Best Practice Presentation by GCNet

17th September 2013, Antananarivo

Presentation by:
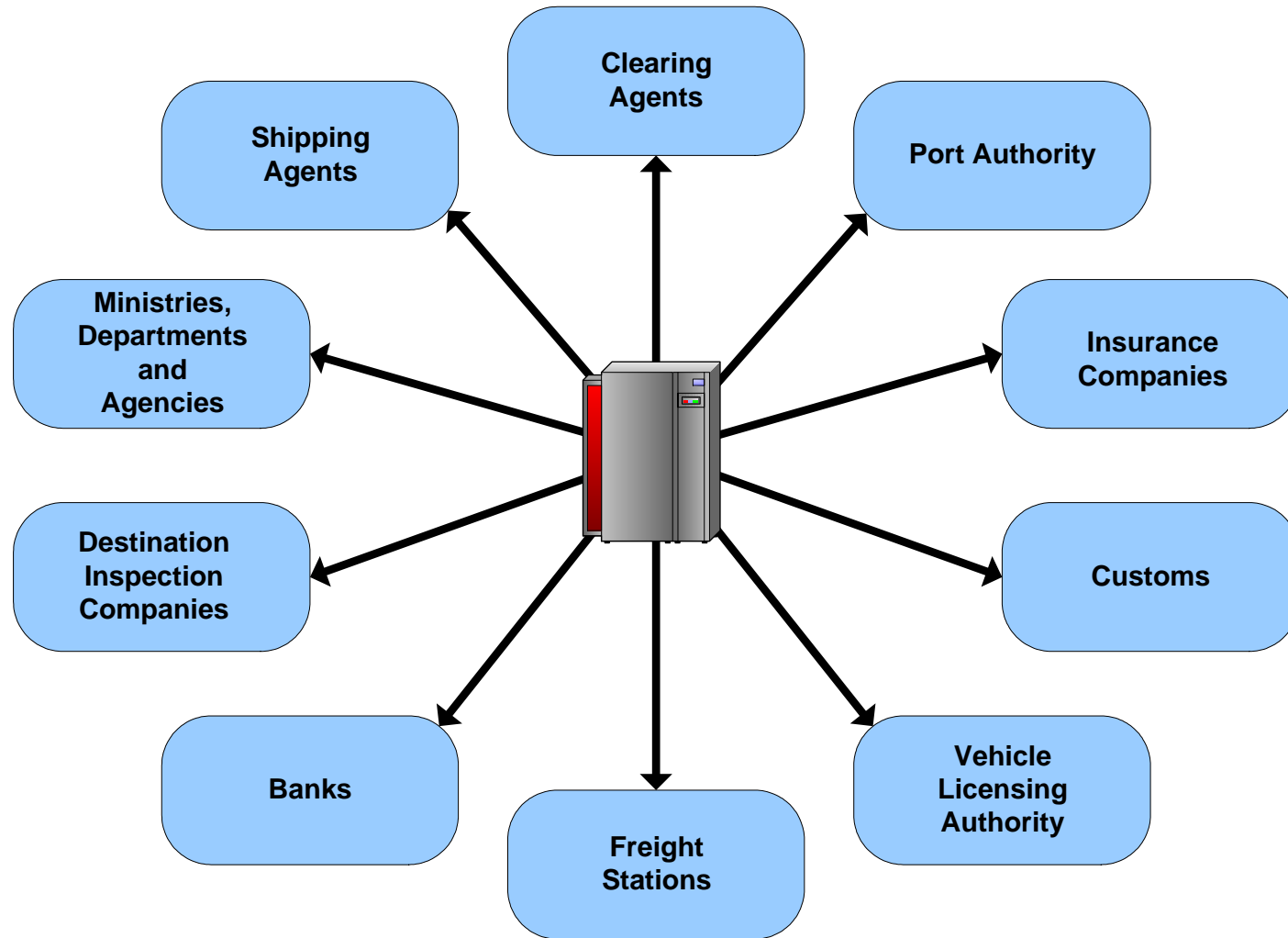### Jonathan Ofori
TradeNet Manager

What is GCNet?

