

IATA Ground Operations News



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WELCOME



Dear Colleagues,

At the close of 2019 it was time to reflect on what has been an extremely busy year for IATA Ground Operations. Aside from the usual activities of technical group meetings and the best attendance ever at the IGHC in Madrid, we have also accomplished a number of other goals throughout the year.

Our major initiative which will be driving the way forward for Ground Operations in the years to come is CEDAR – Cononnected, Ecological, Digital, Autonomous Ramp - is moving gradually from concept to reality. While it is still too early for results, we are making good progress on establishing a solid foundation on which to build this long-term project.

Regular attendees of the IGHC will be aware that 2020 will see the IGHC in the LATAM region for the first time. We are very excited to be taking our event to a completely different part of the world. Our delight with our decision is confirmed by the enthusiastic response we received during a visit to Mexico City to investigate and to gauge support and local sponsorship for the IGHC. By all accounts we can count on a tremendous reception as well as promises of a great success and enthusiastic support!

We will also be running our second Ground Ops Executive Summit (GOES) during the IGHC in Mexico – we found this to be a really useful means of engaging with top industry stakeholders.



Our ongoing work with Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) is yielding some very positive results – Heathrow Airport Limited has contributed an article to bring you up-to-date.

We have also made major changes to IGOM for the 9th edition and a number of significant changes to the AHM for the 40th edition – more on these details under their own headings further on.

The other news is that we are well advanced with our planned change of governance to align with IATA strategy and the overall changes in governance for various types of groups to align with CEDAR. This change is not easy to implement, and the process is taking us longer than we anticipated. We would therefore like to request your patience for a while longer as we get this all into place.

Best regards and looking forward to seeing you in Mexico City in May

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Suidan".

Joseph Suidan
Head of Ground Operations, IATA



**IATA
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CONFERENCE**

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO | 17 - 20 MAY 2020

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IGHC 2020 – MEXICO CITY

Work is already well under way for the 2020 IGHC in Mexico City. An initial program is already in place and is being fleshed out. We are providing more opportunities for networking by removing the plenary sessions from Tuesday morning as well as adding more sessions with a workshop format as requested in our post-event survey results.

A new feature will be the inclusion of a 45 minute Meet the Exhibitor slot on Monday where exhibitors can present their material during a short slot at this plenary session.

Speed-networking proved to be very successful in its first iteration in Madrid – we will be repeating this in 2020 - with some improvements based on our Madrid experience.

IATA Ground Handling Partners are given 2 complimentary passes to attend the IGHC. To join or renew your GHP membership, please complete your online application here: <https://ems.resrunner.com/GHP>

You can **REGISTER** for the IGHC, check out the latest program and see all the details at our IGHC site at: <https://www.iata.org/en/events/ighc/>

SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS NOW TO THE IGHC INNOVATOR 2020 COMPETITION!

We are pleased to announce that the 2020 IGHC Innovator Competition is open for ground handling Innovators who want to showcase their great ideas within the ground handling community. Please use this link to access the site for the rules and submission form [IGHC Innovator Page](#)

The IGHC Innovator 2020 will run from Friday, 7th February to Monday, 6th April 2020. The Jury will then select 3 Finalists who will have the opportunity to present their Innovation at the IGHC in Mexico City during the plenary session on 18th May 2020

Looking forward to your hearing all about your Innovations!





IGOM AT HEATHROW

Heathrow Airport and IATA formed a partnership in 2018 to investigate the feasibility of incorporating the IGOM into our operation. Throughout 2019 there were five conferences and several smaller workshops involving airlines, ground handlers, contractors and regulators.

The integration of the IGOM into Heathrow's operations has presented several challenges but a method of ensuring the minimum safety standards as prescribed has been achieved following our joint engagement and consultation with the community.

It has been very encouraging to see the positive engagement made by several of the larger airlines at Heathrow including British Airways, United Airlines, Virgin Atlantic and Air Canada. Their contribution has assisted greatly in the roll-out of the work which launches in February 2020.

The first completed document from British Airways has started the process which we believe will ultimately improve safety awareness and performance at Heathrow for the whole airport community.

