

FIATA

Roundtable:

Accelerating Benefits of Digital Trade Connectivity through Alignment of Legal Framework and Interoperability Tools

Dr Stéphane Graber, Director General, FIATA

3rd July 2023





The International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations The global voice of Freight logistics

• FIATA is composed of:



109 Association Members Over 6,000 Individual Members

Representing 40,000 freight forwarding and logistics firms in



some 150 countries

- FIATA advocates for trade facilitation and actively contributes to the functioning of the supply chain through :
 - Advocacy



- FIATA Documents and Forms
- Digital Strategy, including digitalisation of FIATA Transport Documents eFBL Annual



Meetings: HQ and World Congress



 \square

Training and Education Sustainability





Close collaboration with international stakeholders

FIATA's Vision encompasses the expectations of the future:

'Logistics without borders for a digital and sustainable world'



FIATA standard trade documents

More than 50 years ago FIATA started to establish standard trade documents to harmonize documents and forms used by freight forwarders



Negotiable FIATA Multimodal Transport Bill of Lading (FBL)



Non-negotiable FIATA Multimodal Transport Waybill (FWB)



FIATA Forwarders Certificate of Receipt (FCR)

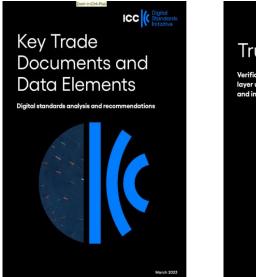


FIATA Warehouse Receipt (FWR)

- FIATA Forwarders Certificate of Transport (FCT)
- FIATA Shippers Declaration for the Transport of Dangerous Goods (SDT)
- FIATA Shippers Intermodal Weight Certificate (SIC)
- FIATA Forwarding Instructions (FFI)

FIATA work with ICC DSI

- FIATA is a member *The ICC Digital Standards Initiative Industry Advisory Board (ICC DSI Industry Advisory Board)*
- The ICC Digital Standards Initiative (DSI) aims to accelerate the development of a globally harmonized, digitized trade environment
- FIATA has contributed to the KTDDE brochure, which presents the digital standards and data elements for seven key business documents, including the FIATA eFBL, and provides a glossary of key business terms. By the end of the year, we plan to extend this project to more than 40 documents.
- FIATA also contributed to the "*Trust in Trade*" brochure, which proposes a vision of the trade ecosystem based on verifiable, transitive trust.





FIATA is also a co-founder of the Future International Trade (FIT) Alliance



The key objectives of the FIT Alliance are to raise awareness and accelerate adoption of a standards-based <u>electronic bill of</u> <u>lading (eBL)</u> across all sectors of the shipping industry. Universal eBL would:

save \$6.5 B

in documentation costs

Enable \$7 B

in gains by reducing inventory and financing costs

Unlock \$30-40 B

in trade growth by reducing trade friction

Save 28,000

trees

Challenge: Getting digital for the supply chains and trade

- Most trade and supply chain data continue to be processed via paper forms (physical or pdf) globally. A single shipment may require 40+ paper forms exchanged between 30+ parties.
- This data in these forms must be manually extracted, validated and entered into various IT systems (platform), most of which are not connected to each other.
- The process is:
 - prone to errors, discrepancies and fraud
 - time consuming and labor intensive
 - environmentally inefficient

The FIT Alliance identified the below main obstacles:

- 1. Concerns about technology, platform and lack of interoperability;
- 2. Insufficient adoption by other stakeholders; and
- 3. Legal acceptance of the electronic bill of lading.

