

# The Medicines Verification System in Finland

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# Agenda

## **11.00 Overview of the Medicines Verification System**

Maija Gohlke-Kokkonen, General Manager  
Finnish Medicines Verification Organisation/Suomen Lääkevarmennus Oy

## **11.50 Break**

## **12.00 Introduction from Arvato**

Olle Hamskär, Customer Manager Nordics, Arvato Systems

## **12.30 Building the Verification System in Finland**

- timelines
- taking part in the pilot

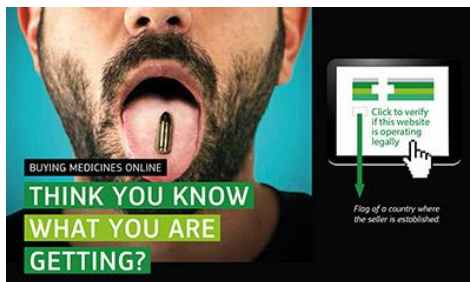
Tim Strässer  
Project Manager, Arvato Systems

## **13.00 Q&A session**

## **14.00 End of meeting**

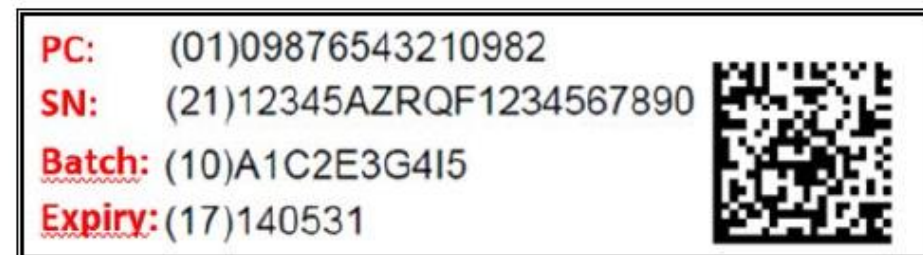
# Objective

- Protecting patients from falsified medicines in the legal supply chain
- Falsified Medicines Directive 2011/62/EU
  - Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/161
  - Commission Q&A document
    - [http://ec.europa.eu/health/human-use/falsified\\_medicines/index\\_en.htm#framework](http://ec.europa.eu/health/human-use/falsified_medicines/index_en.htm#framework)
- Falsifications are a global threat
  - Falsifications have also been found in the Finnish legal supply chain



