



SIMPLE AND EFFICIENT CROSS-BORDER TRADE **THE** **DIGITAL WAY**

YOUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE
FAL CONVENTION - AND HOW
IMO CAN HELP YOU MEET THEM

A DIGITAL REVOLUTION FOR SHIP / PORT INFORMATION

When ships enter and leave port, detailed and specific administrative information needs to be exchanged with the authorities ashore.

This used to mean paperwork. But Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is quicker, better and more efficient for everybody – and EDI is a mandatory requirement (since April 2019) under the IMO's International Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (the FAL Convention).

This means that public authorities are required to set up electronic systems for ship reporting formalities.

This applies to all the documentation needed to fulfil the standard regulatory requirements – the cargo declaration, dangerous goods declaration, crew manifests, vessel details and so on.

**QUICKER, BETTER
AND MORE EFFICIENT
FOR EVERYBODY**



HELPING TO MAKE CROSS-BORDER TRADE **SIMPLER AND MORE EFFICIENT**

WHO NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED?

Port authorities, maritime administrations, customs, police, immigration, health and agricultural authorities and all other relevant bodies must be part of the port EDI system.

Ships' agents, terminal operators, tug and pilot services and others can also be included – making things quicker, simpler and more effective for everyone.

Where there are existing Port Community Systems and other electronic platforms, these can support the implementation of the EDI exchanges.

The FAL Convention requires public authorities to set up systems for EDI and inform everyone concerned – including shipowners – about them. It's a mandatory requirement.

And it recommends using the "single window" concept, which enables all the information required by public authorities for the arrival, stay and departure of ships, persons and cargo, to be submitted via a single portal, without duplication.

That's good news for all concerned – but public authorities that haven't yet put a system like this in place need to **ACT NOW**.

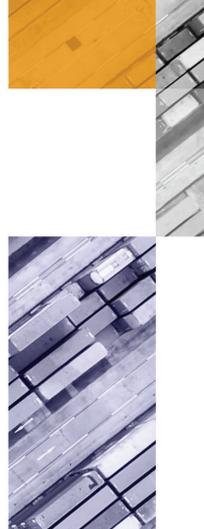
HELP IS AT HAND

IMO can provide technical assistance to governments that need help to fulfil their mandatory obligations under the FAL Convention.

And we've developed the IMO Compendium, a technical reference manual for software developers within the relevant public authorities. The IMO Compendium harmonizes the data elements requested by the various public authorities and standardizes the electronic messages.

IMO has also issued guidelines for setting up a maritime single window.

All this will help make cross-border trade simpler and the logistics chain more efficient, for the more than 10 billion tons of goods which are traded by sea annually across the globe. But you must **ACT NOW**.





CONTACT US

Don't delay. Contact the FAL team in the IMO Secretariat at falsec@imo.org NOW to find out what you need to do, and how we can help. And visit our website at www.imo.org.



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