

# **EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**



## **ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR EAC RECTS INTEGRATION**

**Ver 1.0**

## **1: PURPOSE**

The purpose of these Administrative Guidelines is to provide a harmonized administrative framework for the integration, approval, and oversight of electronic cargo tracking solutions within the East African Community Regional Electronic Cargo Tracking System (EAC RECTS).

## **2: VENDOR APPROVAL & COMPLIANCE**

- Only vendors achieving 100% compliance with EAC RECTS technical and operational protocols may be approved by Partner States;
- Approval ensures accountability, cybersecurity, and uniform service standards across the region.

## **3: DIRECT BILLING MODEL**

- Vendors invoice transporters or clearing agents directly at agreed, regulated rates;
- This supports a sustainable user-pay model and reduces administrative overhead for Customs.

## **4: CENTRALIZED BOOKING & PAYMENT**

- All seal booking and payment processes occur exclusively through EAC RECTS;
- Electronic Tax Receipting and invoicing ensures transparency, auditability, and eliminates off-platform transactions.

## **5: DIRECT DATA REPORTING**

- Seals must transmit data directly to the EAC RECTS communication server;
- Third-party servers, parallel dashboards, or data intermediaries are strictly prohibited.

## **6: SECURE CONNECTIVITY REQUIREMENTS**

- SIM cards must be provided or approved by the platform vendor;
- Devices must communicate only with designated EAC secure IP addresses and DNS endpoints;
- This prevents data diversion, spoofing, or unauthorized interception.

## **7: UNIFIED SYSTEM MANAGEMENT**

- All electronic seals—including eFUEL seals—must be registered on the EAC RECTS platform;

- Registration guarantees traceability, authenticity, and uniformity of devices used across borders;
- Seals must interface directly with EAC RECTS servers;
- No parallel dashboards, shadow systems, or independent monitoring tools.
- Vendors are not allowed to maintain independent dashboards;
- All monitoring, control, and reporting must occur through the official RECTS interface.

## **8: LIABILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY**

- Vendors are jointly and severally liable for losses arising from seal failure, tampering, or collusion;
- This ensures operational discipline and protects customs revenue.

## **9: FINANCIAL ASSURANCE**

- Vendors must execute a performance bond to cover potential tax losses due to negligence or system failure;
- This bond acts as a financial safeguard for Partner States.

## **10: REGULATORY OVERSIGHT**

- Partner States reserve the right to intervene to ensure fairness, continuity, and compliance;
- Oversight includes audits, technical inspections, and enforcement actions.

## **11: PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

- Critical alerts transmitted within 2 seconds;
- GPS updates every 5 minutes;
- Minimum 60-day battery life under normal operating conditions.

## **12: SECURITY & ACCESS CONTROL**

- Only authorized Customs Officers may arm/disarm seals using RFID staff identification;
- Prevents unauthorized activation or tampering.

## **13: IDENTIFICATION & TRACEABILITY**

- Each seal must include QR/OCR identifiers for accurate, real-time data capture.

## **14: DURABILITY STANDARDS**

- Devices must be IP67-rated, robust, and weigh no more than 700g;
- Ensures reliability in harsh transport environments.

## **15: TAMPER & EXCEPTION ALERTS**

- 1) Seals must detect and report:
  - Physical tampering
  - Unauthorized access
  - Route deviations
  - Excessive idle time
  - Accidents
  - Unauthorized activation
- 2) Alerts must be real-time and automatically logged.

## **16: DATA CONTINUITY**

- Minimum 100,000 offline records stored locally;
- Auto-upload when connectivity is restored;
- Support for WiFi/Bluetooth fallback; Camera Integration
- Wireless IP HD cameras required for arming/disarming verification;
- Enhances auditability and reduces disputes.

## **17: EFUEL SEAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Monitor fuel volume, temperature, and density;
- Detect changes of 5% or more;
- Accuracy better than 2mm;
- Ensures integrity of fuel cargo and prevents siphoning or adulteration.