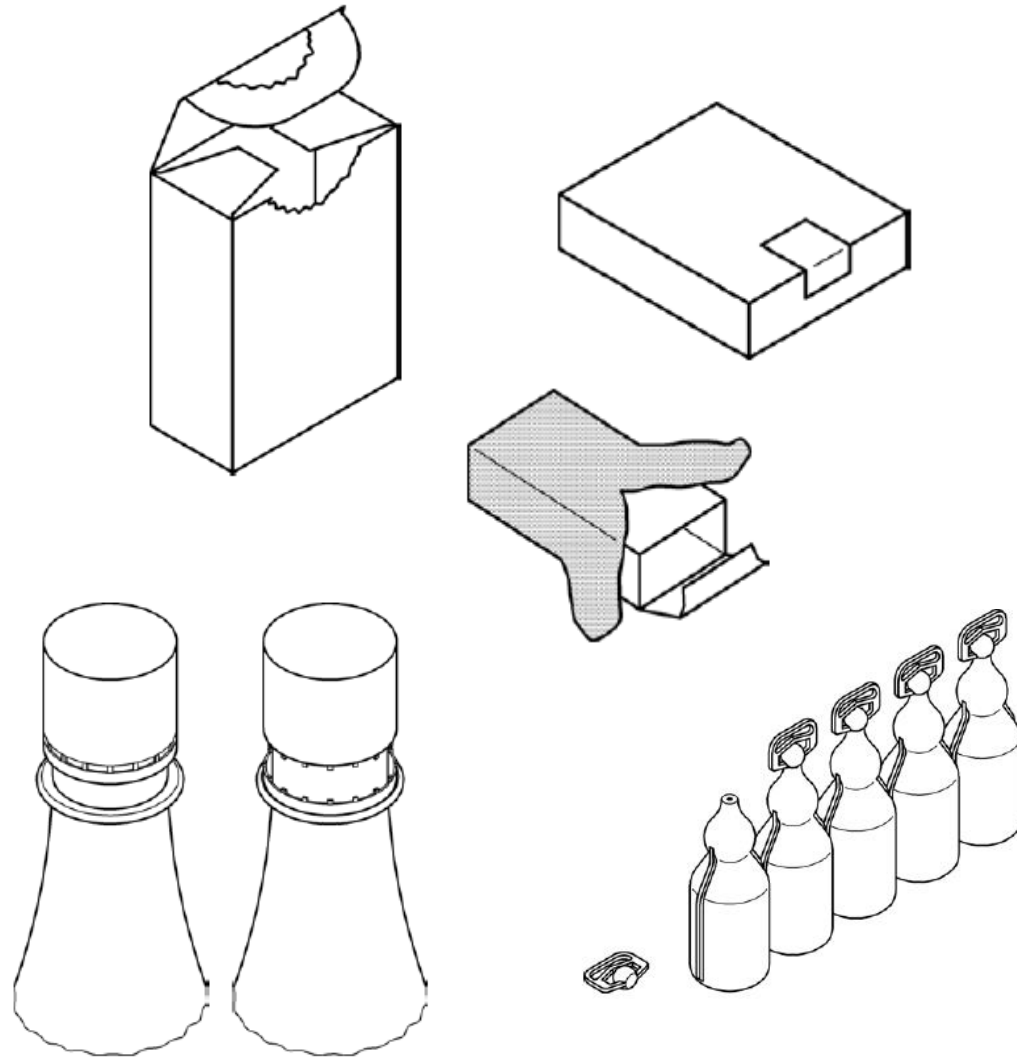
# Safety features

- Unique identifier on each pack
  - 2D carrier
    - Product code (GTIN)
    - Serial number
    - Batch number
    - Expiry date
    - (National reimbursement number)
- Tamper evidence on packages



# Anti-tampering devices

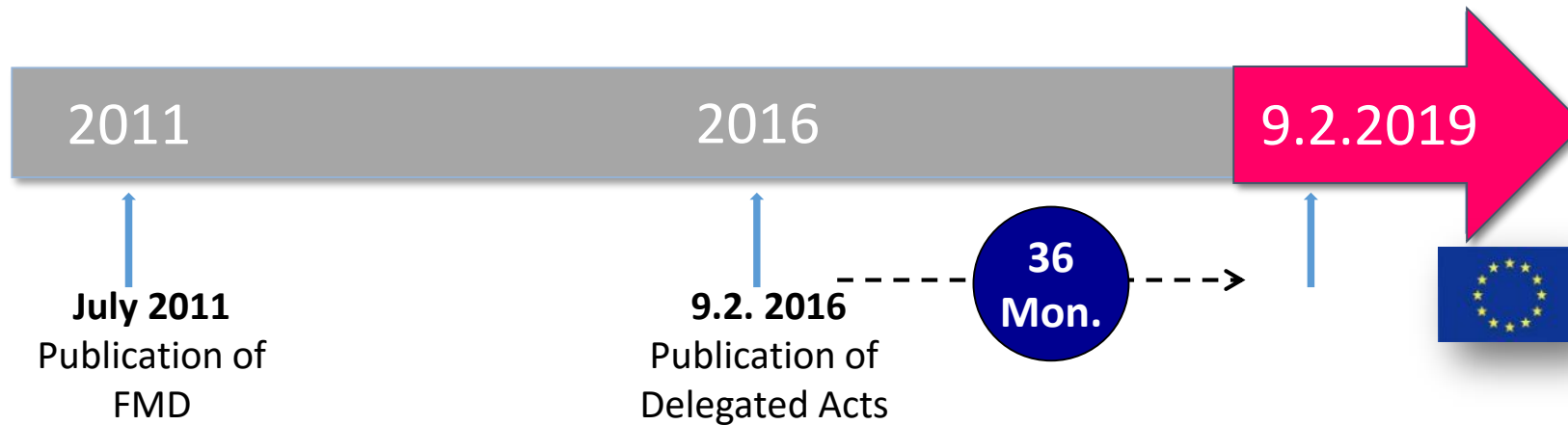
- To be decided by individual companies
- CEN standard prEN 16679  
Tamper verification features  
for medicinal product  
packaging



