



CONNECTING THE DOTS

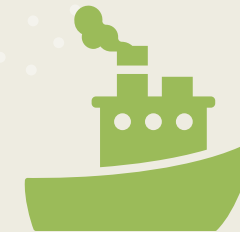
Legal and Permitting Challenges in Strengthening the ASEAN Multimodal Operations and Resilience

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ASEAN Marine Logistics Landscape



ASEAN growth requires integrated intermodal operations.



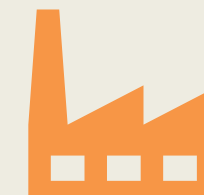
Merchant Shipping and Feeders: Straits of Melaka, South China Sea



Strategic Infrastructure: Ports, sea terminals and energy hubs



Critical Connectivity: Subsea telecom/power links



Emerging Sectors: Offshore wind installations



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**What's the common thing in
achieving integrated
multimodal operations and
resilience?**



PERMITTING!



Why Permitting Matters?



OPERATIONAL STABILITY

Securing regulatory permits guarantees uninterrupted vessel mobilization. Delays in standard port clearances will directly delay downstream container logistics, causing systemic supply chain bottlenecks



FINANCIAL INTEGRITY

Regulatory holdups can lead to high vessel standby fees. This ops downtime directly increases shipping costs, reduces profitability and harms shipper confidence across trade corridors



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Mapping Regional Regulatory Stakeholders

MARITIME & PORTS

Cabotage policy, sea worthiness

BORDER & CUSTOMS

Customs declaration, tariff

DEFENSE & SECURITY

Safety at sea, overlapping maritime claims



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Multi-Tiered Legal Framework



International Conventions

Ensuring strict adherence to IMO regulations, SOLAS, MARPOL and UNCLOS baselines



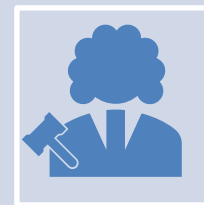
National Legislation

Navigating individual coastal state cabotage laws and maritime acts



Local & Port Regulations

Fulfilling localized municipal port entrance and exit documentation



Contractual Obligations

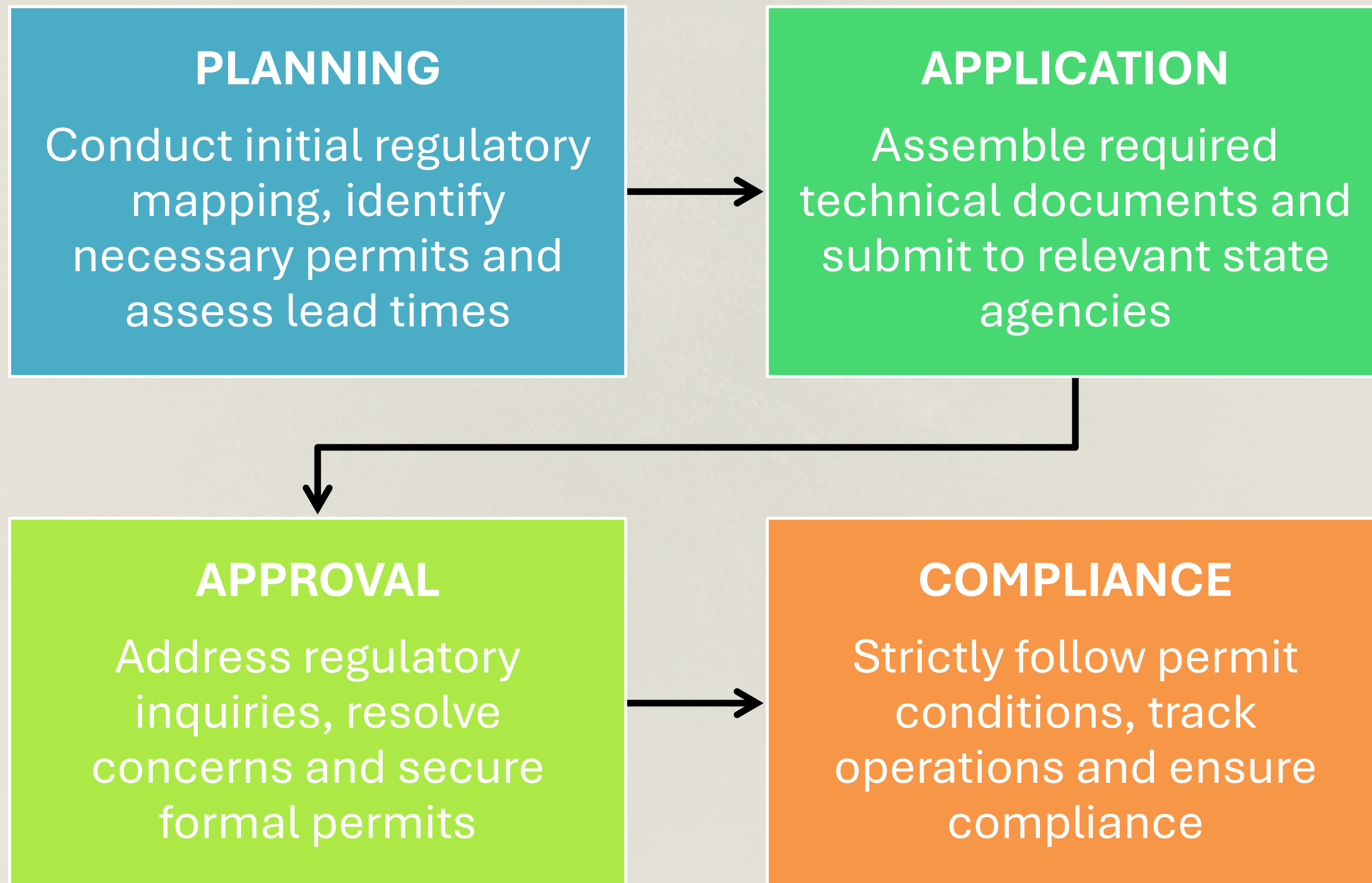
Managing charterparties, bills of lading and private liability terms



