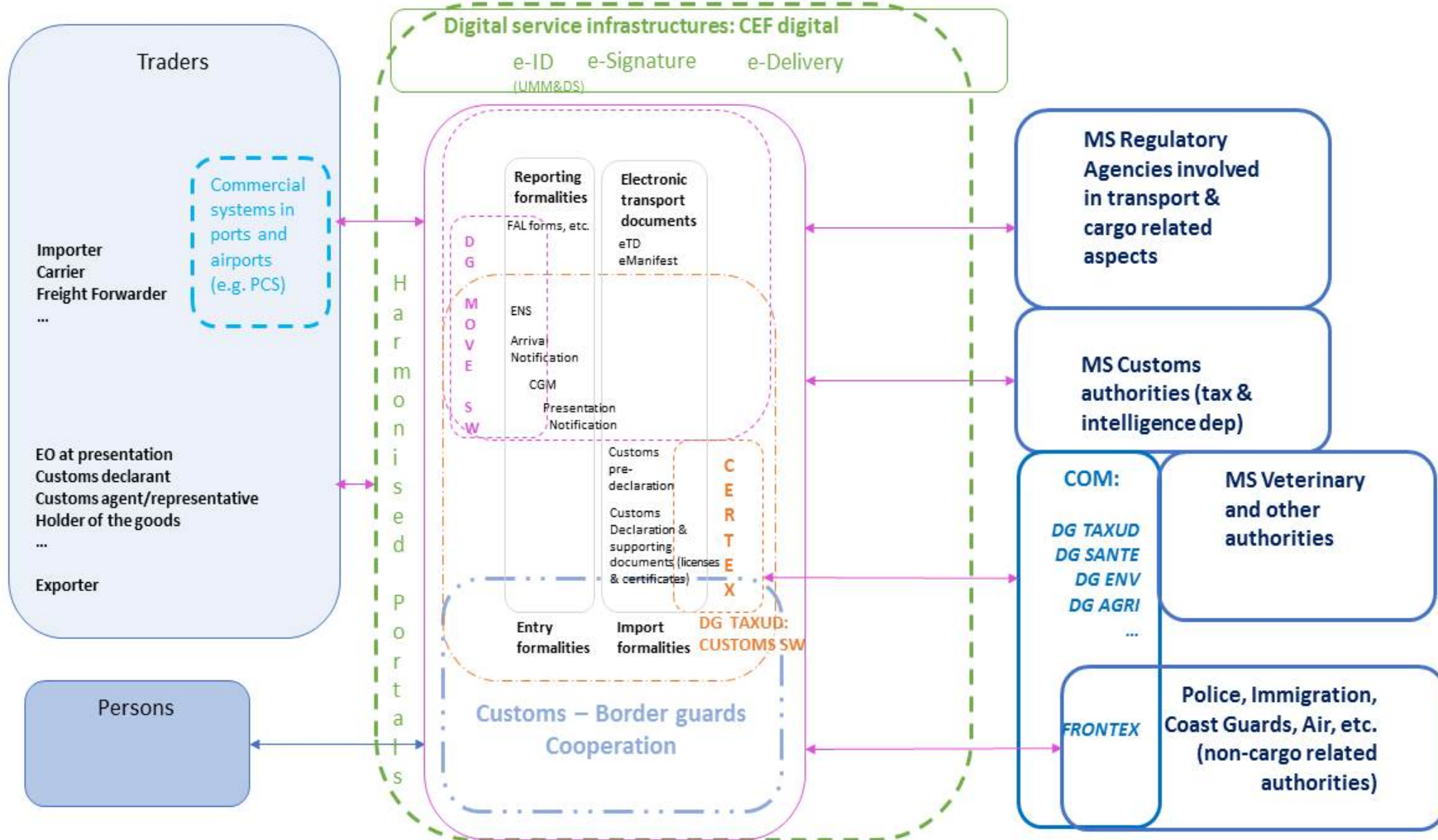
- **Planning and validation:** Political validation received in June 2017.
- **Impact Assessment:**
 - *External study: To be conducted Q1 2018-Q2 2019*
 - *Customs 2020 Project Group (key stakeholder consultation-MS and Trader's Associations)*
 - *Open Public Consultation (part of a wider consultation strategy) Q2-Q4 2018*
 - *Impact assessment report and draft proposal Q3 2019*
- **Adoption by the EU Commission:** Q4 2019

Legal initiative SW environment for customs

- **Work with DG CNECT and DIGIT on re-use of CEF building blocks for the SW environment (eID, eDelivery), integration of TOOP principles, etc.**
- **From "paperless" customs to "paperfree" digital customs**
- **From 'customs centric' systems to fully integrated electronic services to economic operators for cross-border movement of goods: inter-agencies collaboration**



EU Single Window services for cross-border operations (air, maritime, rail, road)



NB: this is DG TAXUD vision – under discussion with partner DGs

Conclusions

- **EU SW environment for customs focused on interoperability**
- **Links between Transport and Customs SWs in consideration and close cooperation with partner DGs, in particular DG MOVE**
- **Standard building blocks to deploy the SW services for cross-border operations**