Cargo Operations and Technology

The Cargo Operations and Technology Strategic Partnerships Area of Involvement is one of the 6 Boards established by Resolution under the Cargo Services Conference and all its subgroups.

Each Board is an airline-only group overseeing the strategy and direction of standards development and implementation within a specific area of cargo services. The Board may also create subgroups to work on specific areas of standards.

The Cargo Operations and Technology area manages the development standards and guidance related to digital cargo, technology and business processes with key initiatives and projects such as One Record, Interactive Cargo and eCargo.

Designed for

- Supply chain operators
- Cargo IT application providers
- Freight forwarder and Shipper IT application providers
- Device Manufacturer such as cargo trackers
- CCS / Digital Connectivity Providers

To be eligible to become an IATA Strategic Partner in Cargo Operations and Technology, the industry supplier needs to meet the following criteria:

- Be an active IATA Strategic Partner with cargo expertise
- The supplier's product/service is relevant to Cargo Operations and Technology and is in line with IATA standards
- Have already implemented or are in process of implementing IATA standards related to Cargo Operations and Technology successfully

Areas of Activity

- Cargo Messaging Standards: Cargo-IMP and Cargo XML.
- Digital Cargo future initiatives
Meetings & Working Groups

e-CARGO WORKING GROUP (eCWG)

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The eCWG advises the Cargo Operations and Technology Board (COTB) on delivery of e-AWB, e-freight, and the strategy of e-Cargo moving forward including but not limited to the digitization of documents, e-Freight Message Improvement and industry wide communication.

CARGO MESSAGING WORKING GROUP (CMWG)

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The objectives of the CMWG are to provide recommendations to the Cargo Operations and Technology Board (COTB) on XML requirements for transportation messages and on the maintenance of the standards as well as to oversee the technical development of these XML messages, which will be based as much as possible on existing messages (i.e. CIMP IFTMIN) and international standards (i.e. UN/CEFACT Core Components and XML Naming and Design Rules).

PIECE LEVEL TRACKING TASK FORCE (PLTTF)

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Piece Level Tracking capability is the ability to track and monitor the transit of cargo shipments from shipper to consignee at individual piece level, as opposed to house bill level, master bill level, or other levels of consolidation as commonly done today in air cargo. Such capability is already provided in some forms by various parts of the air cargo supply chain, but the lack of a single industry approach, with common standards, processes and definitions means that these largely proprietary or bespoke approaches have not gained industry wide acceptance or visibility.

The objectives of the Piece Level Tracking Task Force (the Task Force) will be to provide recommendations on the long-term vision, from track and trace to real-time interaction. The Task Force will focus on Industry wide expectations and business cases, standards for piece identification, description of business processes, including the interline scenario. The Task Force will look into potential tracking technologies (e.g. bar codes, RFID, GPS, Bluetooth, 5G, dedicated IoT networks, etc.), in order to ensure technology interoperability. The Task Force will also include communication protocol (e.g. electronic messaging, data processing systems), regulatory considerations (in consultation with CBMB and its sub-groups) and cyber security considerations.

INTERACTIVE CARGO TASK FORCE (ICTF)

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The objective of the Interactive Cargo Task Force (the Task Force) will be to provide recommendations on the long-term vision from track and trace to real-time interaction. The Task Force will develop standards, processes and guidelines to provide the ability to track, trace, locate, monitor and receive as well as to respond to real-time/near-real time notifications. The Task Force will investigate potential tracking technologies with a particular focus on connected / IoT devices. The work on the use of connected devices will consist in the development of standards, processes and guidelines while ensuring a safe and efficient use of such technology. The Task Force will also work on communication protocols (e.g. electronic messages).
messages, data processing systems), regulatory and cyber security considerations.

One Record Task Force (ORTF)

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The objective of the ONE Record Task Force will be to provide recommendations on the end-to-end digital logistics and transport supply chain where data is easily and transparently exchanged in a digital ecosystem of air cargo stakeholders, communities and data platforms. The task force will drive ONE Record pilot project to get industry feedback and validate and/or improve the model, develop incremental additions to the ONE Record data model and features to include areas of air cargo distribution, interactive cargo, e-DGD among others, continue to engage with Cargo Community Systems (CCS) and IT providers to speed up the adoption of the ONE Record standard.

Exclusive Benefits

- Participate in the above meetings
- Participate in the new standards collaboration tool when actively involved
- Appear in IATA publications such as the IATA e-freight handbook
- Benefit from first selection of sponsorship/exhibition opportunities at IATA World Cargo Symposium and CNS Conference and any e-Cargo event organized by IATA
- Appear on the list of Strategic Partners on IATA website
- Use the exclusive IATA Strategic Partnerships Logo on corporate materials
- Receive discounts on IATA training courses
- Monthly posting of Strategic Partners’ press releases on the IATA website
- Receive a preferential rate on selected IATA products, services, exhibitions and conferences
- Receive industry notifications on broad spectrum of areas including EDI, Customs, Security, etc.
- Receive a complimentary premium listing in IATA’s Cargolink
- Advertise on the Cargo website at a discounted rate.

Additional Strategic Partnerships’ Benefits

Branding

- Recognition as a valuable supporter of IATA and the air transport industry
- Inclusion in the IATA Strategic Partnerships online directory
- Exclusive usage of the IATA Strategic Partnerships logo
- Promotion through the electronic quarterly newsletter, the Partner Brief, viewed by thousands of aviation industry contacts
- Monthly posting of Strategic Partners’ press releases on the IATA website

IATA Clearing House Discount

Strategic Partners receive a substantial discount upon joining the IATA Clearing House:

The IATA Clearing House (ICH) provides the means to settle all the billed items sent to and from airlines around the world. Used by more than 400 airlines either directly or via special links, the ICH settles around USD 50 billion of interline billings every year. Its efficiency is so great that airline cash and settlement requirements are reduced by around 75%, and risks for all participants are minimized.
Publications
Partners may purchase publications at a preferential rate.

Courses
Strategic Partners may attend, at a reduced fee, IATA training courses.

Strategic Partners may receive 55% discount on the first 2 seats per year to any IATA classroom course (subject to availability).

Learn more