# Scope

- Applies to prescription medicines
  - Some exceptions (e.g. radionuclide generators, medicinal gases)
- Self-care medicines on a risk-based approach
  - At the moment only one active substance
    - 20 mg omeprazole capsules
- Applies to all parts of the supply chain

# Timeframe



Implementation time: packs released onto the market before 9.2.2019 do not need to have safety features

# Responsibilities

- Pharmaceutical industry responsible for
  - Placing the unique identifier on the package
    - With related responsibilities such as record keeping
  - Equivalent unique identifier must be placed in parallel trading
  - Setting up and financing the system
    - All stakeholders in supply chain involved!



# Responsibilities

- Wholesalers verify code on a risk based approach
  - returned products
  - products received from another wholesaler not commissioned by the MAH
- Wholesalers verify and de-commission
  - “(a) products which he intends to distribute outside of the Union;
  - (b) products which have been returned to him by persons authorised or entitled to supply medicinal products to the public or another wholesaler and cannot be returned to saleable stock;
  - (c) products which are intended for destruction;
  - (d) products which, while in his physical possession, are requested as a sample by competent authorities;
  - (e) products which he intends to distribute to the persons or institutions referred to in Article 23, where required by national legislation in accordance with the same Article”

# Responsibilities

- Article 23: Member states may require wholesalers to verify and decommission the code before the product is supplied to:
  - (a) persons authorised or entitled to supply medicinal products to the public who do not operate within a healthcare institution or within a pharmacy;
  - (b) veterinarians and retailers of veterinary medicinal products;
  - (c) dental practitioners;
  - (d) optometrists and opticians;
  - (e) paramedics and emergency medical practitioners;
  - (f) armed forces, police and other governmental institutions for the supply of medicinal products for the purposes of civil protection;
  - (g) universities and other higher education establishments for the supply of medicinal products for the purposes of research and education;
  - (h) healthcare institutions;
  - (i) prisons;
  - (j) schools;
  - (k) hospices;
  - (l) nursing homes.

Not in Finnish legislation yet BUT  
FiMVO opinion:

Only b) applies for Finnish wholesalers, all other  
entities buy their medicines from pharmacies or  
hospital pharmacies