- Ghana Community Network Services Ltd.

- JV PPP with a specific mandate to provide an EDI service and a computerised Customs Management System.

- Messaging application is called TradeNet

- Customs system is called GCMS - Ghana Customs Management System.

GCNet Objectives

- To improve the speed of customs clearance thereby accelerating port clearance

- Protect Government revenues

- Improve transparency

- Reduce customs officer discretion

- Improve management information / trade statistics to Government

- Provide a full integrated EDI service

After GCNet

Clearing Agents

Shipping Agents

Port Authority

Ministries, Departments and Agencies

Insurance Companies

Destination Inspection Companies

Customs

Banks

Freight Stations

Vehicle Licensing Authority

Networking all the parties to a common platform ...

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Unique Consignment Reference (UCR)

Introduction

- The adoption of the concept of the Unique Consignment Reference (UCR) by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) was driven by the need for Customs Organisations to facilitate legitimate international trade while at the same time strengthening effective audit based controls.

- Ghana Customs and GCNet have been working together to develop a system for the generation of UCRs in Ghana; Customs by doing so is once again set a be a pioneer in the fields of customs automation and modernisation in Africa.

- **Implementation of Electronic UCR**

Customs has become the accredited National Issuing Agency for Ghana in accordance with followed ISO/IEC 15459. The format of the Ghana UCR is as follows:
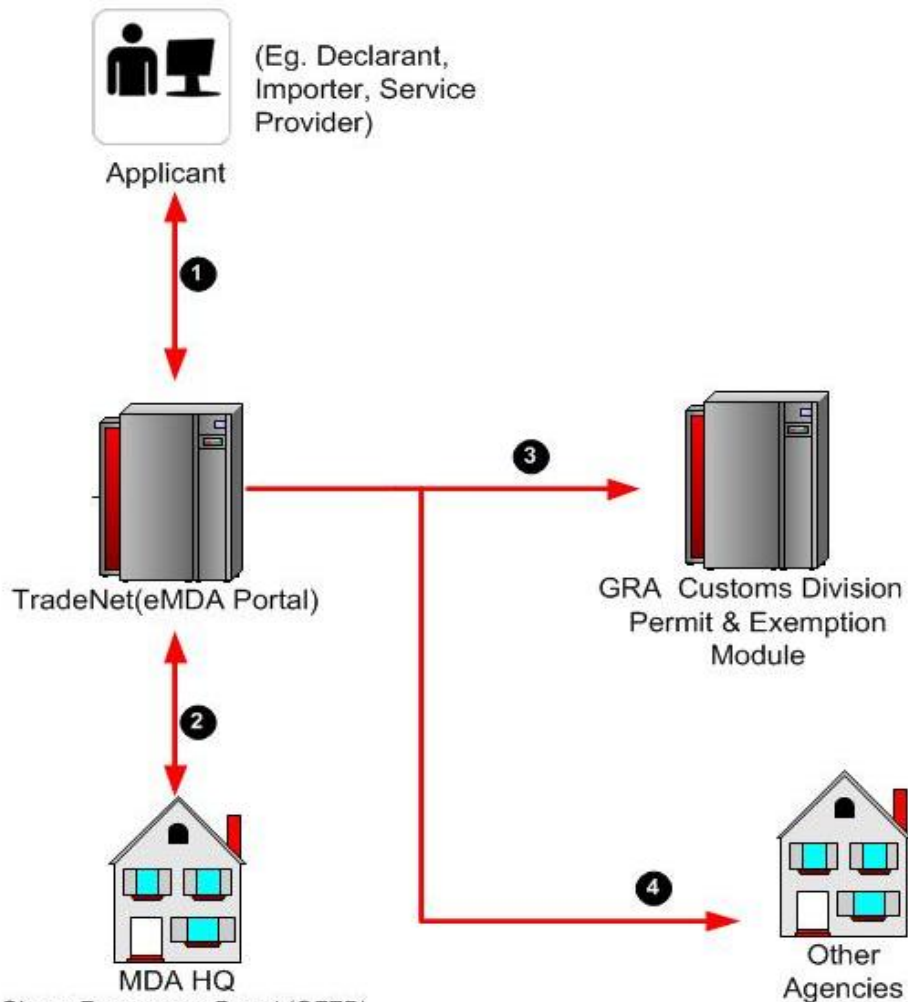
Unique Consignment Reference (UCR)

