

End to End Visibility Vs Traceability

Supply chain organizations in the public health space often aim to achieve end to end visibility and traceability. However, a lack of clarity on the difference between end-to-end visibility and traceability might lead to siloed approach resulting in duplicative efforts.

The following graphic is an attempt to visualize the difference in scope between the two while acknowledging the overlap. In addition to the difference between end-to-end visibility and traceability it is worth also noting the difference in scope between global and local (national) level.

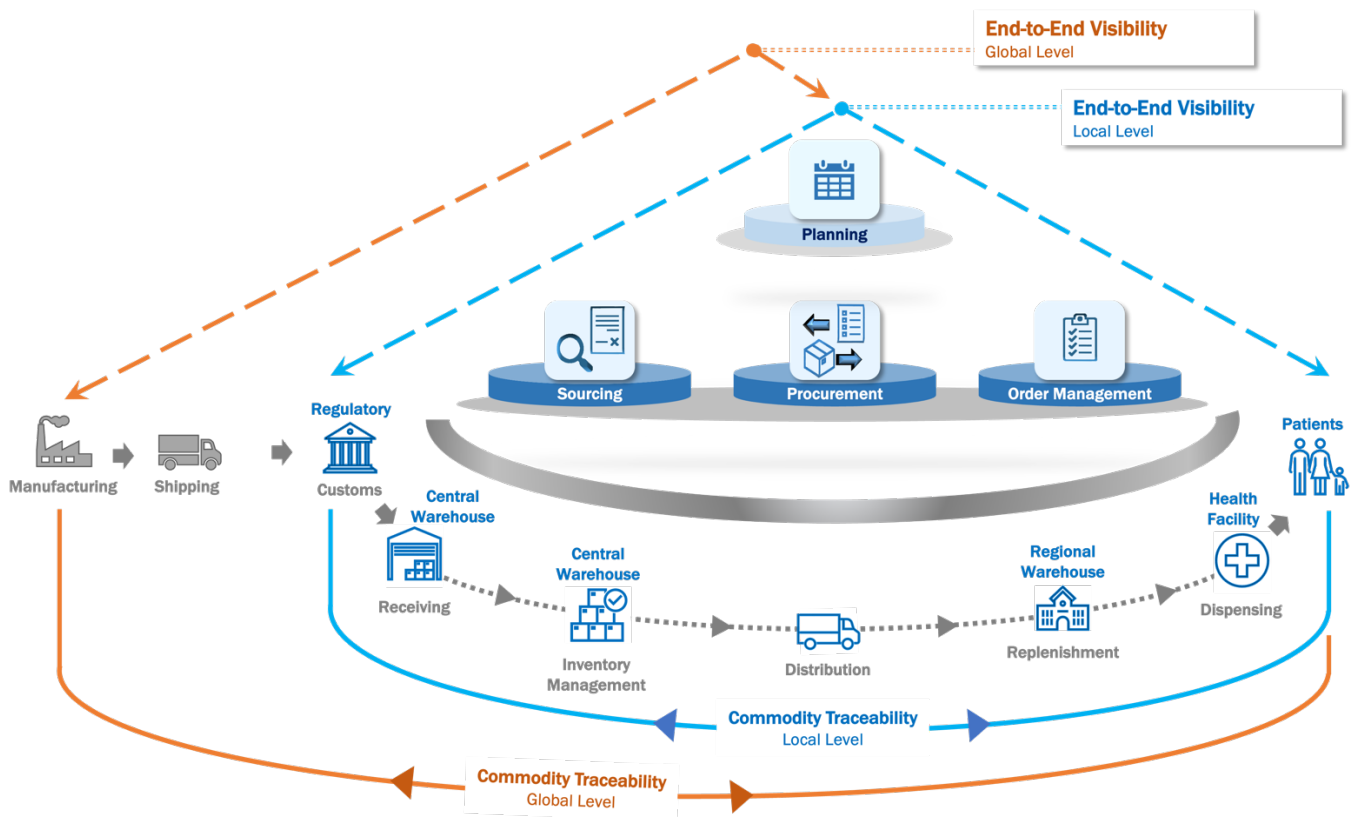


Figure – End to End Visibility vs Traceability

Supply chain organizations embarking on the journey to implement end-to-end visibility and traceability capabilities should prioritize which one to pursue first depending on immediate priorities. This helps optimize on resources that are usually limited in the public health space. For instance, if addressing the issue of falsified medicines is an immediate need, organizations should prioritize traceability. On the other hand, if improving planning and efficiency is of immediate importance, organizations should focus on end-to-end visibility initiatives.

In Summary...

The following table summarizes the differences between end-to-end visibility and commodity traceability, including the benefits of both.

	<u>End to End Data Visibility</u>	<u>Traceability</u>
Objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide visibility of supply chain data from planning till delivery of commodities to patients ○ Monitor supply chain operations to guide every task and manage exceptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tracking movement of commodities across the supply chain ○ Tracing where commodities came from and where they went to ○ Verification of commodities
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strategic processes such as demand and supply planning ○ Tactical processes such as procurement and order management ○ Operational processes such as warehouse & inventory management and distribution ○ Data related to supply chain coordination related processes as well as physical commodity movements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Operational processes such as shipping, receiving, warehouse management and distribution ○ Data related to physical commodity movements
Level of Detail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data aggregated at product or product category level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data considered at trade item, batch & serial number level
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to manage supply chain exceptions such as delays, stock outs & demand fluctuations ○ Enhanced decision making and planning ○ Streamlined coordination across supply chain enabling efficient allocation of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ability to locate products accurately through different stages of the supply chain ○ Improved patient safety ○ Elimination of falsified or counterfeit products ○ Ability to recall commodities effectively, when required due to quality issues

Table - End to End Visibility vs Traceability Comparison