The electronic Air Waybill (e-AWB) is the electronic contract of carriage between the “shipper” (freight forwarder) and the “carrier” (airline).

An e-AWB is formed between two parties having signed an e-AWB agreement - whether a multilateral agreement (MeA) or a bilateral agreement - and is materialized with the exchange of an IATA standard (X)FWB message or any other electronic means.

For e-AWB under the MeA, the cargo contract is deemed concluded at the time the status message (X)FSU-FOH is sent from the airline to the forwarder.

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**e-AWB Special Handling Codes at a glance**

**MeA**
+ FF activated
+ (X)FWB
+ (X)FSU-FOH
  
**e-AWB**

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**e-AWB Special Handling Codes**

**Freight Forwarder**
- EAW: e-AWB shipment without accompanying documents AND without pouch
- EAP: e-AWB shipment with accompanying documents OR pouch

**Airlines**
- ECC: A paper AWB is not required
- ECP: A paper AWB needs to be printed to comply to any applicable legislation

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The combination of the freight forwarder codes (EAW/EAP) with the airline’s (ECC/ECP) leads to the following four scenarios

1. **EAW ECC**
   - eAWB shipment
   - No pouch nor accompanying document
   - No paper AWB required
   - EAW
   - ECC

2. **EAW ECP**
   - eAWB shipment
   - No pouch nor accompanying document
   - Paper AWB required
   - EAW
   - ECP

3. **EAP ECC**
   - eAWB shipment
   - Either pouch or accompanying document
   - No paper AWB required
   - EAP
   - ECC

4. **EAP ECP**
   - eAWB shipment
   - Either pouch or accompanying document
   - Paper AWB required
   - EAP
   - ECP

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