- KGHCEPSUCRyynnnnnnnnn, Where:

K	Indicates issuer is National Issuing Agency
GH	Indicates Ghana
CEPS	Indicates issuance for Customs own purposes
UCR	Indicates purpose is UCR
yy	Indicates year of issuance
nnnnnnnn	Is a sequential number

Once issued the UCR will be referenced in all other trade related documentation:

- Suppliers Order - Delayed
- Invoice - Delayed
- Import Declaration form (IDF) - completed
- Valuation Report (FCVR) - completed
- AWB / BL – completed
- Customs Declaration - completed
- All electronic Permits and Exemptions - completed
- Means to transport edocs to stakeholders

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Pre- Clearance Stages – Permits & Exemptions

(Eg. Declarant, Importer, Service Provider)

Applicant

TradeNet(eMDA Portal)

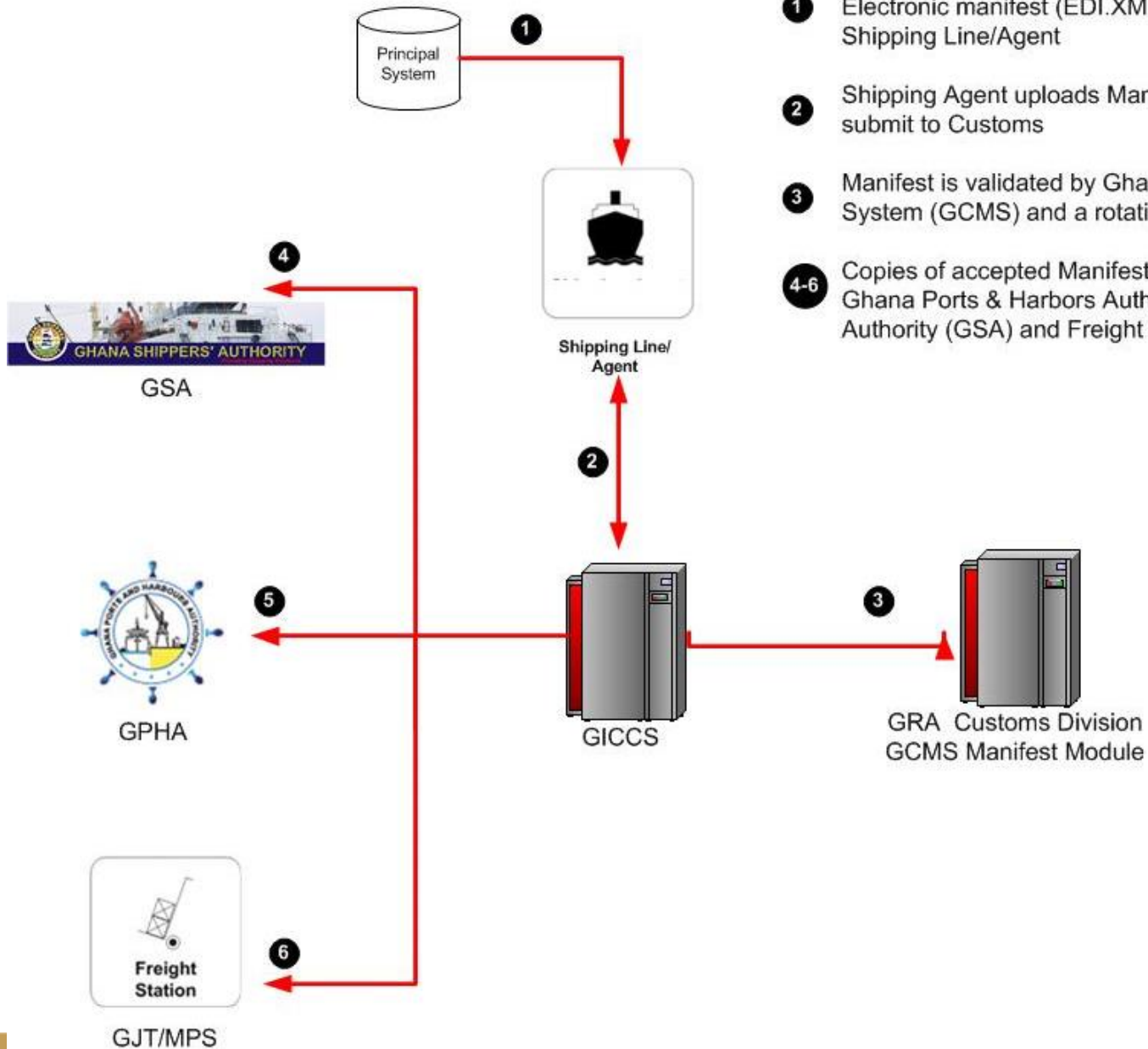GRA Customs Division Permit & Exemption Module

