



Ocean Freight Industry EIPP Standards Advisory Board Advances Key Electronic Invoicing Initiatives at Bi-Annual Meeting

Executives from leading ocean carriers and freight forwarders continue mission to achieve greater efficiency in e-Invoicing through standardization and automation

Parsippany, NJ, May 23, 2013 – [The Ocean Freight Industry EIPP Standards Advisory Board](#) (SAB), an independent organization of containerized shipping executives, today announced continued progress on several key electronic invoicing initiatives following its sixth bi-annual meeting, held May 14-15, 2013 in Hamburg, Germany.

During the two-day gathering, the SAB reached several important milestones to advance the use of electronic invoicing in the industry. Complementing the [Invoice electronic message](#) established in 2012, the group successfully formalized best practices for electronic invoice submission and receipt, while also moving forward to develop standards for the corresponding Credit Note process and complimentary EDI message guidelines. Members also defined future project initiatives for standardizing business processes and electronic messages to resolve many common causes of invoice disputes, including the areas of contract management, booking and shipping instructions.

Additionally, the SAB welcomed two special industry experts during the bi-annual meeting. Guest speaker Frank Cirimele from Cass Information Systems, Inc. addressed the group on the topic of “Trends in the Electronic Payment of Transportation Invoices – The Role of Standards,” while members also welcomed Otto Peter, a 40-year industry veteran with deep sea freight experience at Kuehne + Nagel and Agility, as the new leader of SAB’s Process Team.

“Electronic invoicing presentment and payments is the last manual frontier in ocean shipping to be conquered in what is otherwise a rich EDI channel environment. The pace to implement EIPP is picking up and therefore the development of standards is critical to facilitate successful one-to-many integrations, to ensure timely, reliable and consistent processes, and to lower costs,” stated Steen Erik Larsen, Head of IT Delivery Operations, Trade and Marketing, and Finance for Maersk Line.

“Due to the collective brainpower and influence in the market overall, the SAB has been essential in advancing the use of e-Invoicing presentment and payment in the ocean container shipping industry during the past three years,” said Rod Agona, Executive Officer of the SAB and Managing Director, Electronic Invoicing, INTTRA. “We’re eager to continue in this positive direction and look forward to growing our number of new members in 2013. In particular, the ocean carriers have an unprecedented chance to collaborate with some of their largest customers on win-win strategies in eCommerce that could only be accomplished in a neutral forum such as the SAB.”

Established in 2010 by [INTTRA](#) and a core group of carriers and freight forwarders, the SAB has grown to be a self-funded and governed 24-member organization, comprised of executives from many of the leading ocean carriers and freight forwarders. Members include: Agility Logistics, BDP International, CEVA Logistics, CMA CGM, CSAV, Damco, DB Schenker, DHL Global Forwarding, Ecu-Line, Geodis Wilson, Hamburg Süd, Hapag-Lloyd, INTTRA, JF Hillebrand, K LINE, Kuehne + Nagel, Leschaco, Maersk Line, MSC, Panalpina, Röhlig, Sinotrans, and UASC. The SAB is committed to establishing international standards for business process and data exchange that will drive adoption and long-term sustainability of electronic invoicing in the ocean freight industry.

If you are interested in learning more about the SAB or becoming a member, please [contact us here](#).

About the EIPP Standards Advisory Board

Formally established in 2010, the [Ocean Freight Industry EIPP Standards Advisory Board](#) (SAB) is an independent self-governed organization of containerized shipping executives. With 24 members and growing, the SAB's mission is to lead the ocean freight industry, as a community, towards greater efficiency in Electronic Invoice Presentment and Payment through standardization and automation.

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