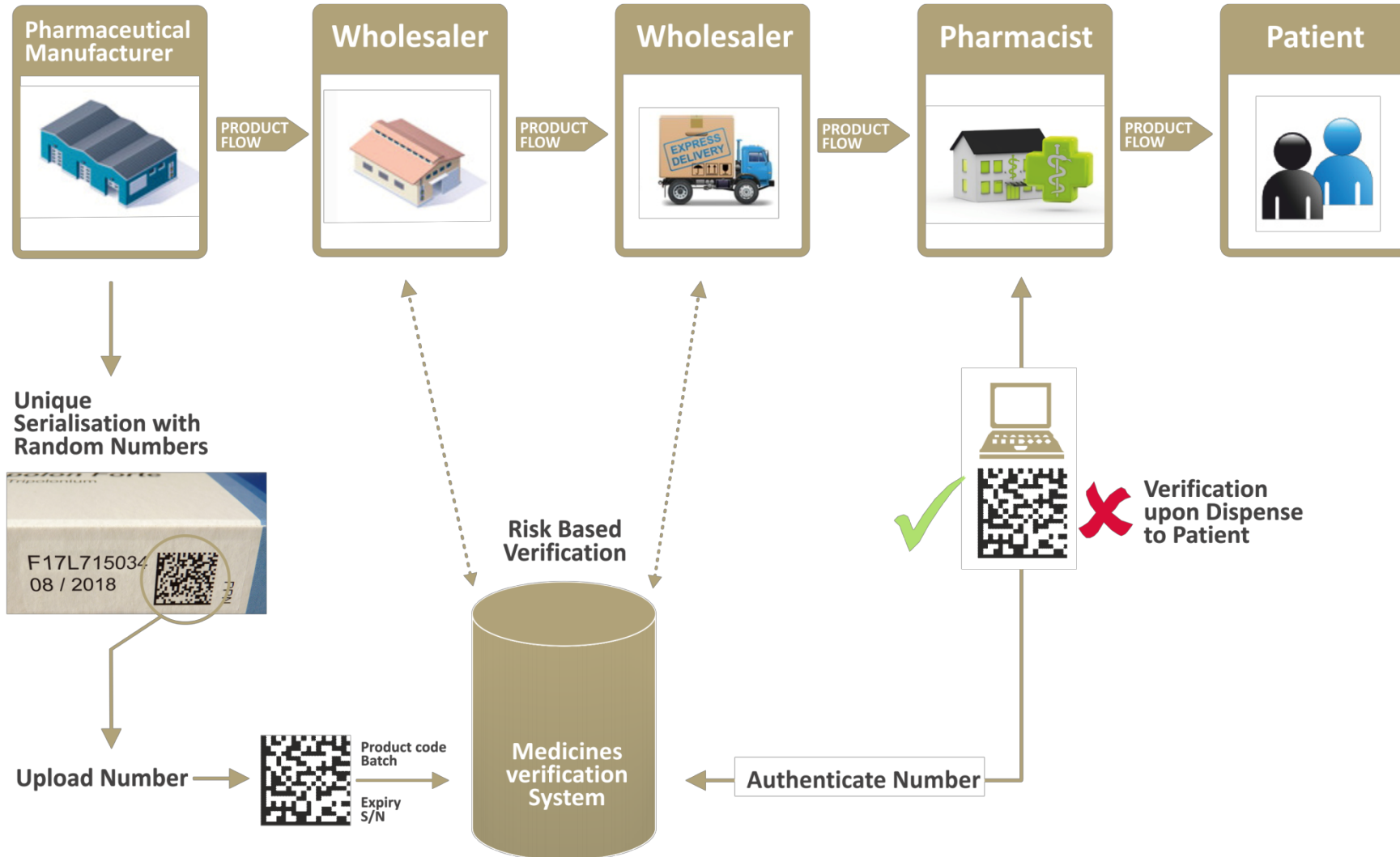
# Responsibilities

- Pharmacies decommission code when dispensing the medicine to the patient
  - Exceptions to hospital pharmacies – code may be decommissioned earlier (and in most cases will be)
  - Also tamper evidence must be checked
- Pharmacies also verify and decommission in certain cases:
  - “(a) medicinal products in their physical possession that cannot be returned to wholesalers or manufacturers;
  - (b) medicinal products that, while in their physical possession, are requested as samples by competent authorities, in accordance with national legislation;
  - (c) medicinal products which they supply for subsequent use as authorised investigational medicinal products or authorised auxiliary medicinal products as defined in Articles 2(2)(9) and (10) of Regulation (EU) No 536/2014.”
- Code can be entered back into the system within 10 days if product hasn't been removed from premises

