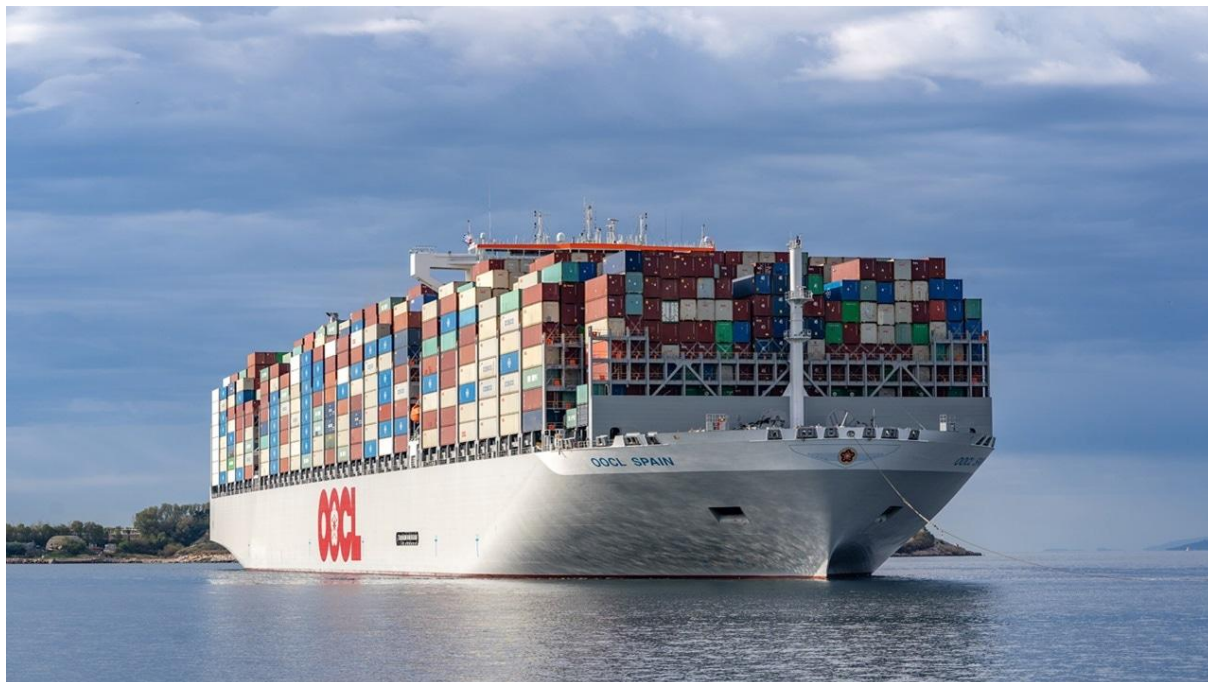# OOCL performs cross-platform eBL transaction

ICE Digital Trade and IQAX launch their interoperable eBL solution, with GSBN which they believe will boost liner adoption.

Katherine Si, China Correspondent

March 19, 2025

Credit: OOCL

The first transaction was initiated by OOCL as carrier on IQAX eBL, issuing to a major oil and gas company on ICE CargoDocs, who subsequently transferred to its customer for surrendering back to OOCL.

Adoption of eBL's by shipping lines has been an uphill task. The solution, the first of its kind, breaks down a key barrier towards widespread electronic Bill of Lading (eBL) adoption in containerised flows.

The ability to exchange eBLs across platforms in a secure and legally robust manner marks a significant milestone for the industry and removes a major barrier to adoption of eBLs in the container market. The strong collaboration between IQAX and ICE Digital Trade and the support of GSBN in ensuring the critical security layer has demonstrated that the industry is working together to achieve the goals set by Container Carriers, namely to achieve 100% eBL adoption by 2030.

"Participating in the interoperability of the eBL solution aligns with our commitment to innovation and excellence. This initiative enables us to improve our services to customers while contributing to a more efficient and secure global trade ecosystem," said Karen Lam, Managing Director (Asia, South East Asia and Bangladesh Group), OOCL.

Bertrand Chen, CEO, GSBN, said: "Achieving eBL interoperability is the missing link to achieving widespread eBL adoption. This go-live demonstrates that GSBN's blockchain-enabled infrastructure can address the legal and liability challenges head-on, ultimately enhancing the customer's experience by enabling them to realise the vast benefits of eBL while remaining in their preferred

solutions. We have also demonstrated the value of GSBN ecosystem by combining this interoperable eBL with our Cargo Release product in Shanghai."

Listen to a recent episode of the Seatrade Maritime Podcast with Bertrand Chen from GSBN

Marina Comninos, Co-Head, ICE Digital Trade, said: "Interoperability is essential for scalable eBL adoption in liner, and collaboration is key to achieving this goal. The launch of our Interoperable eBL Solution marks just the beginning of the journey. The aim will always be to deliver interoperable solutions which are legally sound, technically resilient and have a robust and transparent governance structure. "

"IQAX believes that interoperability is vital for advancing global trade digitalisation. This first interoperable eBL transaction is a significant step toward creating an interconnected digital trade network. By championing eBL interoperability, we reduce risks and costs while fostering a more inclusive and efficient global trade ecosystem where multiple platforms can collaborate seamlessly. Our vision is to establish a trusted network that empowers all stakeholders in the digital trade transformation." said Lionel Louie, COO of IQAX.

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