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Multi-Phase Permitting Lifecycle



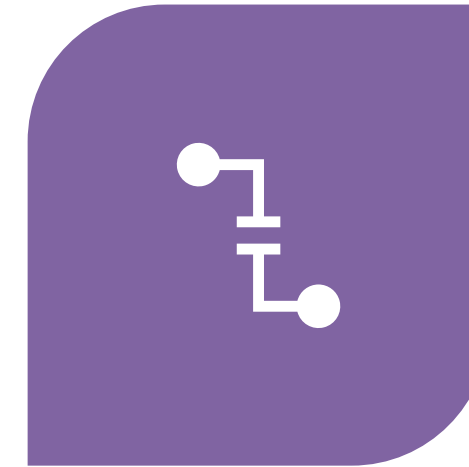
Reality of Cross Border Disruption



INCONSISTENT TIMELINES
APPROVAL TIMELINES FOR
STANDARD MARITIME TRANSIT
PERMITS VARY ACROSS THE
REGION



DOCUMENTATION GAPS
DIVERSE LANGUAGE RULES AND
VARIED DOCUMENT
REQUIREMENTS CREATE
ADMINISTRATIVE FRICTION



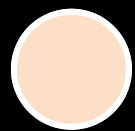
BUREAUCRATIC REDUNDANCY
COORDINATING WITH MULTIPLE
AGENCIES WITHOUT A UNIFIED
SINGLE WINDOW LEADS TO
DUPLICATE EFFORTS

Real Issue Now: Hormuz

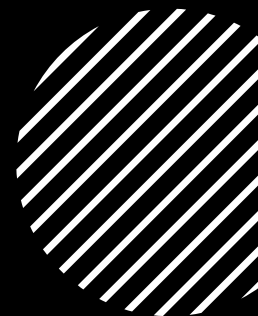
- ASEAN is not isolated from global chokepoints, its logistics flows are sequentially linked to Middle Eastern corridors
- Hormuz Insurance Shock - triggers massive Notice of Cancellation, Force Majeure insertion
- Delay and bottlenecks for vessel and inland logistics
- Triggers marine insurance - premium increases, war-risk clauses, etc.



Case Study: Thailand- Malaysia Cable System

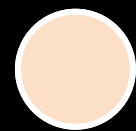


- Clients subscribed to insurance for the project
- Delay due to a national park hence cannot install the cable
- It's been 5 years, do you think client can claim the insurance?
- What should I look into?

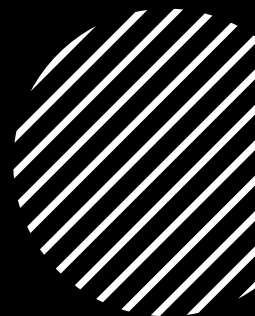




Case Study: Thailand- Malaysia Cable System



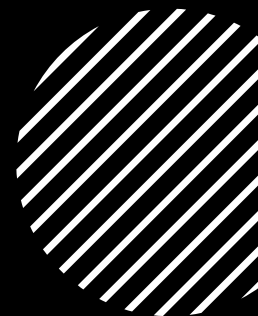
Unfortunately, the client cannot claim the insurance because permitting delays caused by the authorities are excluded from cover





Case Study: Brunei- Malaysia Cross- Border ● Logistics

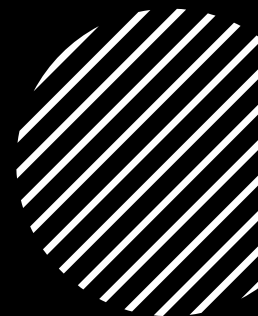
- Clients subscribed to insurance for the project
- 1-week delay in inland logistics due to a long public holiday in Brunei
- The delay was prolonged after weather contingencies in Brunei delayed the vessel's arrival
- Once the vessel arrived, inland logistics were not ready due to competing priorities
- The vessel had to be on standby for 2 weeks
- Can the vessel claim insurance to cover this?