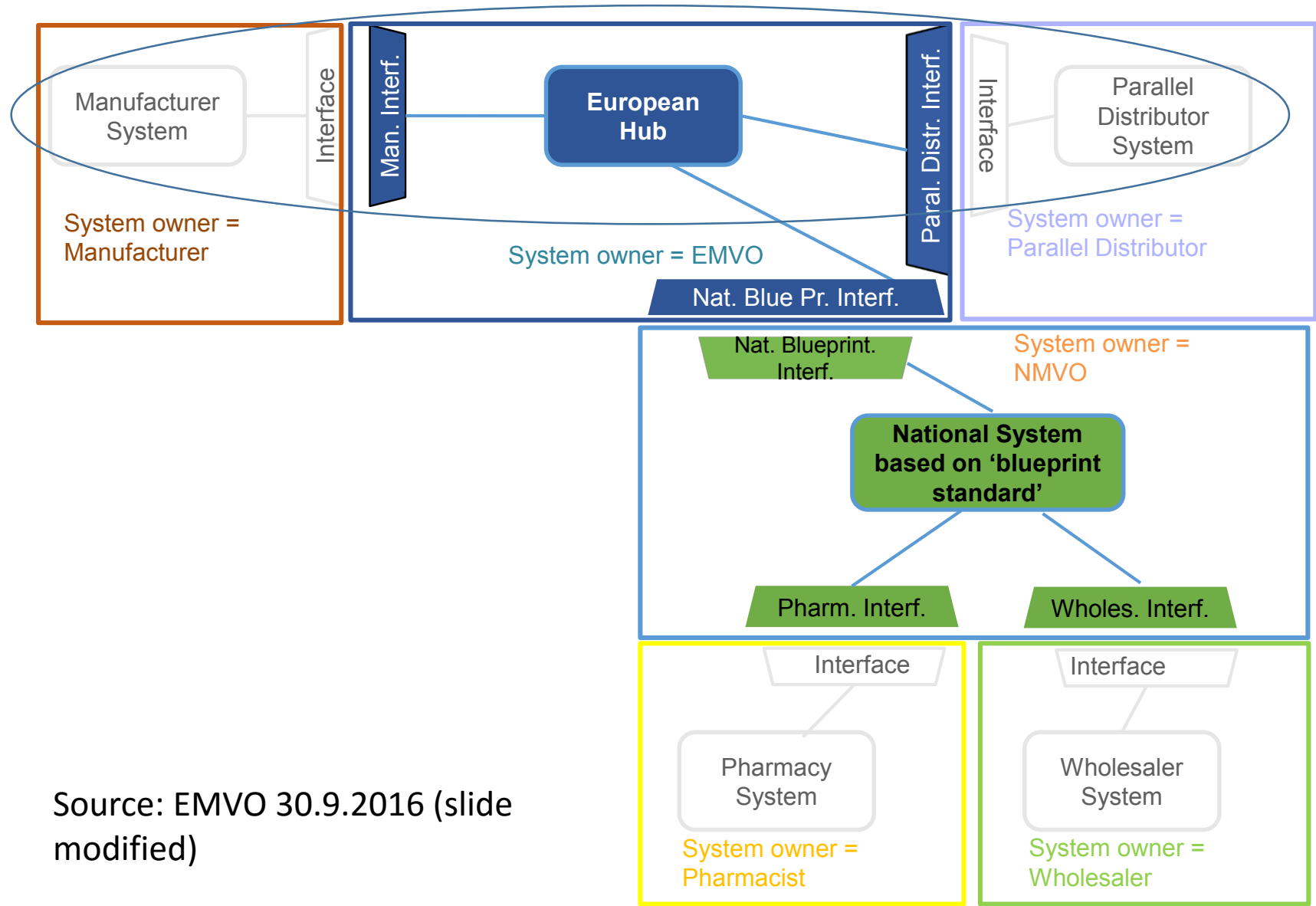
# Responsibilities

- National Competent Authorities
  - Make available information about products in scope
  - Supervise the repositories system
    - Participate in the board of the national organisation, if choose so
      - Finnish authorities will not use this option

# Point of dispense verification



# System Landscape



Source: EMVO 30.9.2016 (slide modified)

# Governance

## GENERAL PRINCIPLE

System management and governance by not-for-profit organisation under supervision of relevant competent authority

## EU LEVEL



## NATIONAL LEVEL

National Medicines Verification Organisations (NMVO)

In Finland: The Finnish Medicines Verification Organisation (Suomen Lääkevarmennus Oy)

# FIMVO

- Not-for profit limited company
- Shareholders (according to Rx market share):
  - Pharma Industry Finland (~74%)
  - Orion Corporation (~13 %)
  - Finnish Generic Pharmaceutical Association (~10%)
  - Suppliers of Parallel Imported Medicines of Finland (~3%)
  - The Association of Finnish Pharmacies (0,10%)
  - The Association of Pharmaceutical Distributors(0,1%)
- Also hospital pharmacies represented in the Steering Group of the project

