

# Testing Inspection Certification (TIC) Sector

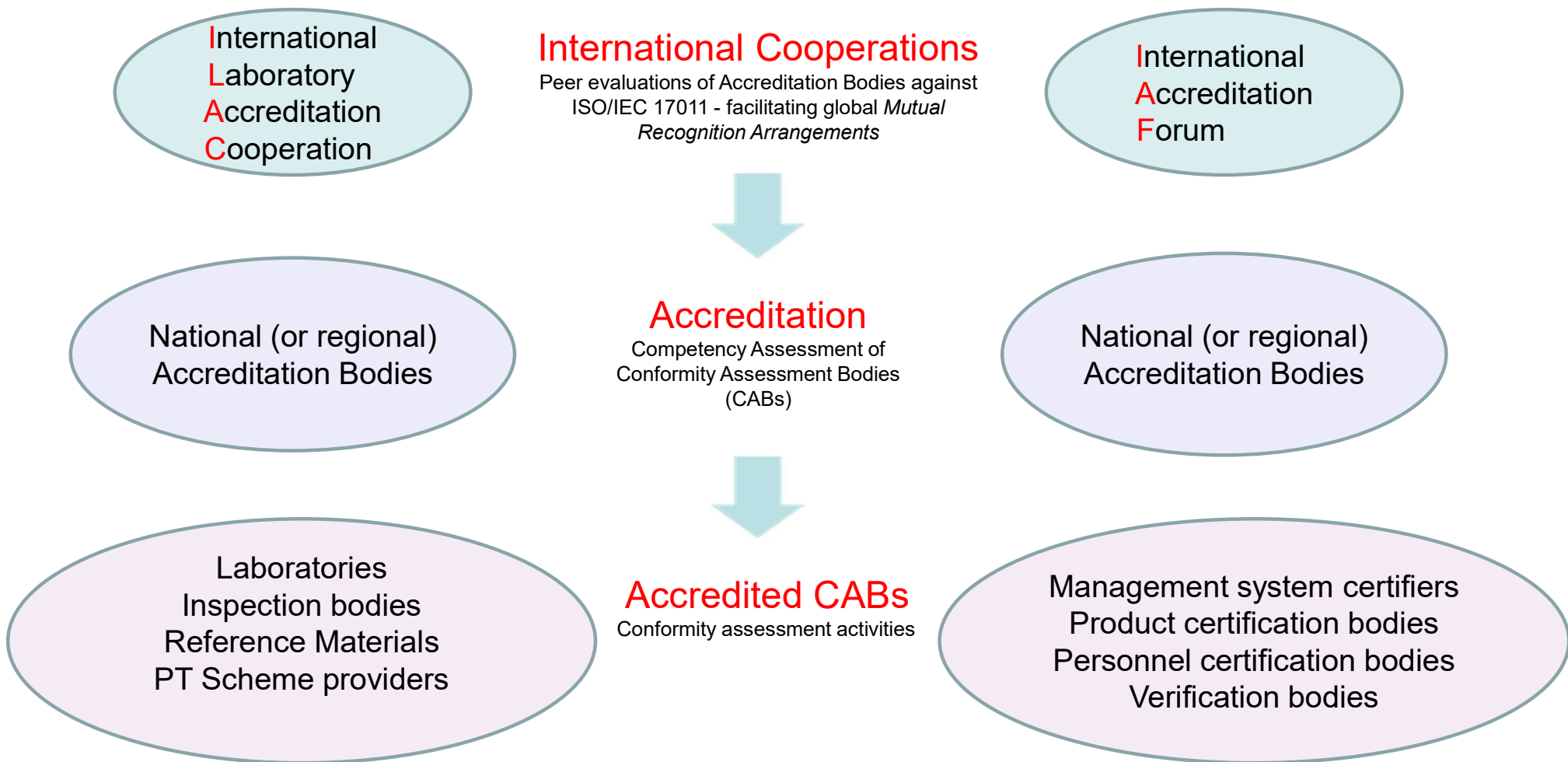
For the products we consume and interact with, TIC provides the basis for assuring:

- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Quality
- ✓ Environmental impact
- ✓ Social impact

The sector is fundamental to global trade:

- Global accreditation arrangements ensure cross-border recognition
- Involves a global network of approximately 1M employees\*
- Operating under a well-established framework of ISO standards

\*Source <https://www.tic-council.org/about-us/what-is-the-tic-sector>

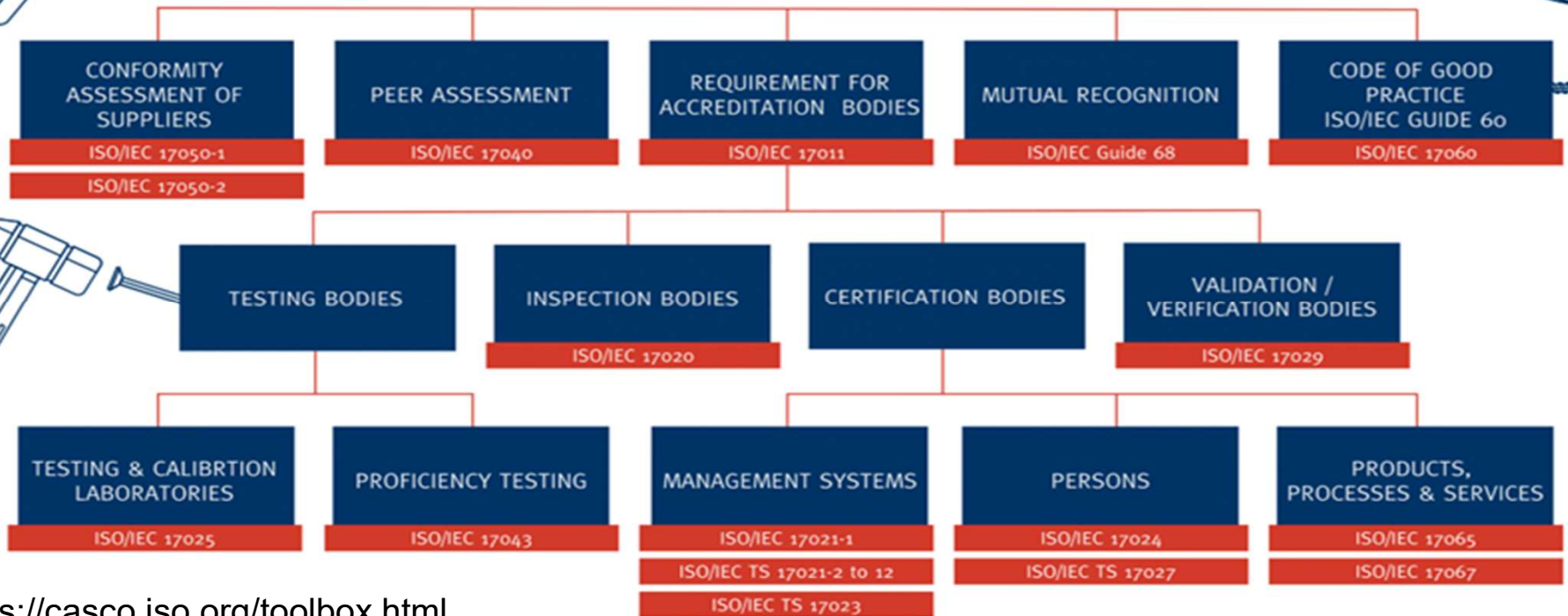
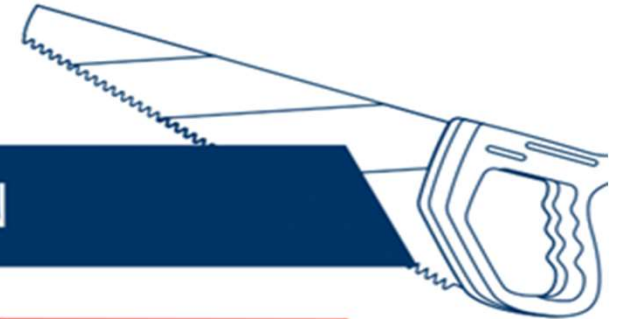