Case Study: Brunei- Malaysia Cross- Border ● Logistics

- Not insurance, but breach of contract, liquidated damages



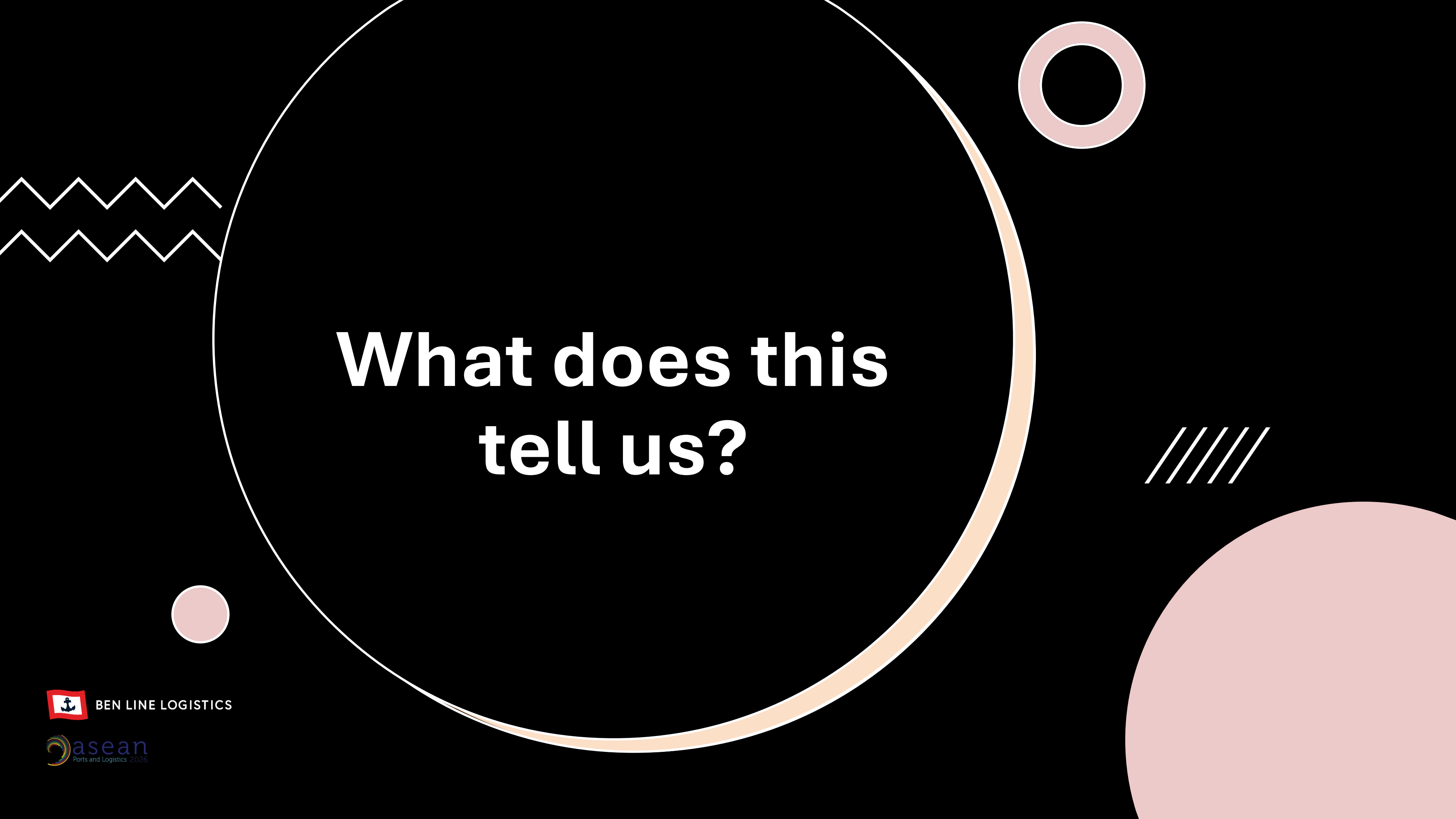
Marine Insurance Market Dynamics

- Asia-Pacific remains the largest global marine cargo insurance market, and the geopolitical Hormuz spillover causes global reinsurers to strictly monitor regional accumulation risk
- Progressive marine insurance such as permitting and project delay
- Limiting annual war risk, moving towards duration-based, short term voyage
- Cascading reinsurance costs