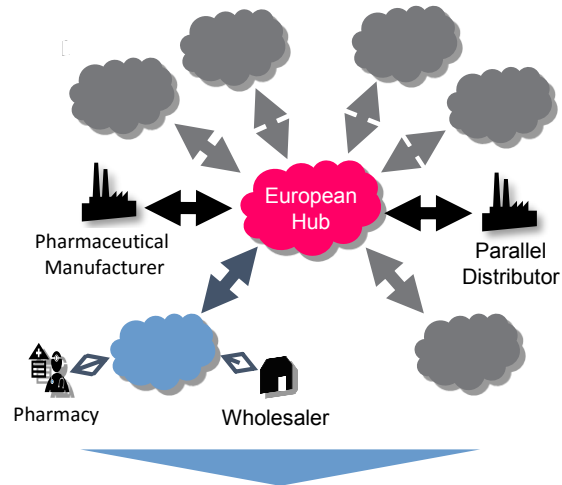


# FiMVO tasks

- Establish and manage national system
- Ensure interoperability with European Hub
- Conclude agreements with all national users
  - All pharmacies, hospital pharmacies and dispensaries
  - All wholesalers
  - All IT-providers mentioned above
- Analyse exceptional events at national level

# Who will pay?

Repository system  
(Hub & national systems)