ISO CASCO

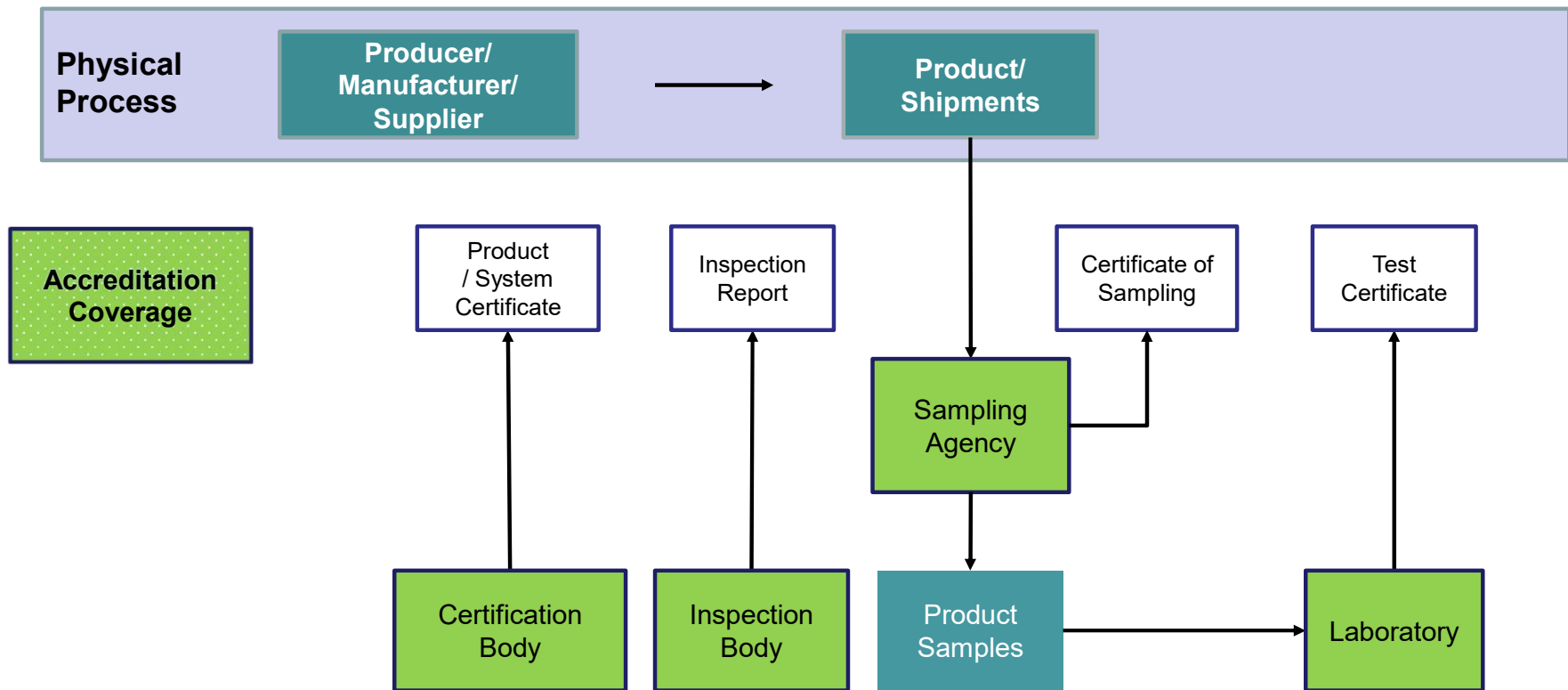
# TOOLBOX

## TERMS AND DEFINITION

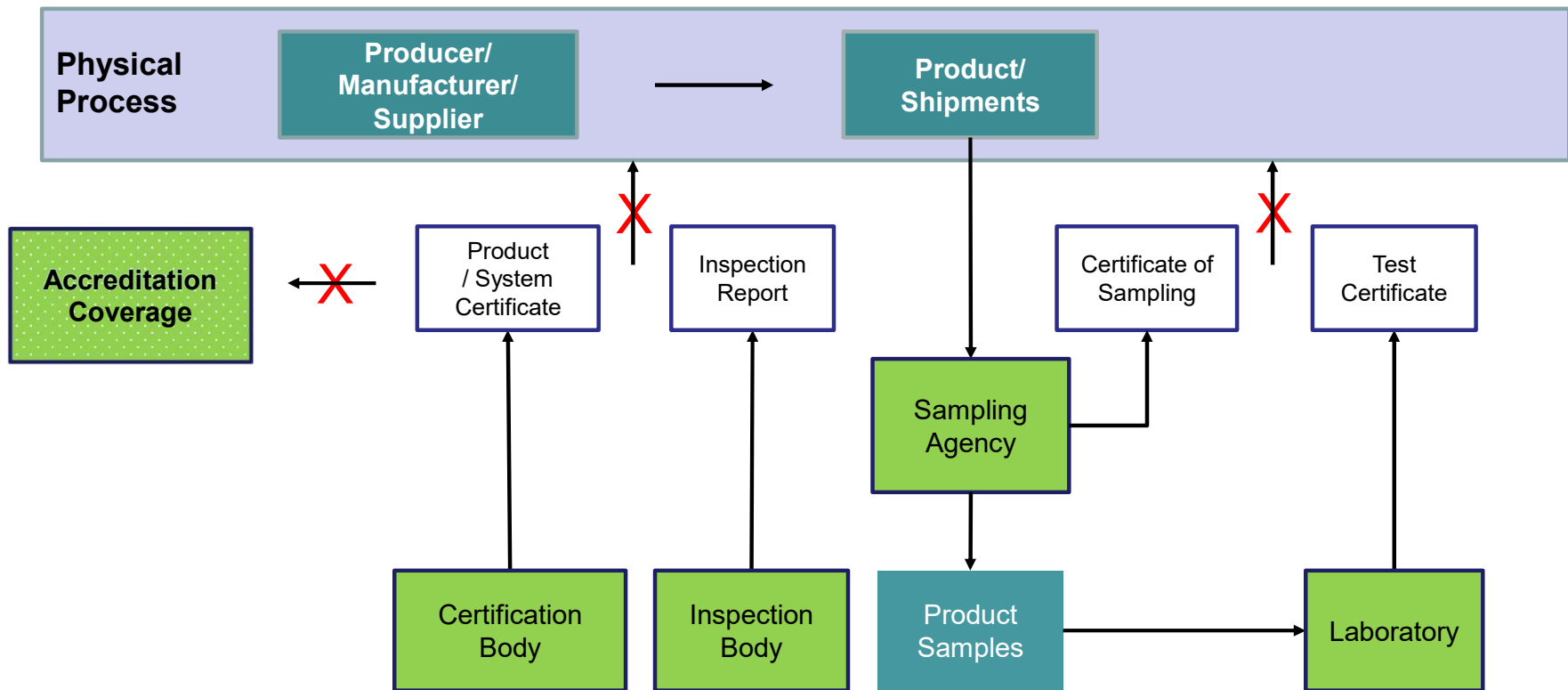
### ISO/IEC 17000



<https://casco.iso.org/toolbox.html>



**Common product conformity assessment processes**



**Lack of digital connectivity!**

# Markets are finding digital solutions...but

***In the absence of a guiding framework  
\$\$\$ incentives are driving changes***

- Explosion of company-based certificate validation processes
- Industries locked into non-interoperable data exchange systems
- Non-standardised 'Smart Labels' for product data acquisition
- Subscription-only access to conformity data
- Risk of scheme promotions based on commercial affiliations
- Specific consumer apps applying to individual product categories
- Apps restricted to validating only certain types of certifications



## Invitation to Comment



### Invitation to comment on a globally significant initiative for Supply Chain Traceability

The original concept for this work was developed by a collaboration among not-for-profit organisations based in Australia and has been described in a Public Report released in February 2022.