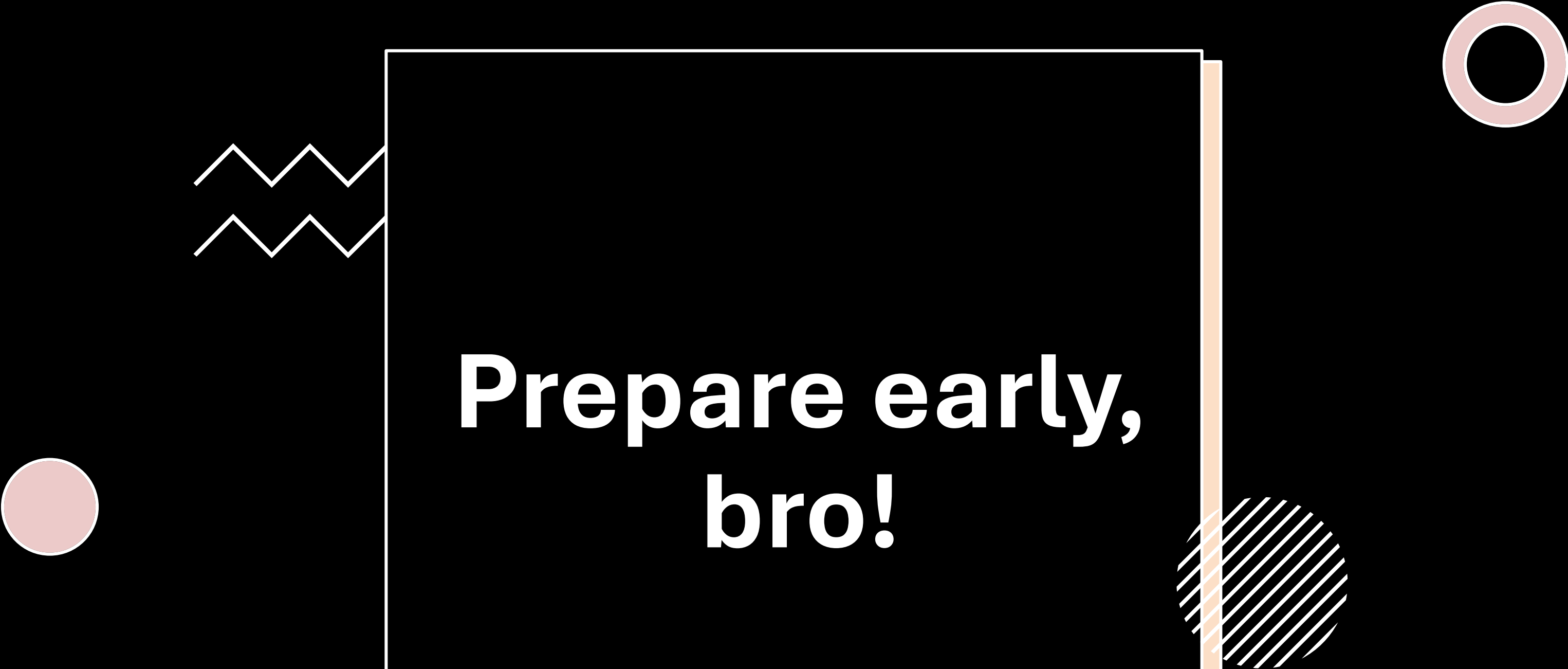


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**What does this
tell us?**



**Prepare early,
bro!**

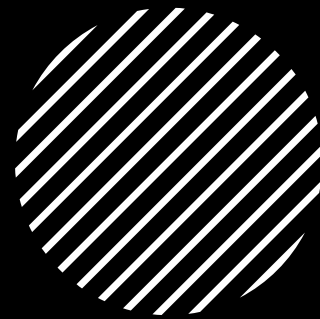


Integrated Solutions

- Early Engagement Plan
 - Master Permit Matrix
Integration
 - Marine Insurance
contingency plans
- 



Ben Line's Efforts



- Advocating Marine Spatial Planning – Blue Economy
- Navigating the Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
- Digital Permitting (Single Window)



Takeaway

Regulatory and permitting compliance are not barriers to trade —they are the foundations of resilient shipping and seamless intermodal and multimodal movement.

— Wahab, 2026



asean
Ports and Logistics 2026

Connecting the Dots. Strong Like a Team.

One Team. One Ben Line.



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