Cargo Connect

Vision
Simplify, Standardize and Automate air cargo digital connectivity.

Objectives
• Establish industry digital connectivity standards & procedures
• Promote & support digital collaboration between airlines, freight forwarders, ground handlers, CCSs and other stakeholders involved in the air cargo supply chain

iata.org/cargo-connect
Did You Know That...

• Each stakeholder must have an EDI ID to exchange data electronically with its business partners

• IDs are created and distributed by CCSs, and are CCS-specific

• Each time a stakeholder changes CCS, its IDs have to change, taking weeks and dedicated staff to do it

• An airline/freight forwarder may partner with multiple CCSs to ensure network wide messaging coverage.

40,000+ FFs exchange messages with 450+ Airlines through 23 CCSs
Digital Connectivity Challenges

• For the new users, the connectivity process remains a mystery

• Process spans over weeks - Unavailability of Global IDs & manual distribution of IDs and connectivity info

• Complicated registration formalities - Lack of standards

• Data loss - Complex problem solving and troubleshooting
Cargo Digital Connectivity Working Group

- Descartes System Group
- CHAMP Cargosystems
- CCN Singapore
- Wise Tech Global
- CCS Italy
- RIEGE Software
- HANS Infomatics
- GLS HK
- CCS Japan
- Infosky
Proposed Solutions

- Rec. Practice for Partner Registration & Distribution
- XML Registration for Cargo Partner (XRCP)
- EPIC: Enhanced Partner Identification and Connectivity
What can IATA do?

Streamline **95%** of the air cargo connectivity

Statistics for Connectivity Between Airlines and Freight Forwarders

- Host to Host Communication
- Communication via Intermediary
## Where We Started

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ABC FREIGHT FORWARDERS LTD.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMMY ADDRESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMMY NAME</td>
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<tr>
<td>PIMA: MUKFFY78000PDY</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GOOD CARGO INTERNATIONAL</strong></td>
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<td>DUMMY ADDRESS</td>
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<td>DUMMY NAME</td>
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What Is Needed?

- Robust automated distribution mechanism
- Digital connectivity info.
- Permanent and harmonized identities
- Simplified & standardized registration process
- Data quality improvements
- Facilitate new users
Introducing EPIC

Express connect and embrace digitization

Enhanced Partner Identification and Connectivity (EPIC) System
How Will It Work?

EPIC Centralized Repository

Airlines, FFs, GHAs etc.

EPIC Web Portal

EPIC Lookup Service

Web Service/API,
XML Registration for Cargo Partner (XRCP) Message
Email Alerts, Data Download etc.

Airlines IT Dept, FFs, IT Companies etc.

CCS(s)
EPIC Interface

Via EPIC Portal
User will register through EPIC portal
Once access is granted, user can:
• Maintain existing IDs in EPIC
• Distribute IDs with partners

Via EPIC Look-up Service
EPIC system will provide a web service/API allowing users to connect and query about IDs
Will enable users to integrate their inhouse system with EPIC to:
• Download data from EPIC
• Query the EPIC
• Update EPIC data

Depending upon the need, one could register for both types of access methods
Phased Approach

Phase-1

Automate existing connectivity business processes e.g.
- Migrate existing IDs
- Distribute through EPIC
- User Capabilities

Phase-2

Robust connectivity business processes e.g.
- Issue IATA Unique Global ID
- Manage Routing
Value Proposition

A centralized repository that will:

1. **Distribute IDs** through a robust mechanism to partners
2. **Generate permanent IDs** for each stakeholder
3. **Maintain routing**, CCS or host-to-host connection details
4. **Setup Lookup Service** to obtain partners IDs and routing information
## EPIC Benefits

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cost Reduction</th>
<th>Time Gain</th>
<th>Digital Cargo Acceleration</th>
<th>Improving Efficiency in the Movement of Goods</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Quality Improvements</td>
<td>Advancing Automation Technology</td>
<td>Increasing e-AWB and e-Freight Adoption</td>
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EPIC Functionality in a Nutshell

**Phase-1**
- Migrate Existing Data
- Maintain IDs
- Maintain Partnerships
- Distribute IDs & Messaging Capabilities
  - E-mail
  - XRCP
  - Web Service
- User Capabilities
- Lookup Service
- Download IDs & User Capabilities

**Phase-2**
- Generate Unique ID
- Maintain Addressing
- Validate Addressing
- Distribute IDs & Addressing
  - E-mail
  - XRCP
  - Web Service
  - SMS
- Lookup Service
Phase 1: Migrate Manual Distribution to Automated

1. Registration
2. Setup Profiles (HDQ, Branch Office, Technical Contacts, Partner CCSs etc.)
3. Setup Access Control, Distribution Channel & Alert Mechanism
4. Setup IDs (Upload/add existing IDs)
5. Assign IDs (parameters include branch offices, carrier etc.)
6. Define Messaging Capabilities
7. Publish IDs and Messaging Capabilities
8. Dashboard
9. Identify and Establish Partnership
10. Search & Download Partner IDs & Messaging Capabilities
11. Distribution IDs (branch level) and Messaging Capabilities to Partners
12. Message Board with Partners
13. Reporting
14. Billing
15. Lookup Service
Phase 2: Process Improvements and Automation

1. All features of Phase-1
2. Get Unique Global ID
3. Setup Routing /Addressing for Global ID
4. Validate Routing/Addressing
5. Distribute Global IDs and Addressing
EPIC Dashboard

**Statistics:** Total Branch Offices, Total IDs maintained by a Freight Forwarders, Total Partner Airlines, Total Partner CCS’s Partnership Requests and Confirmations

**New ID & Routings Info.**

**Updates for ID & Routing**

**Confirmation and Decline** of ID Distribution & Routing

**Message Board:** Any new message for the user
Dashboard Prototype

**EPIC DASHBOARD**

- **Total Branch Offices**: 70
- **Total ID's Maintained**: 200
- **Total Partner Airlines**: 21
- **Total Partner CCS's**: 12

**Recent Activity:**
- QR has joined EPIC
- Riege has joined EPIC
- LH has updated routing info.
- ID successfully distributed to LH

**Average Connectivity Time:**
- 11.5 Days
Distribution and Payment

Distribution methods
- FTP
- SFTP
- SMTP
- IATA Cargo-XML (XRCP)
- Email
- Web service
- SMS

Payment methods
- Credit Card
- IATA Clearing House (ICH)
- Bank Transfer
EPIC Access Controls

A freight forwarder wouldn’t be able to access another freight forwarders data

A CCS wouldn’t be able to get direct connectivity information between the airlines and freight forwarders partner

An Airline wouldn’t be able to access data of OAL unless they are indicated as an interline partner
EPIC Will Lead To…

- **Improve transparency and visibility** by automating management & distribution of global ID’s & digital connectivity information among partners
- **Encourage** of new entrants to be a part of digital cargo
- **Enhancement** of air cargo industry connectivity
- **Expedite** digital handshake
- **Automate** partner registration
Who Will It Assist?

Entire supply chain

- Airlines
- Freight Forwarders
- CCS’s/ IT Service Providers
- Ground Handlers
- Shippers
- Customs Authorities
EPIC Timeline

Investigation Phase
- Q2 2018

Solution Development
- Q3-Q4 2018

Pilot & Go Live
- Q2 2019

EPIC Solution Launched

For More Information

- www.iata.org/cargo-connect