An international version of the report is now being prepared, and you are invited to provide feedback. This work has global implications, so perspectives are being sought from **international trade facilitation agencies** and other **global infrastructure bodies**.

#### Supply chains need reliable data

A reliable accreditation infrastructure exists in most parts of the world for the testing, inspection and certification of goods and services. However, the extent to which this infrastructure is used by supply chains is highly variable.

Any product assurance system will break if conformity decisions are based on unreliable data, or data for which no clear link to the product or service can be established.

#### The missing link

A lack of a systematic linkage between physical shipments of products and well-credentialled conformity data represents a broken or 'missing link' in global supply chains. There are well-established global standards for tracking of goods moving through global supply chains, so it seems logical to apply this existing architecture to the associated conformity assessment data.

A truly transformational system would provide this link in a manner compatible with existing global data standards. Ideally, this would extend to tracking the testing, inspection and certification 'events' that occur as individual shipments are assessed in accordance with specific requirements of individual buyers or regulatory jurisdictions.

#### Invitation for comment

Any feedback that you, or your organisation, may be able to offer regarding the attached draft report is valuable. The report is supplied in Word format should you wish to indicate any specific changes.

*We are not seeking any type of endorsement for this work.*

Please provide any feedback or suggestions to [supplychain@nata.com.au](mailto:supplychain@nata.com.au)

It is understood that not every organisation will be able to provide a formal response within the comment period. Nonetheless, we are pleased to make your organisation aware of this initiative and hope there may be future opportunities for engagement once the international version of the report is officially launched.

In April 2022 a draft report proposed to use globally unique identifiers to standardise the exchange of product conformance information

#### Acknowledgements

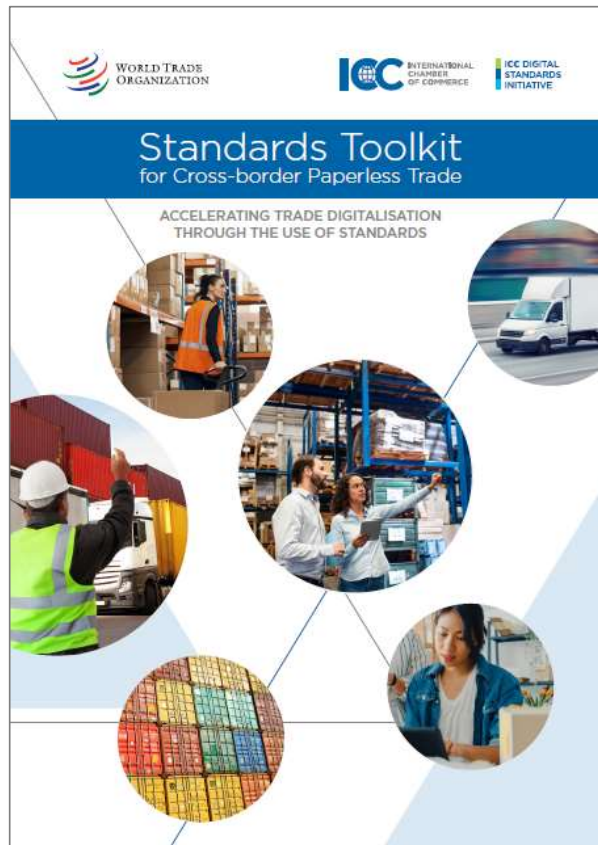


**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources**

This project is supported by the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources through the Support for Industry Service Organisations program.

