Multilateral e-AWB Agreement

Sign Once, Connect All!
Background

- The Air Waybill (AWB) is the contract of carriage between Airline and “Shipper”
- The e-Air Waybill (e-AWB) is an electronic cargo contract that replaces the paper AWB:
  - Face of the paper AWB is replaced with electronic messages
  - Reverse of the paper AWB is replaced with an e-AWB agreement
The e-AWB Agreement

Paper Air Waybill + e-AWB

Electronic messages + e-AWB Agreement
The “Bilateral” challenge

- In 2010, RP1670 “model EDI Agreement” was established, which enabled Airlines and Forwarders to do e-AWB
- As more Parties adopted e-AWB, the number of “bilateral” agreements increased exponentially
- The burden of signing multitude of Agreements was found to be slowing down e-AWB adoption in the industry
The “Multilateral” solution

- IATA with the industry developed a “multilateral” e-AWB Agreement as new IATA Resolution 672
- Parties sign once with IATA enabling them to do e-AWB with all other Parties:
  - **Airline** with all participating Freight Forwarders
  - **Freight Forwarder** with all participating Airlines
What does it contain?

- The Multilateral e-AWB Agreement provides the Legal framework for parties to conclude cargo contracts by electronic means
- It includes provisions for:
  - the consent to do e-AWB
  - the high level operational aspects for e-AWB
  - the confidentiality and security of data
  - the rights and obligations of parties
- It does not modify:
  - the conditions of contract
  - the conditions of carriage
How does it work?

**Step 1: Joining**
- Airlines join the Agreement
- Freight Forwarders join the Agreement

**Step 2: Activation**
- Airline and Freight Forwarder have bilateral discussions on locations and start dates
- Airline sends “Activation Notice” to Freight Forwarder confirming the bilaterally decided location(s) and dates

**Step 3: Start to do e-AWB**
What are the benefits?

- No more lengthy and costly Legal discussions to start e-AWB:
  - **Airlines** will have a single agreement with IATA, enabling them to accept e-AWB from all participating Freight Forwarders
  - **Freight Forwarders** will have a one-stop shop agreement that will allow them to tender e-AWB shipments to multiple airlines in numerous airports around the globe
  - Parties still remain in control of where and when e-AWB should start depending on the technical and operational readiness
Endorsed by Industry Associations

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See complete list @ www.iata.org/eawb-multilateral
Who has joined?

- See complete list of Freight Forwarders
- See complete list of Airlines and Airports
How to join?

- Airlines and freight forwarders are invited to join
  - Airlines – how to join and next steps
  - Freight Forwarders – how to join and next steps
More information
www.iata.org/eawb-multilateral

Questions to: e-freight@iata.org

e-AWB on-line training
http://www.iata.org/training/courses/pages/tcgp72.aspx