The engagement this project has generated has also encouraged discussion on a wider scale about ground handling at Heathrow and the possibilities the future holds. It has been a very worthwhile project and one we hope will provide some practical data on how Heathrow currently operates and how this may be built upon for the future.

Chris Harwood

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Heathrow Airport Limited

CATERING UPDATE

The IATA Inflight Standard Catering Agreement (SICA) - RP 1773b revision 2010 is under the review by IATA and the Airline Catering Association (ACA). The team consists of legal, procurement and catering experts from IATA member airlines and catering companies from ACA as well as non-ACA members. The main aim is to address the needs of current operations and to ensure fair conditions to both parties. The work was started last year and will continue in 2020. If you are responsible for procurement of catering, or a legal expert responsible for catering agreements and are interested in the SICA review, please contact groundops@iata.org



AHM 40TH EDITION CHANGES

The 40th edition of the AHM has undergone quite a number of changes and new text has also been added. The new sections are:

AHM 506 Cargo Loading System Restraints Schema which is a standard to facilitate the identification and communication of missing / inoperative restraints.

AHM 820 – Standard Ground Handling Subcontracting Agreement

AHM 907 – Guidelines for electric powered GSE (e-GSE)

AHM 908 – Training for Ground Support Equipment Maintenance – formatted to align with AHM Chapter 11.

Amongst the changes are:

AHM 505 - Introduction of standard for communication between loading supervision and load Control. Introduction of standard numbering system for half pallet loaded longitudinally in the cargo hold.

AHM 515 - Manual Loading Instructions/report – addition of standard communication between Loading supervision and load control

Chapter 6 – Examples of Safety Performance Indicators

AHM 810 - new layout of the Annex A and editorial changes.

AHM 811:

- Main Agreement - Sub-Article 5.16 IGOM defined as the minimum standard for Ground Operations including the communication of variations between both Parties
- Annex A, 5.6.8 and 5.6.9 - new provisions for the mail handling

AHM 840 completely updated to align with Cargo Resolution 670

AHM Chapter 11 has been overhauled and enhanced.

In addition to the above, we have tidied up the Definitions in Appendix B and removed most of the definitions from the content of the various sections of the AHM – replacing those with a reference to Appendix B. In the electronic versions there is an active link to definition in Appendix B.



IGOM 9TH EDITION CHANGES

Probably the first noticeable change to the IGOM is the change of effective date. From 2020 onward the IGOM will be released on 1 January but will only be effective as of 1 April, with the effectiveness valid until 1 April the following year. This is to give users the time to implement any changes which are made to the manual each year.

Other general changes are the inclusion of the IGOM Adoption Policy in the manual to assist with the implementation of IGOM. The risk assessment table has been updated to include new and revised procedures. Safety Critical have dropped from 21 to 20 due to the merging of sub-sections of Section 4.5.

The Baggage Working Group reviewed IGOM Chapter 2 which enhanced the chapter and brought it up to date with current industry practices

Changes to Chapter 3 were extensive - covering:

GSE operations – adding procedures for electric bag tractors and ULD transporters,

Storms - Lightning procedures and work instructions were simplified. Wind limits in the High Wind Activity Table were clarified.

Hand signals – reviewed and wording aligned with ICAO Annex 2

Potable water – aligned with AHM 440

In Chapter 4 changes were made to include the fixed ground power unit, while the entire section 4.5 was revised to correctly sequence the tasks from loading to unloading with the aim of reducing loading errors in the industry.

In addition a new procedure was added for brake operators while the tables covering towing preparation, towing completion and incidents during towing were revised based on industry feedback.

There were a number of other minor changes made throughout the IGOM to enhance clarity.

.If you would like to purchase either of these two publications, please go to our products page <https://www.iata.org/publications/pages/index.aspx> to learn more.

GROUND HANDLING PARTNERSHIP

The [Ground Handling Partnership](https://www.iata.org/ghp-directory) directory has been updated and is now accessible from a new link available here: www.iata.org/ghp-directory

To renew or join the Ground Handling Partnership, please submit your online application here: <https://ems.resrunner.com/GHP>