CUSS 2 Migration Plan and Phasing

With the upcoming implementation of the new CUSS 2 standard and the planned deprecation of CUSS 1.5, on the 31st December 2025, this migration plan provides a clear roadmap for airports and airlines to transition smoothly and benefit from enhanced solutions and technology.

Overview

The deprecation of CUSS 1.x standards does not mean airline applications will immediately stop functioning. However, no further updates or new functionalities will be provided under CUSS 1.x. All future requirements and enhancements will be managed exclusively under the CUSS 2 standard.

As part of the approach to support the industry, **there is a CUSS 2 Testbed available**. Application and platform suppliers should reach out to IATA to get the details of the testbed.

To support a secure and efficient migration, the CUSS Task Force – reporting to the Customer Journey Delivery Working Group (CJDWG) - has established the following phased milestones:

Migration Milestones

Milestone 1: Immediate Actions (Now)

- **Recommendation**: Airlines and airports should begin planning for the latest CUSS 2 compliance.

- **Certification**: Current application certifications are still conducted against CUSS 1.5, due to the limited number of certified CUSS 2 platforms.

- **Early Adoption**: Airlines with CUSS 2 applications may initiate certification with select vendors.

- **Recertification**: Any airline certifying a CUSS 1.x application now will need to recertify for CUSS 2 once their application is updated.

- **Testing Tools**: Airlines can access available tools to start testing for CUSS 2 readiness.

Milestone 2: Soft Transition Begins (End of Q1 2026)

- **Platform Availability**: Vendors will offer CUSS 2 platforms for testing and certification.

- **Certification Shift**: New CUSS application submissions will only be certified against CUSS 2.

- **Soft Transition**: Airports may configure some kiosks with CUSS 2 platforms, supporting both CUSS 2 and CUSS 1.5 applications for a defined period. Bridges may be used to maintain compatibility during this phase.

Milestone 3: Mandate Compliance (End of Q3 2026)

- **Requirement**: Airports may begin mandating CUSS 2-compliant applications and platforms, discontinuing CUSS 1.5 alternatives.

- **Burn-In Period**: This phase allows for:

  o   Stress testing of platforms and standards.

  o   Clear timelines for airlines to demonstrate CUSS 2 compliance.

  o   Coordinated certification planning, considering vendor resource constraints.

  o   Sufficient vendor capacity to support certifications before the final cutover.

Milestone 4: Full Cutover (End of Year 2026)

- **End of Support**: Airports and airlines will no longer operate or support CUSS 1 platforms or applications.

- **Deployment**: All new CUSS kiosk deployments must be natively CUSS 2 compliant.

- **Enforcement**: Airports may remove airlines from kiosks if they are not compliant with CUSS 2 standards.

Next Steps and Recommendations

- **Stakeholder Engagement**: Airports, airlines, and vendors should collaborate early to ensure readiness for each milestone.

- **Resource Planning**: Allocate sufficient resources for testing, certification, and migration activities.

- **Continuous Communication**: Maintain open channels with vendors and the CUSS TF under the CJDWG for updates and support.

- **Monitor Progress**: Regularly review migration status and adjust plans as needed to meet deadlines.

Summary:

Transitioning to CUSS 2 is essential for future functionality, security, and industry alignment. By following this phased plan, stakeholders can minimize disruption and maximize the benefits of the new standard.