



# Alaska | BAGTAG

Motivations & Business Case

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## Introduction

# BAGTAG at glance

Dutch company that was founded in 2014, introduced the world's first flexible and secure electronic bag tag. The BAGTAG platform offers a multi-vendor electronic bag tag which is integrated with 15 airlines and counting.

The **today and tomorrow of travelling** with baggage

**350+**  
Airports

**300k+**  
Users

**15**  
Airlines



### For airlines we...

- Resolve airport capacity issues
- Help improve efficiency
- Enhance passenger experience

### For passengers we...

- Help avoid queues
- Get them fully prepared for their journey

### For flight crew we...

- Automate the crew bag journey
- Save valuable time



## Introduction

# Electronic Bag Tags

Electronic bag tags are fully **backward compatible**, requiring no infrastructural changes and contain all required information:

- **License plate**
- **Routing information**
- **Passenger information**

Have embedded RFID making them **future-proof**

And come in different shapes and sizes.



## Introduction

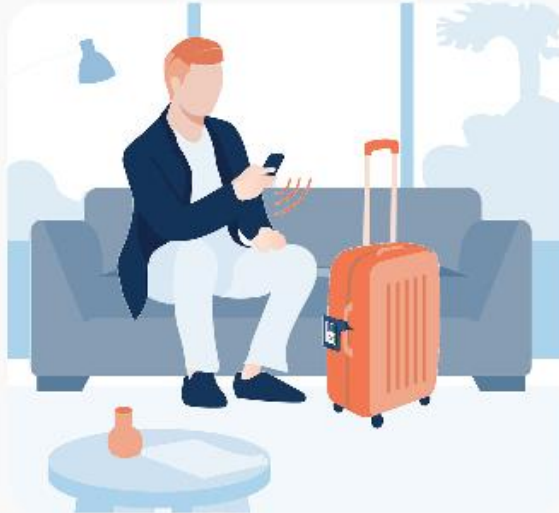
# Reimagining the passenger journey

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### Checks in flight

The start of the digital baggage  
journey.



### Checks in baggage

Check in & label their bag with  
just a few clicks.



### Instant drop off

Arriving at the airport ready to  
fly and avoiding queues.

## Introduction

# BAGTAG Services

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Besides from delivering hardware BAGTAG provides its airline partners with all that is needed for a seamless integration and activation amongst their passengers:

- **Implementation**
- **Operational awareness**
- **Fulfillment**
- **E-Commerce**



### Storage & distribution

We cover distribution based on your needs and preferences.



### Live dashboard

Continuously monitor your orders and fulfillment.



### Customer onboarding

To ensure flawless introduction of the technology.



### Branded web shop

For a seamless customer experience.

## Introduction

# Solving challenges

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To get where we are today we had a few challenges to tackle:

- Introducing the **right hardware**
- Providing the **lowest possible entry barriers**
- **Optimizing software** framework
- **Optimizing distribution**

Together with Alaska Airlines we managed to further optimize the electronic bag tag product as a whole: from hardware to software and the way it is presented to passengers. We got to take a unique position not to just work for, but truly alongside what already has become one of our most valued airline partners.



# **The Alaska Airlines electronic bag tag project**

Motivations & Business Case

Presented by: Rick Nagy, Principal Product Manager





# 2015 trial vs 2022 trial

In 2015 a trial was conducted with 500 guests to test an electronic bag tag product (not produced by BAGTAG). The batteries died, the attachment and screen broke, and the tags were easily damaged. The objective of the electronic tags also differed.



Learnings from 2015 test	Approach to 2022 pilot
Objective is to increase loyalty	Objective is to reduce time spent in lobby
Guests selected must be Alaska VISA card holders	Guests selected are elites who frequently check bags
Device fragility issues – “bungee cord failure,” scuffing, button damage	High impact and scratch resistant cover lens
High cost	Lower cost, distribution flexibility





