Single Window Implementation
And the WTO TF Agreement

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WTO TF Agreement and Single Window

Article 10.4 Single Window

4.1 Members shall endeavour to establish or maintain a single window

4.2 “single submission of information”

4.4 …use information technology to support the single window.
Single Window UNECE Recommendation 33

Recommends Governments to establish Single Window for Cross Border Trade

Defines features:

- ... one time submission
- ... of standardized information and documents
- sharing of information amongst government agencies;
- coordinated controls and inspections of the various governmental authorities;
- Allow payment of duties and other charges;
- Be a source of trade related government information.
Single Window Concept

FROM

Current situation for Government and Traders

TRADER

Electronic

Paper

Transport

Customs

Agriculture

Health Dept

TO

A "Single Window" environment

TRADER

Electronic

Paper

Transport

Customs

Agriculture

Health Dept
Single Window: a growing trend

“Single Windows (SWs) are important drivers for the simplification, harmonization and automation of trade procedures”

- 2005: in about 20 economies
- 2010: in 49 economies
- 2014: in 73 economies
- 2020: in 100 economies & some regions (ASEAN, EU SW)?

Benefits of SWs: Evidence

**Benefits:**
- Pre-clearance formalities – from 4 days to 0.5 days
- Customs Clearance – from 18 to 9 days
- Export times - from 22 to 11 days
- Customs revenue - from USD 625 Million a year (2005) to 1.2 Bn a year (2011)

**Benefits:**
- Export costs reduced from 848 USD in 2007 to 595
- Savings on logistic costs USD 1.5 Bn per year
- Number of documents for import – from 12 to 3
- Number of documents for export – from 9 to 4
- Time to export – from 24 to 14 days

UNECE’s Work for SWs

- UNECE Policy Rec.s
  UN/CEFACT

- UNECE Standards
  UN/CEFACT

- UNECE / UNNExT
  Guidelines, Briefs, Case Studies

Outreach and Support
After 10 years, some observations

- SWs have become a strategic national instruments to facilitate trade, enhance collaboration between trade related government agencies, and increase export competitiveness.

- More SWs in developing countries than developed countries!

- The goal of SW is not a SW!

- Various models of Single Window like platforms have emerged, embracing both regulatory and logistics aspects of the supply chain – need to integrate these!
Trade Single Window

- Health Department
- Customs Brokers
- Customs Department
- Quarantine & SPS Agency
- Other government agencies
- Traders

Trade SW
SW as a Collaborative Network of Information Systems

- Buyers/Importers
- Sellers/Exporters
- Importer’s Banks
- Freight Forwarders
- Haulers
- Vessels
- Air lines
- Traders
- Health Department
- e-Trade
- Exporter’s Banks
- Customs Brokers
- Quarantine & SPS Agency
- Trade SW
- Other government agencies
- Customs Department
- Traders
- Vessel Operator
- Trade SW
- Regulatory Agents
- Vessel Traffic Safety
- Port Authority
- Port Community System (PCS)
- Port-equipment Operators
- Ship Agents
- Marine Department
- Ship Piloting
- Maritime SW
- Warehouses
- Terminal Operators
- Hauler Operators
- Freight Forwarders
- Marine Department
- Vessel Operator
- Other government agencies
- Maritime SW
- Terminal Operators
UNECE current and future work on Single Window

- UNECE UN/CEFACT Recommendation 36: Single Window Interoperability – out for internal review
- Preparation of a “White Paper” on Inter Organizational Information Systems – 2015
- UN/CEFACT Project on Multi Modal Transport Reference Data Model
- Possible Round Table on IOS in late 2015
- UNECE UN/CEFACT Symposium on Future SW – Next Steps in 2016

You are most welcome to participate in these initiatives
All UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations, codes, standards and publications are available for free on our website at:

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