April 2022

## WTO/ICC Standards Toolkit for Cross-border Paperless Trade - March 2022



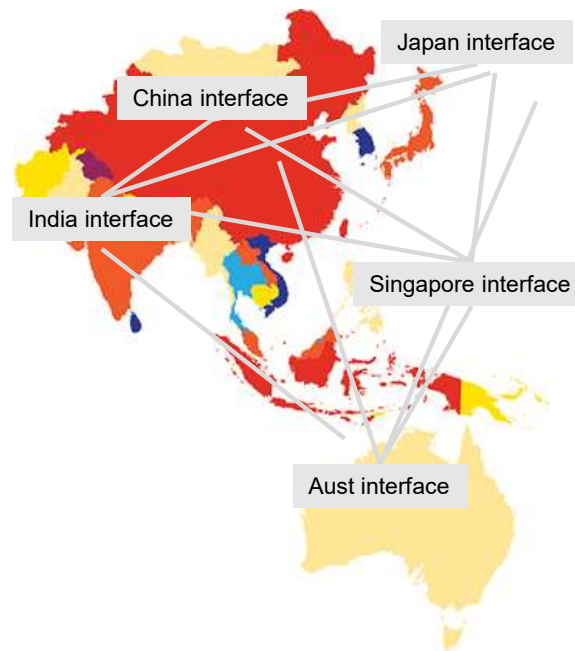
Fundamental identifier standards include:

- Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) - ISO/IEC 15459-6
- Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC) - ISO/IEC 15459-1
- Global Shipment Identification Number (GSIN)  
- ISO/IEC 15459-6
- Global Identification Number of Consignment (GINC)  
- ISO/IEC 15418
- Global Document Type Identifier (GDTI) - ISO/IEC 15418



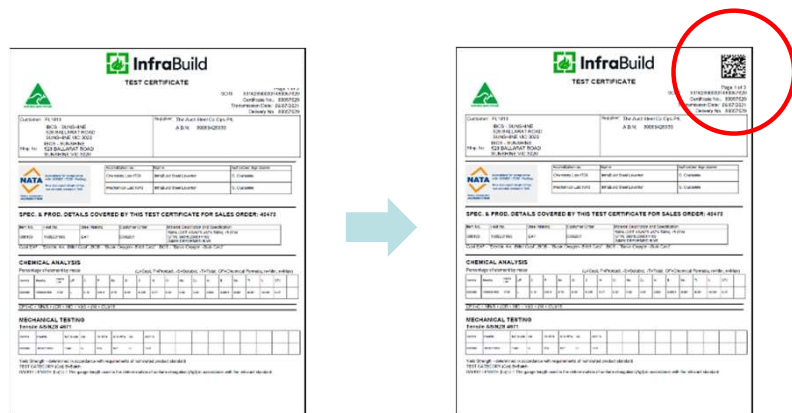
# Global scalability and interoperability

- Certificates issued in one country can be accepted by others (signatories to mutual recognition agreements)
- Commonly recognised ISO standards provide consistency
- Standardised semantics allows harmonisation

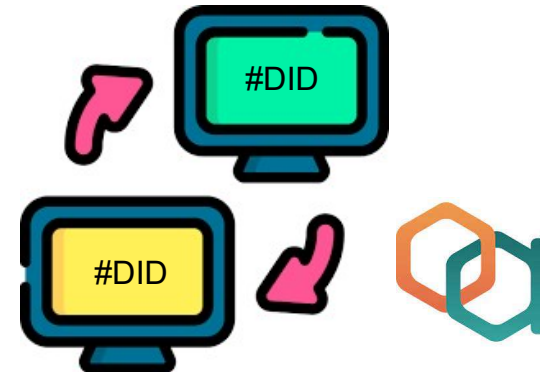
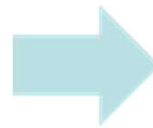


- Individual economies will want to maintain their own data
- URL structure enables a network of connected resolvers
- Overseas trading partners can access an interface in the same way as a local user to interrogate the system

# Respecting differences in maturity with digital adoption



**Stage 1 - A better way to manage paper and PDF**



**Stage 2 - Paperless credentials exchange**

## Some challenges for this CEFACT project

For the **TIC Sector** we must outline a future trajectory **that avoids**

- Certificate users requiring different methods to substantiate each product claim **X**
- SMEs getting left behind in digital certificate exchange for traded goods **X**
- Benefits of accreditation to society being diminished due to lack of transparency **X**

**But is this only about the TIC sector?**

### Qs

1. What other work outside the TIC sector is going on that might be relevant **?**
2. Are there other sectors where SMEs are involved in transferrable document exchange **?**
3. Can we successfully concentrate on *approach not technology* **?**
4. How should we set the boundaries for this project **?**