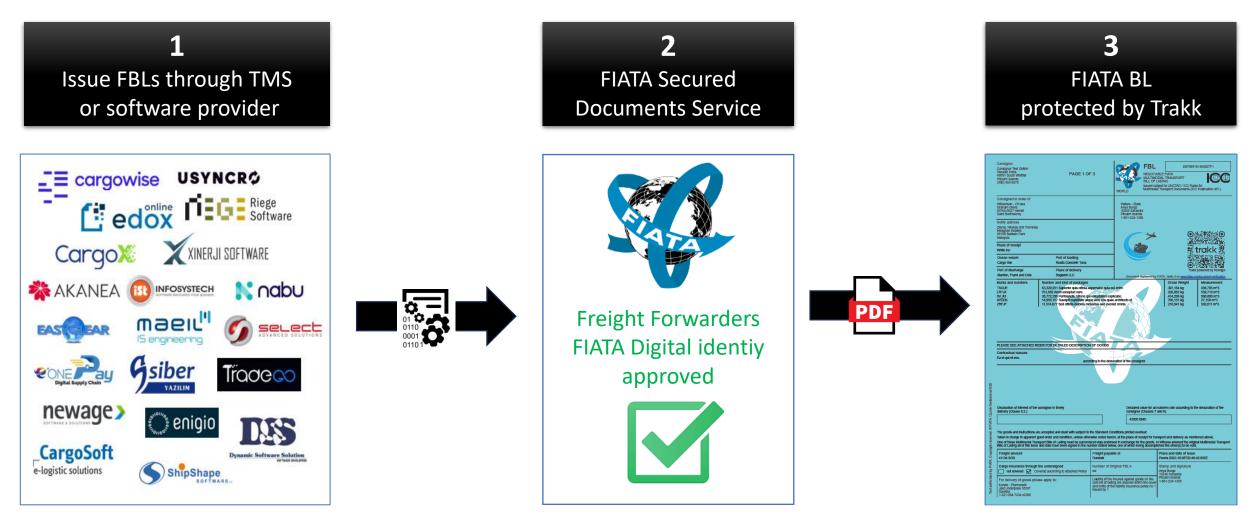


Solution: The secured FIATA Multimodal Bill of Lading (FBL)

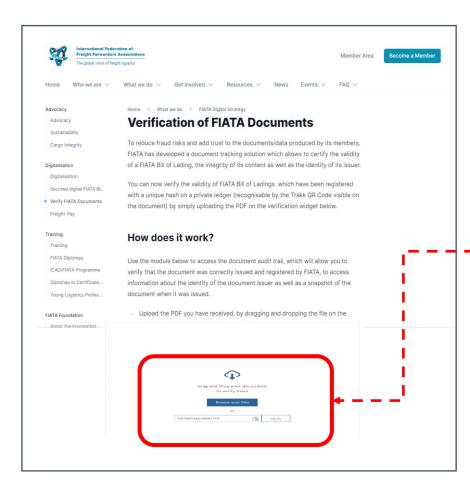
- Only truly multimodal negotiable trade document
- Recognise House BL standards conform with:
 - ✓ UNCTAD/ICC Rules for Multimodal Transport
 - ✓ UCP 600 by ICC
- Reputable and trustworthy due to conditions for use, including liability insurance requirements
- FBL can be used to support a Letter of Credit
- The new digital version of the FBL can be used:
 - $\checkmark\,$ As an original when printed
 - ✓ As an exchangeable PDF
 - ✓ As a fully eFBL if issued through eBL platforms approved by IGP&I

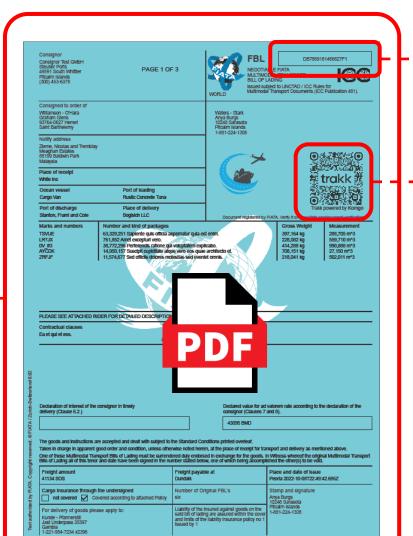


Digital Fiata BL – How does it work?



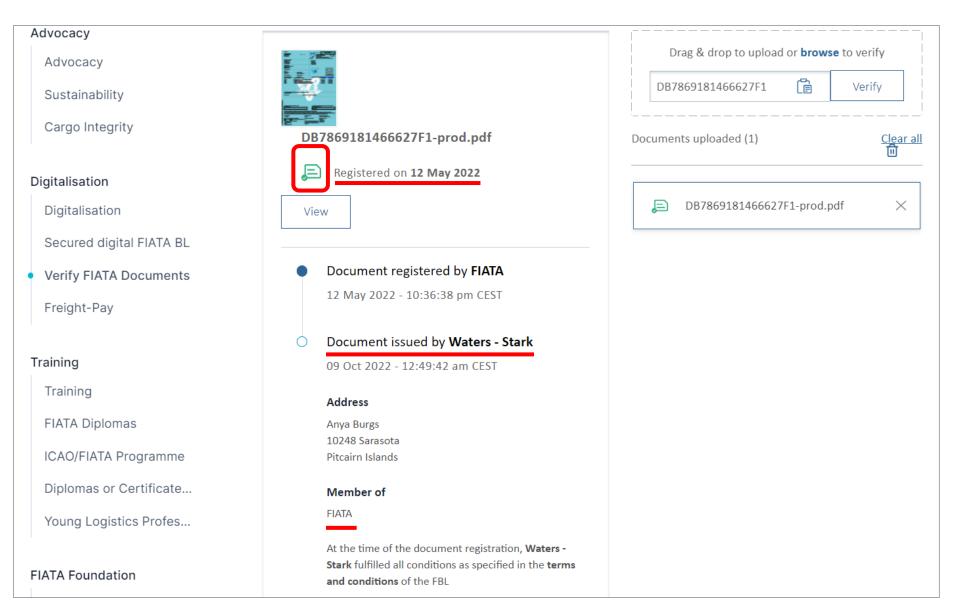
How all parties involved can verify a Secured Fiata BL?







