



Blue Belt Project – evaluation and next steps

SSS and MoS Focal Points meeting



Magda KOPCZYNSKA
Head of Unit
Maritime transport & logistics
Directorate-General for Mobility and
Transport

SSS & MoS Focal Points Meeting
Helsingør, Denmark
19-20 April 2012
Session III – SSS Promotion and EU funding
Item 11

European Maritime Transport Space without Barriers

- Reporting Formalities: Directive 2010/65/EU
 - » Electronic transmission of information
 - » Rationalising reporting procedures
- **Single window:** Single transmission of reporting formalities in electronic format
 - » Link SafeSeaNet, e-Customs and other electronic systems
- **eMaritime:** Foster use of advance information technologies
- **Blue Belt project:** Intra-EU maritime transport
 - » Surveillance technology - Less administrative burden in customs formalities

Informal Council September 2010 Transport Council December 2010

- Recognised the importance of the “Blue Belt” concept;
- Supported the Commission to launch the "Blue Belt" pilot project based on the existing SafeSeaNet technology; in cooperation with EMSA
- Recommend that the public and private stakeholders participate in the pilot project.

Maritime transport

- **Does not enjoy the EU internal market administrative free flow of goods that other modes of freight transport do**
 - » **Proof of status of Union goods - customs formalities**

Exception

- » **Regular Shipping Services: Internal market presumption - free circulation - administrative free flow of goods**
 - » **Relatively complex administrative process in place; simplified as of January 2012; effectiveness needs to be assessed**

BLUE BELT pilot project

253 “Blue Ships”; 22 countries; all ports

- **Specific objective:**

To provide customs authorities with **vessel voyage** information so as to remove uncertainty regarding the ship’s actual ports of call and **vessel behaviour**.

- **Project tool:**

To deliver a **notification report** by e-mail 2 hours before arrival to port **customs authorities** of the EU Member States for the **participating vessels**.

Notification Report

- Ship's particulars: Name, IMO number, RSS, AEO etc
- Last ports visited
 - » Nautical chart with the plot of the ship's voyage
 - Check with declared route
- Suspicious Behaviour Indicators: Stop/slow down (< 3 kn), Turn off transmitter/ lost signal

Evaluation of the Blue Belt pilot project

- Member States' Customs Administrations
 - » Technical Evaluation
 - Functioning of the service provided
 - » Operational Evaluation
 - How the report was used
 - Suggestions for extension-improvement
- Shipping Industry
- Ports Authorities

Evaluation results

- Timely, accurate and complete information
 - » Very few minor technical problems but solved
- Useful information related to the vessel and its voyage
- Additional data and confirmation of existing information about the vessels
- Consolidated information needed by customs authorities previously retrieved from different sources
- Assurance – Risk Assessment
- Usage and synergies with other maritime involved authorities

Next steps

- Commission Staff Working Paper
- June 2012 TTE Council
- Possible follow-up actions
 - » Aim : Improve and widen its scope and consider what further facilitations in customs formalities can be granted to intra EU shipping.
 - Find the proper balance between improving trade facilitation and efficient customs controls

Thank you for your attention

Magda.Kopczynska@ec.europa.eu

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/maritime/index_en.htm

