RESOLUTION 896

ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDERS & ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS [TRANSPARENCY IN PAYMENTS TRANSITION]

△ PAC(55)896(except USA)  
Expiry: Indefinite  
Type: B

WHEREAS pursuant to Resolution 846, countries under Resolution 818g will be transitioned to Resolution 812 and its affiliated Resolutions upon specific parameters being met;

WHEREAS the Passenger Agency Conference wishes to make a wider variety of Payment Methods available to Agents as soon as operationally feasible, it is,

RESOLVED that:

1. The below conditions will apply for the enrolment of products with IATA by Alternative Transfer Method Providers;
2. This Resolution will be implemented in a country or group of countries upon notification by the Agency Administrator in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 846. Notification of implementation of this Resolution will be given to all Members by the Agency Administrator;
3. When Resolution 812 and 812a are fully implemented in a country, this resolution will no longer apply. Notification will be given by the Agency Administrator with a minimum of 30 days’ notice when this is to be applied.

1. ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS RULES

1.1 The purpose of this Resolution is to provide the authority for Agents to make use of Alternative Transfer Methods for the sale of Electronic Tickets on behalf of BSP Airlines, and to provide the requirements for Alternative Transfer Method Providers to enrol their products with IATA.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD means a Payment Method, other than the Cash Payment Method and IATA EasyPay Payment Method, used by the Agent to transfer monies collected from the customer for passenger air transportation or Ancillary Services to the BSP Airline, in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution. This may include a physical or virtual card or account number that is issued in the name of the Agent, any Person permitted to act on behalf of the Agent, or one of the Agent’s contracted suppliers.

2.2 ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDER means a supplier of an Alternative Transfer Method.

2.3 ELECTRONIC TICKET for the purposes of this Resolution, includes Electronic Miscellaneous Documents (EMDs) and BSP Airlines’ own Traffic Documents.

2.4 CUSTOMER CARD PAYMENT METHOD (sometimes referred to as ‘Card Sales’) means a Payment Method where a Customer Card is used against a BSP Airline’s card acceptance merchant agreement as detailed in Resolution 890.

2.5 PAYMENT METHOD is a means to pay monies due for passenger air transportation or Ancillary Services to BSP Airlines, as established by the Passenger Agency Conference. Payment Method refers to both customer and Agent payment methods, whereby a BSP Airline receives payment of the monies due from the customer, as well as Agent payment methods, whereby a BSP Airline receives payment of monies due from the Agent via the BSP or an alternative mechanism. Any monies which are collected by the Agent from the customer must be held in trust pending payment to a BSP Airline, in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 824.

3. ENROLMENT OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS BY ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDERS

3.1 Alternative Transfer Method Providers must enlist with IATA prior to enrolling their products as Alternative Transfer Methods for use in a BSP.

3.2 Once enlisted with IATA, the Alternative Transfer Method Provider may enrol their products as Alternative Transfer Methods for use in a BSP in accordance with the criteria detailed in Attachment ‘A’ to this Resolution. If a product is not enrolled with IATA as an Alternative Transfer Method, the Agent must not use the product for the issuance of Electronic Tickets through the BSP.

3.3 IATA will notify BSP Airlines and Agents of Alternative Transfer Methods that are enrolled in accordance with this Resolution.

3.4 In the case of the Agent wishing to use its own card, or a card issued in the name of a Person acting on behalf of the Agent, or in the name of the Agent’s officer, partner or employee, the Agent must enrol the card with IATA as an Alternative Transfer Method prior to its use for the issuance of Electronic Tickets in accordance with Resolution 896 Attachment ‘A’, section 5, except in BSP countries where such functionality has not been made available by IATA. In such cases the Agent is not required to enrol the card as an Alternative Transfer Method.

4. USE OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS BY AGENTS WITH INDIVIDUAL AIRLINE CONSENT

4.1 An Alternative Transfer Method may be used by the Agent to effect payment of monies due by the Agent to a BSP Airline for the sale of Electronic Tickets, subject to the individual consent of the BSP Airline whose Electronic
Ticket is being issued. Such consent must be obtained by the Agent prior to usage of the Alternative Transfer Method.

4.2 Prior to the use of an Agent’s own card, or a card issued in the name of a Person acting on behalf of the Agent, or in the name of the Agent’s officer, partner or employee, the Agent must obtain individual consent of the BSP Airline whose Electronic Ticket is being issued.

4.3 A failure to comply with sections 4.1-4.2 will be undertaken under the sole responsibility and liability of the Agent toward the BSP Airline concerned.

5. AIRLINE CONSENT TO USE AN ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD

5.1 A BSP Airline will notify IATA of its default consent policy by BSP country. If the Airline does not provide its default consent policy, IATA will set the BSP Airline’s default consent policy to automatically not accept any new Alternative Transfer Method enrolled in that BSP country.

5.2 A BSP Airline may give its consent to the Agent for the usage of an Alternative Transfer Method in a BSP by notifying the Agent in writing or, where possible, by updating the relevant information through BSPlink (ASD in China).

5.3 A BSP Airline may remove its consent for the usage of an Alternative Transfer Method from an Agent by notifying the Agent in writing or, where possible, by updating the relevant information through BSPlink (ASD in China).

5.4 Nothing in the present Resolution shall be interpreted as a systemic bias or a preference to the detriment of any Alternative Transfer Method, including in favour of any other Payment Method.

6. ISSUANCE AND REFUNDING OF ELECTRONIC TICKETS USING ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS

6.1 When issuing an Electronic Ticket using an Alternative Transfer Method, the Agent must issue and report the transaction in accordance with the instructions provided by IATA.