# Field Findings from 2015

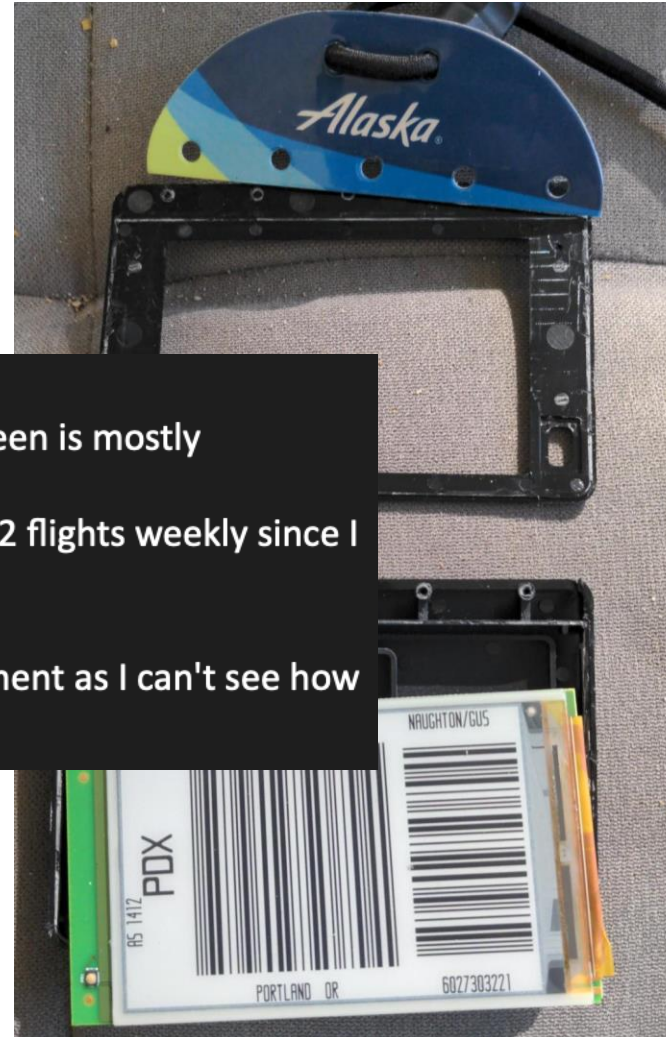
Even given the hardware difficulties, Alaska Airlines guests were positive about the product and benefits for time saving in the lobby became apparent:

## Greetings

2 weeks ago my EBT quit working. I think the battery is dead as the screen is mostly unreadable now

I've enjoyed using it since November of 2015 and on average use it for 2 flights weekly since I got it.

I really really enjoy having it and would hope you'd send me a replacement as I can't see how to possibly change a battery.





# Proposed Solution

## BAGTAG Flex

- E-Paper display
- IP65 Water/Dust Resistant
- **No battery required**
- NFC/RFID Equipped
- Encrypted: 128-bit AES
- Interoperable with other carriers







Principal Product Manager,  
Alaska Airlines



# ✈ Field Testing...







# Decreased lobby time = more lounge time

## The vision:

*Expedited guest bag drop experience which allows guests to focus on more enjoyable parts of their day of travel experience.*

### Target Customer:

Guests who fly 6+ trips per year and check bags on 2+ trips per year.

Market audience:

- Elite-level Mileage Plan members
- Flight Pass holders
- Credit card holders
- Club49 members
- Holiday gift-givers

### Needs:

Decreases lobby time with one-stop bag drop

Removes stress by increasing bag tagging window to <24 hours from <4 hours.

In coordination with ABD will provide an agentless bag drop experience.

### Product

We are the first US carrier to introduce an electronic bag tag.

Electronic bag tag – a permanent tag that can be used in place of a paper bag tag in most scenarios, or flashed with guest contact information and used as a personal identification tag for flights that do not accept EBT.

### Business Goals:

Showcase our commitment to innovation.

Decrease guest *actual* time in lobby to <5 minutes, increase overall lobby throughput.

Decrease guest *perceived* time in lobby, increase guest satisfaction.



# EBT creates value for guests and the business

- The electronic bag tag is **not intended as profit center** but as a **cost and time saving device**
- **500,000 Mileage Plan members per year meet our target audience** of 6+trips/2+ trips with bag
- Assuming that these guests check bags two trips per year = 4 check-ins x 3 minutes x 500,000 guests = **100,000 guest hours in the lobby**

Converting  
**10%**  
of target audience  
to electronic bag tag use  
results in (annually)