MDA HQ

Other Agencies

1..Ghana Freeezones Board (GFZB)
2. Ghana Investment Promotion Council (GIPC)
3. Minerals Commission
4. Ghana Standards Board (GSB)
5. Food and Drugs Board (FDB)
6. Environmental Protection Council (EPA)
7. Ministry of Trade (MOTI)

1 Declarant / Importer submits an electronic permit/ exemption

2 MDA approves rquest

3-4 Electronic copies are sent to GCMS Permit & Exemption module and other Agencies

Pre- Clearance Stages – Valuation Reports

Declarant/ Importer

Attached Documents

Hard Copy FCVR

DIC

Submission of e-FCVR and receipt of validation response

- BIVAC
- Inspection Control Service (ICS)
- Ghana Link
- Gateway Services Limited (GSL)
- Web Fontaine

Parties Involved:
- Ghana Revenue Authority (Customs Division)
- Destination Inspection Companies (DICs)

TradeNet(eMDA Portal)

e-FCVR forwarded to CEPS

Validation reponses returned to DIC

GCMS e-FCVR Module

Pre- Clearance Stages – Cargo Manifest

① Electronic manifest (EDI.XML, ASCII) is received by Shipping Line/Agent

② Shipping Agent uploads Manifest into GCNet Web app and submit to Customs

③ Manifest is validated by Ghana Customs Management System (GCMS) and a rotation number is issued.

④-⑥ Copies of accepted Manifest (XML) are sent electronically to Ghana Ports & Harbors Authority (GPHA), Ghana Shippers Authority (GSA) and Freight Stations.