Pharmaceutical Industry

Installations for  
pack coding



Pharmaceutical Industry

Installations for  
pack verification

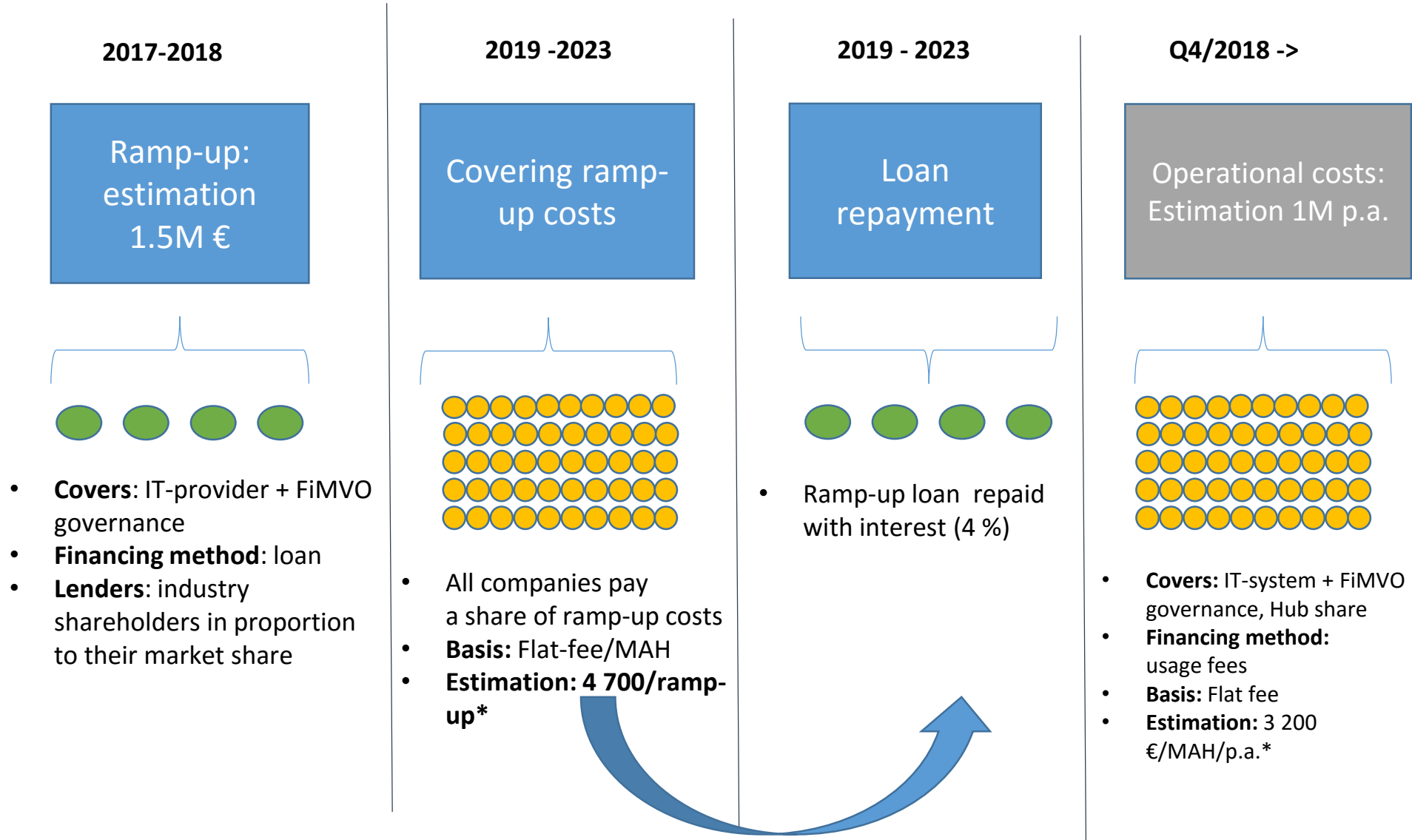


Pharmacists, wholesalers,  
...

# Financing the Verification System

- Ramp-up phase of the system 2017-2018
  - Initially financed through loans by the shareholders according to shares in FiMVO
  - Amount of ramp-up costs ( + 4% interest) will be charged to all users of the system during 5 years (2019-2023)
    - Loans will then be repaid to shareholders
    - Charge will be based on a flat fee for each marketing authorisation holder
- Operational phase costs covered by all users of the system (start end of 2018)
  - Costs will be divided as a flat fee per marketing authorisation holders

# Structure for financing the Verification System



- **Covers:** IT-provider + FiMVO governance
- **Financing method:** loan
- **Lenders:** industry shareholders in proportion to their market share

- All companies pay a share of ramp-up costs
- **Basis:** Flat-fee/MAH
- **Estimation:** 4 700/ramp-up\*

- Ramp-up loan repaid with interest (4 %)

- **Covers:** IT-system + FiMVO governance, Hub share
- **Financing method:** usage fees
- **Basis:** Flat fee
- **Estimation:** 3 200 €/MAH/p.a.\*

Please note: currently 320 MAH's on FI market. Number may change!

# What you need to do now

- Make sure that each package has a unique product code (GTIN)
- Ensure technical readiness to create a unique serial number according to the requirements of the Delegated Act
- Ensure that production lines are fully equipped to fulfill the requirements of legislation
- Get ready for the new legislation by renewing the lay-out of the packages when necessary
- Ensure that onboarding the Hub is started as soon as possible

# How to connect to the Hub

- <https://www.emvo-medicines.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/OBP-On-boarding-Guideline.pdf>
- <https://www.emvo-medicines.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/On-Boarding-Presentation.pdf>
- <https://www.emvo-medicines.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/OBP-Non-Disclosure-Agreement-SAMPLE.pdf>
- <https://www.emvo-medicines.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/OBP-Participation-Agreement-SAMPLE.pdf>

