ELECTRONIC FREIGHT SITES

UBER FREIGHT NOW in EUROPE!

(02/08/2019)

We refer to our mailing dated 26/03/2019.

UBER FREIGHT started recently with their activities in HOLLAND (and will now also start in GERMANY) so they gave an interview in the Dutch Press *(1)*

UBER FREIGHT apparently work on a different basis compared to existing electronic freight exchange platforms:

- At UBER FREIGHT they determine the transport price (not the shipper nor the carrier)

    o The transport federation TLN already expressed their concern it might lead to lower transport rates (a bit like in the "taxi" business…)

- In contradiction to the freight exchange platforms who claim to be solely a "platform" (with no involvement in the transport contract) *(2)* UBER FREIGHT want to be part of the transport contract and qualify themselves as "Expediteur"/ "Spediteur"/ "Forwarding agent".
  This clearly might result in legal consequences:

    o We suppose UBER FREIGHT have obtained the necessary licenses (imposed in most EU countries) to act so;

    o I.r.o. liability a Forwarding Agent has a clear liability for the choice of a reliable contracting party (carrier); meaning that they would be liable for possible "fake carriers"…

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(1)   Nieuwsblad Transport 31.07.19
(2)   a legal position which was not upheld in some Court Decisions holding the freight platform entirely liable in a "fake carrier" scenario…

Wim Dekeyser
Lic Priv det: 14.191.05

Dimitri Dekeyser
14.1674.02

Frederik Dekeyser
14.1642/11

We have contacted UBER FREIGHT to obtain clarifications about some aspects (for inst. prevention against possible abuses of the system) but so far we only received a computerised reply *"Thank you for choosing UBER FREIGHT"*...we hope that in these times of computerised apps it still will be possible to come to a personal dialogue….

Kind regards   Wim Dekeyser.

02/08/2019