eIDAS & eInvoicing: Standards for SMEs digitalization

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Problem statement

A Romanian SME wants to do business electronically with an Italian counterpart:

• What about the respective requirements for electronic trust services like e-signatures, e-seals, e-documents, time stamps, e-delivery?
• Are cross-border services technically feasible?
• Will they be legally recognised?

Before eIDAS

Today, with eIDAS
Before eIDAS

eSignature directive: 1999/93/EC

• Technical neutrality, no discrimination between electronic and paper documents

• Different national implementations:
  – No real common policy -> no single market
  – No way for a rationalized framework of standards
  – No common “machine processable” trust framework
  – Limited scope to fully capture the potential of “going digital”
The eIDAS ambition

- To strengthen EU Single Market by boosting **TRUST** and **CONVENIENCE** in cross-border and cross-sector electronic **TRANSACTIONS**
- An EU Regulation is directly applicable in all EU – no different implementations like was the case with the former Signature Directive
- Legal text is **technologically neutral** but secondary legislation (implementing acts published by the Commission) mostly has to reference standards
The eIDAS scope

• Mutual recognition of electronic identification
• Electronic trust services:
  – Electronic signatures
  – Electronic seals
  – Cross-border e-signature & e-seal validation and preservation, Time stamping, Electronic delivery, Electronic document admissibility, Web site authentication
The eInvoice Standard

• Before Directive 2014/55/EU
  – No common model to guarantee legal compliance
  – Many different formats, often national
  -> **No interoperability, no single market!**

• Solution
  – Common semantic data model for core elements of an eInvoice as an European Standard (EN)
  – Short list of standard syntaxes & their binding to the model, mandatory for public authorities
Interoperability model

Any other element on a bilateral agreement basis

Same sector

Different sector

Domestic and Cross border Invoicing
Benefits for SMEs?

• More standard based solutions are or will be available
  – less cost, less burdens to reap the benefits of going digital
  – Benefit from EU Digital Single Market

• Enable SMEs to offer new services in the EU DSM
  – Trust Services
  – Full eInvoicing & procurement process digitalization
Thank you!