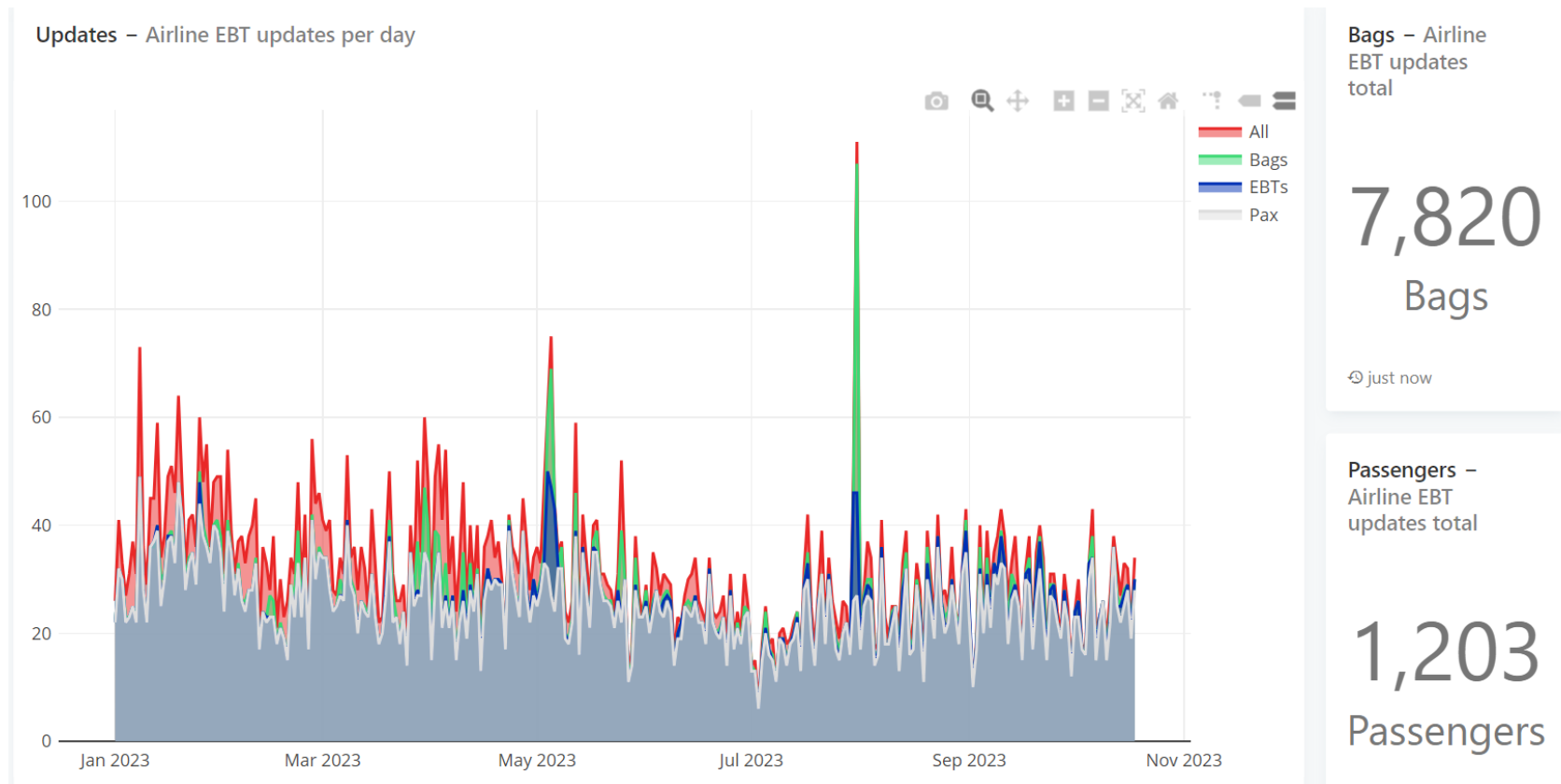
**200,000**  
Fewer interactions  
with BTS/Kiosk/Bag Printer

**10,000**  
Guest hours  
Not spent in the lobby

**200,000**  
Fewer paper tags  
Printed @ .08 per tag

# ✈️ Guests Use BAGTAGs on a Regular Basis

Year-to-Date Guest Usage is **1203 pax** with **7820 checked bags**  
Month over month sees steady increases in both bags and passengers



# ✈️ Key Improvement: New Strap

One of the learnings we saw was that the hard-plastic strap wasn't the right choice. We just closed a new beta trial and are retrofitting all existing pieces with the new flexible strap.

- >> Trial started 8/31 - 285 unique check-ins
- >> Zero tag-offs
- >> Trial participants were 95% satisfied with the new strap:

“I like it much more than the prior model”

“My initial fears were all for nothing! The strap held up perfectly!”

“I like it. I can get it off even though it doesn't come off easily”

“Love, love, love this tag over the old one. The strap is a million times better.”