6.2 When applicable, the Agent must ensure to obtain the authorisation approval code from the relevant card company and include such code at the time of Electronic Ticket issuance.

6.3 When effecting refunds of sales issued with an Alternative Transfer Method, the Agent must refund amounts of totally unused and partly used Electronic Tickets to the same Alternative Transfer Method number as originally used for payment.

7. MONITORING OF AGENTS’ USAGE OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS BY IATA

7.1 IATA has the right to conduct a review or other investigation of the Agent’s Customer Card Payment Method and Alternative Transfer Method transactions in the BSP to verify the Agent’s compliance with the applicable Resolutions and consent(s) given by individual BSP Airline(s) for specific Alternative Transfer Methods. If a situation of potential non-compliance is detected by IATA, the Agency Administrator may notify individually the BSP Airline(s) concerned and make this information available to the Agent. This notice shall be unsubstantiated and no further details will be provided by IATA.

7.2 In the event a review or other investigation reveals a persistent failure by the Agent to comply with this Resolution, the Agency Administrator may request in writing an immediate review by the Travel Agency Commissioner in accordance with Resolution 818g Attachment A section 2.5 or Resolution 832 section 3.5.
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Attachment ‘A’  

PROCESS FOR THE ENROLMENT OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS  

Subject to individual BSP Airline consent, the Agent may only use an Alternative Transfer Method for the issuance of Electronic Tickets which has been enrolled with IATA in accordance with the process below.

1. DETAILS REQUIRED FOR THE ENLISTMENT OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDERS

1.1 To enlist as an Alternative Transfer Method Provider, the following information must be provided to IATA:
(a) company name;
(b) country of origin;
(c) name, title, email address & telephone number of primary contact;
(d) location of headquarters;
(e) any further documentation required in order to comply with due diligence requirements including anti-money laundering requirements.

2. ENROLMENT PROCESS FOR ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD(S)

2.1 The Alternative Transfer Method Provider must enrol its products as Alternative Transfer Method(s) with IATA. For each product, the Alternative Transfer Method Provider must submit the following information:
(a) Product name
(b) If different from 1.1, the legal entity contracting with Agents for the provision of the Alternative Transfer Method;
(c) Payment network (if any) that guarantees merchant settlement, and copy of membership status with the payment network;
(d) Product type (Open-Loop or Closed-Loop);
(e) Country(ies) of issuance;
(f) Specific Alternative Transfer Method identifier (such as BIN);
(g) License (e.g. banking license, e-money issuing license) granted by a national authority from the issuing market(s);
(h) Interchange fee and any network fee applicable/ passed on to BSP Airlines;
(i) Pay-in model (e.g. prepaid, debit, credit);
(j) GDS integration of Alternative Transfer Method for electronic ticket issuance;
(k) Any other commercial features.

2.2 Upon receipt of an enrolment request from an Alternative Transfer Method Provider, IATA will:
(a) acknowledge receipt of the enrolment;
(b) review the enrolment to validate that it contains all required information and to clarify any issues.

2.3 In case a provider wishes to enrol a product issued on a Closed-loop Network, and/or issued on a payment network that does not guarantee merchant settlement, IATA will request further information from the provider to ensure such product offers sufficient guarantees for the settlement of Airlines’ funds.

3. OPTIONAL ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD AND ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDER INFORMATION

3.1 IATA may request additional information from the Alternative Transfer Method Provider as needed to review the enlistment of the Alternative Transfer Method Provider or enrolment of its products.

3.2 Additional information may be provided to IATA by the Alternative Transfer Method Provider as the Provider sees fit.

4. REVALIDATION OF ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD PROVIDERS AND PRODUCTS

4.1 On an on-going basis, the Alternative Transfer Method Provider must notify IATA of any changes to the information provided in sections 1.1 and 2.1.

4.2 On an annual basis, IATA may request to the Alternative Transfer Method Provider a revalidation of any of the information provided in sections 1.1 and 2.1.

5. ENROLMENT OF AGENT-OWN CARDS AS ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHODS

5.1 To enrol an Agent’s own card, or a card issued in the name of a Person acting on behalf of the Agent, or in the name of the Agent’s officer, partner or employee, the Agent must provide IATA with the following information:
(a) Cardholder name (in case of Corporate Card, also indicate the name of the Company, as stated on the card);
(b) Card number;
(c) Expiry Date;
(d) Issuer Name;
(e) Payment Network;
(f) Pay-in Model (e.g. prepaid, debit, credit);
(g) Card Type (e.g. Consumer, Corporate);
(h) Any other information, as necessary.

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6. ALTERNATIVE TRANSFER METHOD REPORTING

6.1 IATA will report its activity to an oversight body regarding the enlistment of Alternative Transfer Method Providers and the enrolment of their products.

This oversight body will be composed of two Airline and two Agent representatives from the Passenger Agency Programme Global Joint Council and will report to the Passenger Agency Programme Global Joint Council.

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RESOLUTION 898

TRAVEL INDUSTRY DESIGNATORS

PAC(32)898

WHEREAS allied industry principals deal both with IATA Accredited Agents and with other established sales intermediaries, and

WHEREAS airlines wish to identify readily non-IATA sales intermediaries which they recognise as booking offices and from which they accept reservations, and

WHEREAS it is advantageous to all that such other sales intermediaries be readily identified by industry principals' electronic systems, it is

RESOLVED that the Agency Administrator shall allocate seven-digit designators to the non-IATA sales intermediaries of industry principals, provided that it shall be a condition of the allocation and continuing use of such travel industry designators that they shall create no entitlement or claim to IATA accreditation or approval.