Clearance Stages - Declaration

Declaration Processing by Customs

1. Declarant submits an electronic Customs Declaration
2. Declaration is validated by GCMS
3. Bank confirm payment of Duties and taxes
4-6. Declaration is sent for Customs Compliance, Examination and Released
7-10. Electronic message is sent to appropriate agencies from TradeNet
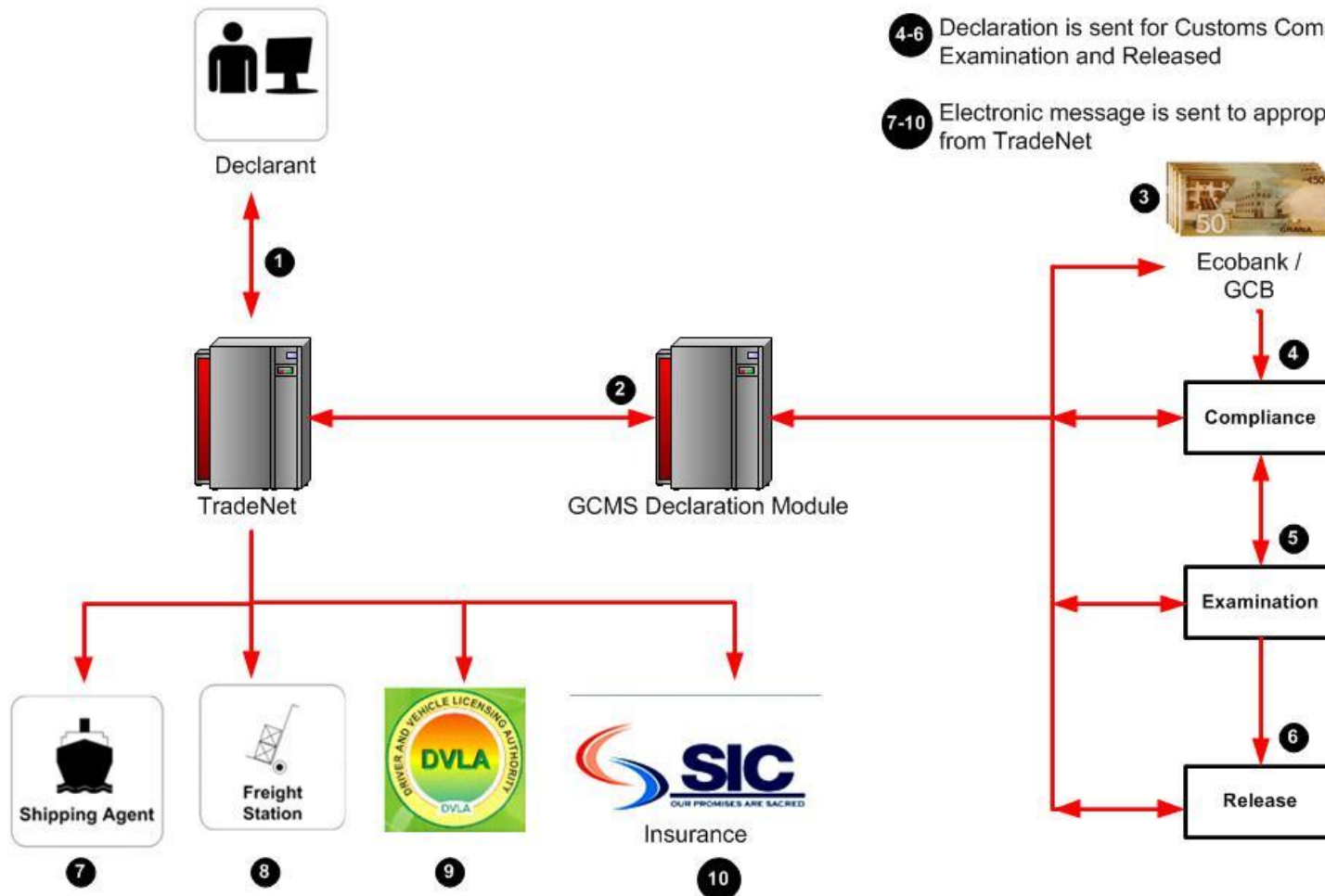
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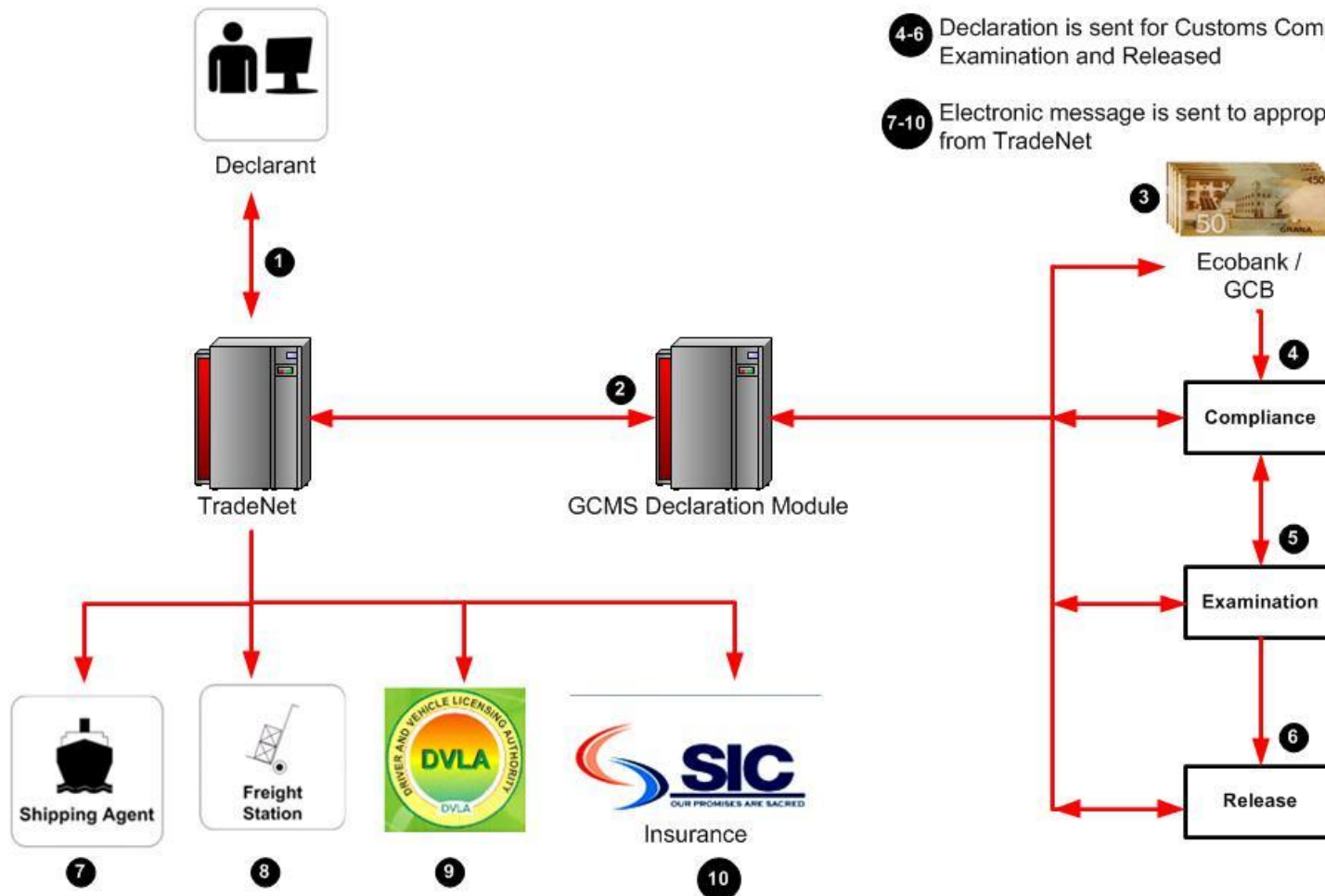
Logistics: Cargo Tracking