Result on FIATA website



Progress made and what this means for digital trade

- In 2022, FIATA launched the FIATA Digital eFBL in 2022, accessible through Members' everyday tools, helping them to save time and money while bringing trust and security to their partners.
- Since then, FIATA has distributed over 600 eFBLs, onboarded 26 FIATA Associations Members and 22 software providers.
- FIATA approach is inclusive, pragmatic, inclusive and agile focused on business cases to help SMEs becoming digital
- Several pilots have been initiated in Autumn 2022 proving the interoperability of the eFBL with Carriers and Customs, but also with Trade finance banks (e.g. ABS) using blockchain technology to unleash global connectivity between freight-forwarders, logistics providers, software companies and financial institutions.



The eFBL Banking pilot

Mission: Business enabler facilitating credits to clients

Goal: Speed up verifications checks & payments / credits

Solution: FIATA Electronic Bill of Lading and protocol powered by Blockchain & NFT technologies.

Proof of Concept operational in 6 weeks involving :

- ▶1 A Leading innovative bank in Trade Finance (ABS)
- ▶ 2 Major software TMS (CargoX, eDocsOnline)
- ▶ 2 Main leaders in coffee grains trades (Sucafina, eCom Agro)
- ▶ 1 Standards leading organisation (FIATA)

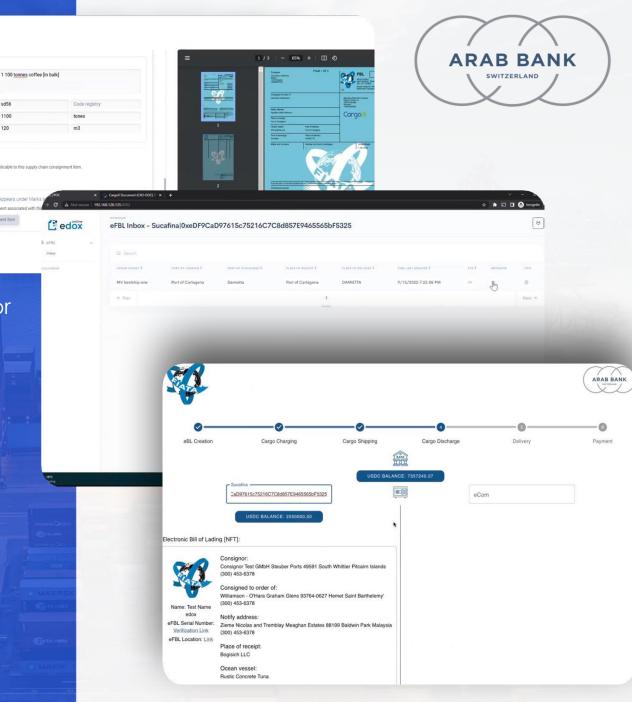


Features :

- Transferable to any authorised counterparty involved
- Improved traceable and real-time visibility of documents
- Email-based account with cryptography abstraction for ease of use

FBL

- No counterfeiting / double financing
- Preserving deal privacy
- Plugin can easily integrate into existing software
- Built on open connected network
- Payments triggered by eBL state change



How can we strengthen the digital trade ecosystem?

Benefits

- **Paper + digital F/HBL**: extra security and trust
- House BL data standard: standardized House BL data

How can we strengthen the digital trade ecosystem?

- 1. Adopting the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (MLETR)
 - facilitates the legal recognition of electronic transferable records
 - is crucial for trade facilitation and economic competitiveness
- 2. Ensuring clear and effective data governance standards
 - new thinking regarding the collection, storage and use of data, to foster trust and ensure a level playing field
 - data governance charter developped by FIATA and GSF, see <u>FIATA website</u>

How can we strengthen the digital trade ecosystem? Finance 3. Working towards an international instrument for Sales Import Export negotiable multimodal transport documents Cargo Ongoing work at UNCITRAL towards a legal instrument Management regarding negotiable multimodal transport documents Shipping with FIATA participation nternational Supply chain • To facilitate legal recognition of multimodal transport documents, particularly where no sea leg is involved and to help secure access to trade finance 4. Adopting international standards The private sector (e.g. FIT Alliance) has already begun to adopt international standards and are all aligned with UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model and governments around the world should do likewise to facilitate the emergence of a digital supply chain and realize its benefits.

Thank you!

Check out our dedicated eFBL website for more information: <u>https://fiata.org/digital-bill-of-lading/</u>

Contact us for any question: <u>digital@fiata.org</u>



www.fiata.org info@fiata.org foin@ @fiatafederation