\*production strap is black

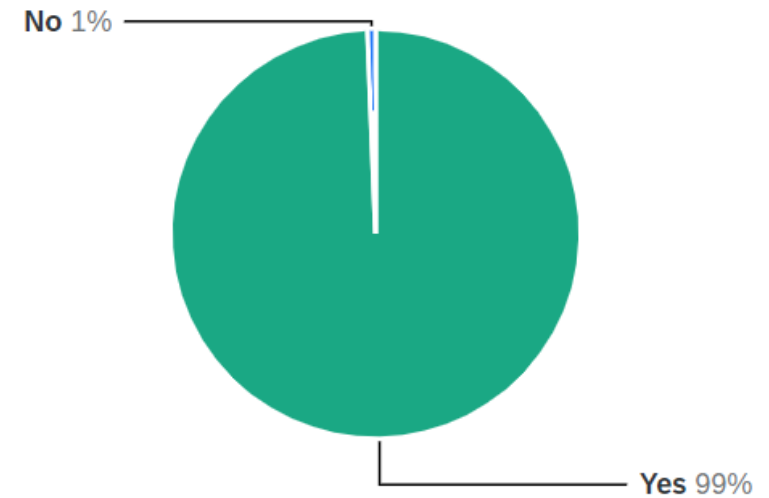


# ✈️ Guest Satisfaction

## Performance scores

As the adoption progresses, a clear increase in performance can be observed

- 99%** of Guests will use the BAGTAG again
- 80%** of Guests rate the electronic bag tag as either 'Excellent' or 'Very Good'
- 82%** of Guests find the electronic bag tag more convenient than a paper label