Logistics: Electronic Delivery Order

1-2 Customs Compliance routes Declaration for Examination

3-5 Examination results are sent to Terminal Operators, Declarant and Shipping Line

6 Shipping Line send an electronic DO to Terminal Operator authorizing the release of cargo

Compliance

Terminal

1

GCMS

GICCS

3

4 Declarant

2

6

Examination

5 Shipping Line/ Agent
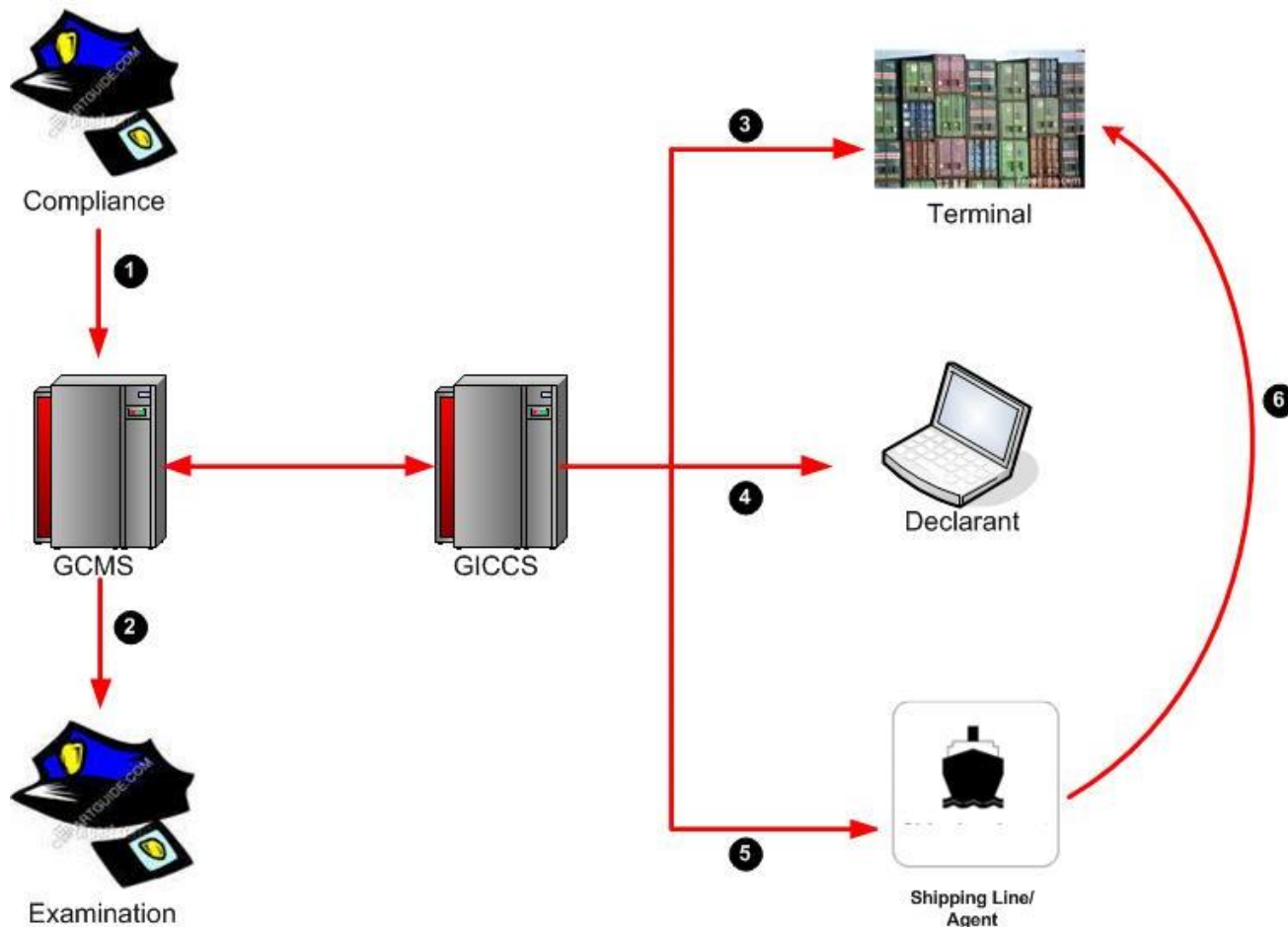
Business Intelligence
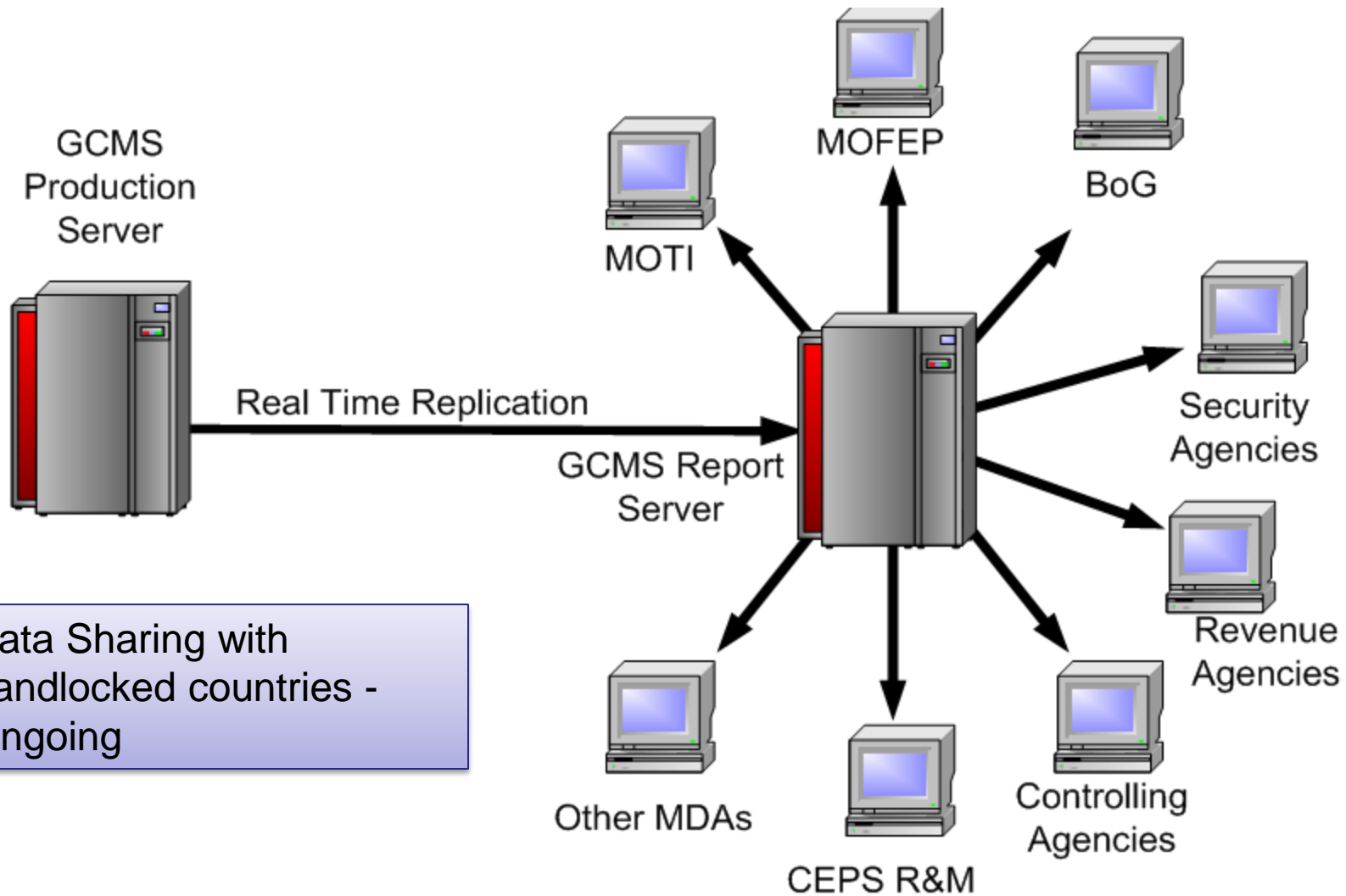
Data Sharing with Landlocked countries - Ongoing

