



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Digitization in Global Trade

Role of the Express Delivery Industry

London, 21 – 23 September 2022

International Plant Health Conference



The Global Express Association



Technology Drives the Express Delivery Chain



The express industry utilizes sophisticated networks to collapse the time and distance between places thereby globally connecting business. Shipments **from** anywhere, **to** anywhere can be delivered within 24-72 hrs

Source: Global Express Association



Express Delivery Companies and Compliance

- The goal of express delivery companies is to be regarded by Customs as compliant and trustworthy carriers.
- GEA Members cooperate with Customs to combat customs fraud generally.
- Effective enforcement requires a risk-based and threat-managed approach, as well as cooperation and information-sharing between stakeholders, including Customs and express carriers.
- Customs are the competent border authority to enforce Customs laws, conduct risk assessments and seize illegal items.

Express Delivery Companies Take Action:

Advance electronic shipment information: Express delivery companies transmit electronic information in advance of arrival of shipments to enable Customs to perform risk assessment and target shipments for further examination.

Track and Trace systems allow packages identified by Customs as suspicious to be removed from traffic flows and provided to Customs officers for further examination.

Facilities: Express delivery companies provide border officers at express delivery hubs with adequate facilities and equipment to enable them to identify and examine suspect shipments efficiently.

Information on shippers and consignees: Express delivery companies provide Customs administrations with available relevant information that may legally be disclosed on shippers and consignees of shipments identified as containing offending goods.

Close accounts of customers publicly identified by Customs as repeat offenders.



E-Phyto Experience by the Express Industry

- **Advantages**
 - E-phyto a good digitization initiative
 - Saving time and cost in certificate handling; also in cases where certificate gets lost
 - Reduced document fraud
- **Disadvantages**
 - E-phyto data only shared with governments, not with carriers; carriers still handle paper doc with QR code
 - Lack of integration with national systems
 - Duplication of data entry; manual
 - Area of mistakes



Conclusion

- Digitization needs to cover end-to-end processes; integration of e-phyto with national systems
- Collect the right data from the right source at the right time
- Shift focus from destination to departure
- Give carriers/FF/brokers access to the electronic data of the ephyto certificate
- Consider a more efficient process for updating the details of an ePhyto certificate if there was an error made by origin or if business needs required a larger/smaller shipment, etc.
- Apply a risk-based and threat-managed approach; move away from 100% inspection
- Consider trusted trader programs such as AEO for better compliance and risk management



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Thank You!

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