**99%**

will use the tag again

**80%**

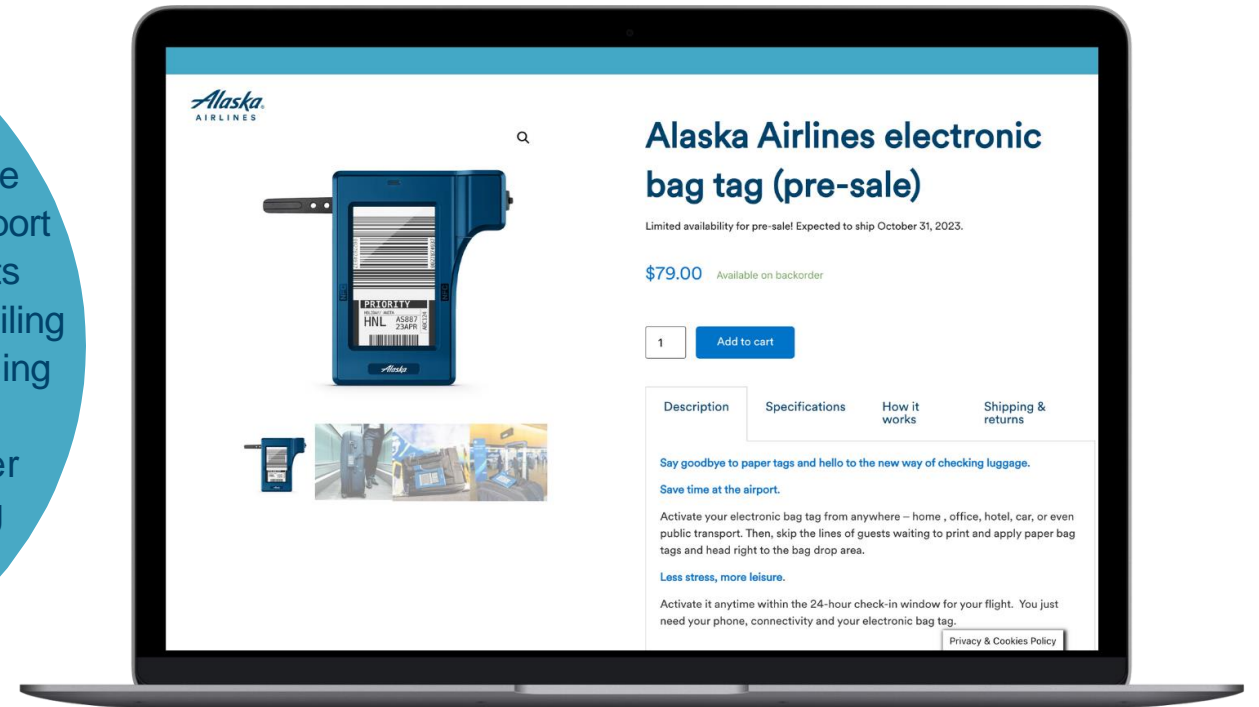
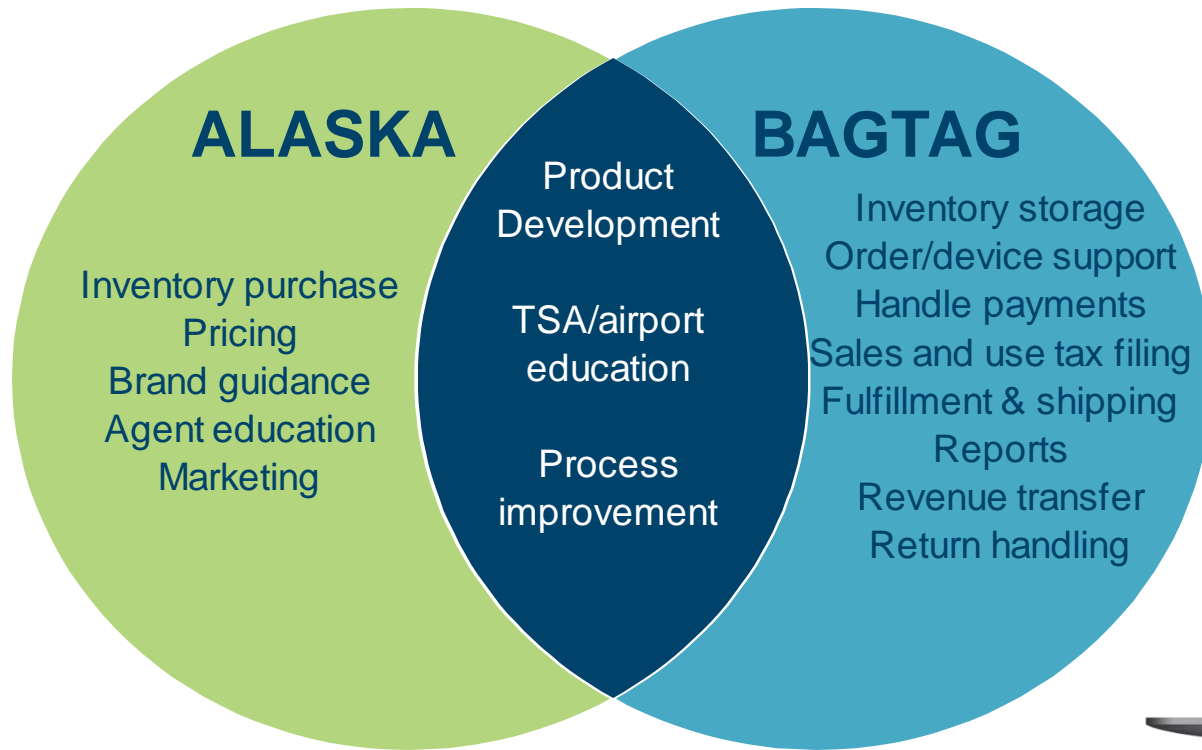
rate very good/excellent

**82%**

convenience satisfaction

# ✈️ Alaska Care fulfilled by BAGTAG

As airlines are not set up to handle sales and fulfillment of physical devices, BAGTAG has created their own e-Commerce solution which can be branded Alaska and customized to provide our guests the level of Care that we are known for.





# Next Step: Use BAGTAG as an eComm Platform

## Phase 1

Guest Trial and improvements

Distributed 2500 to elite members

Tracked usage and gathered feedback via email and survey data

Made improvements to software, hardware, and tutorials

## Phase 2

Initial sales and retrofitting

Utilize BAGTAGs ecommerce platform to sell the remaining stock of (improved) devices.

BAGTAGs platform will:

- Allow Alaska to set pricing - including miles
- Remit all sales and use taxes
- Provide post-sale guest support
- Provide shipping-only fulfillment for devices we want to give away
- Facilitate order and shipping of strap retrofit kits for existing users

## Phase 3

Future orders and feature improvement

As future orders of BAGTAGs are placed by Alaska, the BAGTAG eCommerce platform will remain available.



# Our Innovation Purpose

To provide the safest, most reliable, and caring travel experience for our worldwide guests and our planet.







*Alaska*<sup>®</sup>  
AIRLINES