Transit Service

National Policy and Regional Trade Facilitation

- Promoting and encouraging container traffic end-to-end

- Creating incentives to improve compliant transiteurs

- Reducing number of check-points and eliminating the Escort system thus reducing cost to Customs

- Implement Transit and Cargo Monitoring / Tracking system that is capable of providing reasonable assurances / guarantees to importers, customs, police, internal security.

- On going interconnectivity project initiation between Ghana & Burkina Fasso Customs Administrations.

Tracking Solution: Platform Capabilities

- Features include
  - Vehicle tracking capabilities
  - Cargo Tracking
- Data sharing
- Cargo Tracking

  - Geofence at start and end points

  - defined Corridors (routes with co-ordinates)

  - Every trip needs start and end points to be clearly defined.

- Standard Alerts
  - Activation/ Deactivation alert
  - Depart alert
  - Tamper alert
  - Corridor (route) deviation alert
  - Check Point alert
  - Arrival Alert
- Trip History
  - Stored on active server for up to 6 months
  - Archived for 7 years
  - Each trip can be played back showing movement and all alerts

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Transit Tracking & Monitoring

Lessons Learned

- Intense Stakeholder involvement
- Phased deployment
- Sustainable model
- Strong government support
- Absolute conviction from key partners that the project could work

Challenges: Change Management

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Thank you!

Any Questions?