“Values and benefits of a PCS, links to SW and WTO TFA”
Maritime Logistics Information Flows
Mees van der Wiel - Portbase
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It looks so easy…
Physical flow of goods – One way traffic, from seller to buyer

**Simplified flow – maritime**

- **Seller / Factory**
  - Hinterland transport operator(s)
  - Warehouse
  - Hinterland Terminal
  - Deep-Sea terminal
  - Customs inspection facility

- **Buyer**
  - Hinterland transport operator(s)
  - Warehouse
  - Hinterland Terminal
  - Deep-Sea terminal
  - Customs inspection facility

- **Shipping Line**
  - At request of customs
  - Transshipment

Choice, depending on most optimal flow
Information flows in the transaction and governance layers (van Baalen et al. 2008)

It looked so easy…
And it’s even worse…

Because:
• visualized the optimal information flow of container transport
• data elements from different sources combined in one report
• flows presented as one line.
However, the data often goes back and forth multiple times.
• No status updates visualized

Visualizing all sources of each information element and their flows in one overview would be impossible!

Source: Master thesis research Jaike Locht – TU Delft
Complexity and the impact on data quality

Problems

• Administrative burden of reporting formalities
• Quality issues along the information chain
• Parties only have knowledge on their own activities, not on the ones around them
• Automation, standardization and harmonization often lacking because of the variety of parties
• No incentive on improving quality. Parties only focus on own process.

Source: Master thesis research Jaike Locht – TU Delft
This is where Community Systems step in

Without PCS

With PCS
Benefits for Supply Chains

- One-stop-shop for automated information exchange
- All governments and related processes are connected
- Use of standard messages and procedures throughout the ports

- Low administration costs due to automation
- Information flows reach both governments and business well in advance of vessel arrival
- Better government inspections due to timely and correct data, thus improving transit times
- Sharing/re-use of data improves data quality

Specific benefits

- Ease of doing business
- Lower Supply Chain Costs
- Improving Supply Chain Quality
A PCS:

- Links administrative processes to operational ones
- Thus re-using data for both purposes and the re-use of existing Information Systems
- Creating Transparency & reducing trade burdens
- Can also act as a Gateway into a Single Window

PCS thus link **Administrative** and **Operational** procedures electronically via the exchange of messages on a end to end basis (machine to machine) with all stakeholders.
Vision towards the future

Connected platforms in information-exchange trade and transport

- Business / trade community
- Port community
- Airport community
- National authorities
- Foreign authorities
- Platform or customer connection
Questions?
Thank you for your attention