# Who connects to the Hub



## What is an “OBP”?

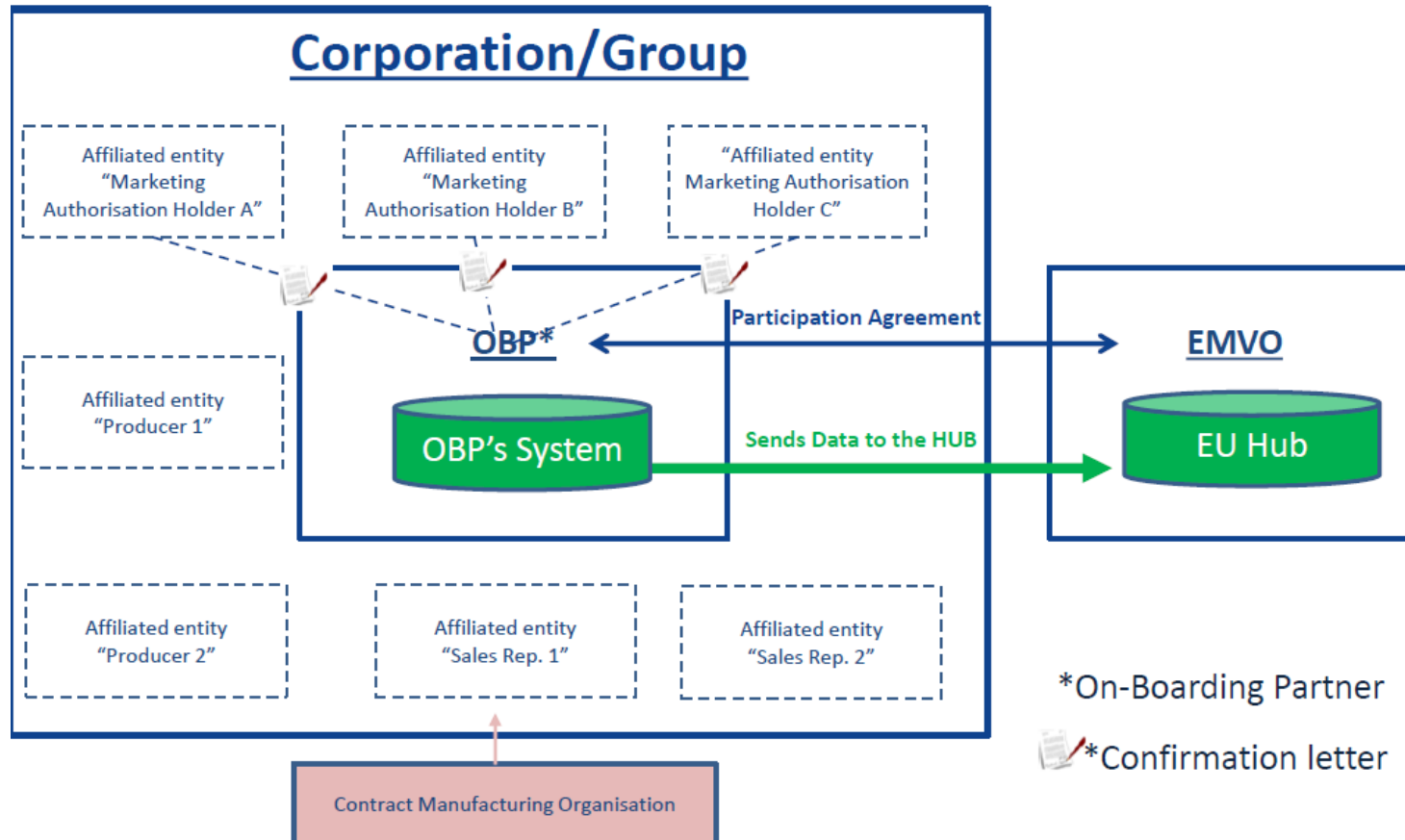
- OBP means On-Boarding Partner and is the contracting party of EMVO and concludes the non-disclosure agreement (NDA) and participation agreement (PA).
- The OBP is legally authorized to sign on behalf of a MAH/a group of MAHs.
- The OBP has to be affiliated (\*) to a MAH/a group of MAHs

(\*) Affiliate shall mean, in relation to a Party, any other person affiliated with such Party within the meaning of Article 11 of the Belgian Code of Companies (it being understood, for the avoidance of doubt, that the definition set out in said Article 11 is agreed to also apply to non-Belgian persons).

# Who connects to the Hub



## Relationship OBP\* and EMVO





# Connecting to the Hub - costs

## One-Time Fee per OBP

<b>OBPs with more than 12 MAHs in Europe</b>	20,000 €
<b>OBPs with 6 to 12 MAHs in Europe</b>	10,000 €
<b>OBPs with 3 to 5 MAHs in Europe</b>	8,000 €
<b>OBPs with 2 MAHs in Europe</b>	6,000 €
<b>OBPs with 1 MAH in Europe</b>	3,000 €

# Contacts

- Governance and general issues:
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