IATA – Cargo and Mail Supply Chain Security Forum

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Securing air traffic… IATA informs its members

With all of the new security regulations that the air industry must comply to, IATA organized its first conference on air cargo and mail supply chain security. Conex was present at this first event on the round table entitled "Role of IT solution providers to support countries' requirements".

A good deal of the presentations concerned physical security: 100% screening of cargo on passenger flights, identification of the level of security of departure airports, attribution of a security manager within companies… but it was also largely question of pre-arrival security declaration such as the Import Control System (ICS) in the European Union (EU).

Concerning ICS, the presentations emphasized that, for the EU Commission, the quality of the information declared must be improved – especially concerning the merchandise and the economic operators. Several speakers dressed wish-lists of how they would like ICS to evolve in the future: a dual-filing system like in the US, a customs-to-customs direct communication of security-related information, a single message and data-set internationally… but the EU general customs body, TAXUD was very clear on the subject: there will only be minimal changes in the actual system.

IATA also invited service providers to respond to airlines' questions. **LANCE THOMPSON of CONEX** explained the actions that Conex takes with the EU Commission and especially with each Member-State of the EU: **"Personal rapports based on a reliable service have proven to be the most effective solution for an efficient regulatory monitoring, for a rapid implementation of each Member-State's specifications and for trying to help Member-States evolve towards more user-friendly systems."**