Plan Standards

The Plan Standards Strategic Partnerships Area of Involvement is one of the five management boards established by Resolution 009 under the Passenger Standards Conference, which combines the activity of the Passenger Services Conference and Passenger Tariffs Conferences.

Each Management Board is an airline-only group overseeing the strategy and direction of standards development and implementation within a specific business domain. The Board has the autonomy to create and disband groups to work on specific areas of standards.

Each Board will also have an Advisory Forum, where senior delegates from Strategic Partners can meet with Board member airlines to discuss issues around standards development and implementation.

The Plan Standards Board manages the development of standards concerning any interaction between airlines and any other parties for the purposes of exchanging information about which services are intended to be made available and to whom; and the management of any corresponding reference data. This includes but is not limited to schedule exchange standards, slot messaging standards, minimum connecting time standards, multilateral interline agreements and intermodal, industry coding.

Strategic Partners must join the Shop-Order, Plan Standards and Pay-Account areas of involvement in order to attend the Passenger Standards Conference.

The Plan Standards Board oversees standards touching many areas of distribution, and will establish Groups to develop proposals for standards touching business process and data exchange in these areas:

- Schedules Publications
- Slot Messaging
- Minimum Connect Time
- Industry Coding
- Interline
- Exhaustion of Flight Numbers and Industry Codes
Designed for

- Airlines
- Travel management companies
- Online travel agencies
- Corporate buyers
- Global distribution systems
- Technology providers

Meetings & Working Groups

Strategic Partners involved in the Plan Standards Area of Involvement may send senior level delegates to the Advisory Forum of the Plan Board as well as also send technical experts to any groups created by the Board where specific standards are developed.

Groups under each Board may be created or disbanded by the Board at any time, but an up to date list of active groups is available online. Access to meetings and working groups are subject to individual group terms of references.

Where permitted by the Group’s Terms of Reference, delegates from Strategic Partners may participate in these groups as either named members (committing to active involvement) or as observers.

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SCHEDULES PUBLICATION GROUP

The Schedules Publication Group is responsible for the airline schedule data standards used by airlines, GDSs and data aggregators including the assignment of aircraft codes, Terminal identifiers and UTC data.

Members of the group should have experience in day-to-day schedule publication processes with a strong knowledge of industry standards.

Schedules XML Work Group

The SchedX Work Group develops business requirements and maintains implementation guides for data exchange for Scheduling messaging standards (SSIM Chapters 2-5 & 7).

SLOT MESSAGING GROUP

The Slot Messaging Group is responsible for information exchange and standards related to airport slot/schedule coordination between airlines, airport coordinators and facilitators.

Members of the group should have experience in day-to-day slot management and technical administration including filing, reporting and schedule coordination.

Slots XML Work Group

SlotX Work Group develops business requirements for data exchange and maintains implementation guides for Slot messaging standards between airport coordinators and airlines (SSIM Chapter 6).

MINIMUM CONNECT TIME GROUP

The Minimum Connecting Times Group is responsible for the presentation, application and transfer of minimum connecting time data between airlines, data aggregators and partners.

Members of the group should have experience in day-to-day management of MCT application in systems along with established IATA processes.

Minimum Connect Time XML Work Group

The MCTX Work Group develops business requirements and maintains implementation guides for data exchange for MCT messaging standards (SSIM Chapter 8).

INDUSTRY CODING GROUP

The Codes Group is responsible for the assignment and availability of industry codes for airline designators, accounting codes and prefixes, location Identifiers, baggage tag issuance codes.

Members of the group should have experience areas touching industry coding regimes and systems such as Scheduling, distribution, Industry data exchange and messaging, Industry Affairs and Interline.
INTERLINE GROUP
The Interline Group is responsible for Interline system standards and multilateral interline agreements facilitating the exchange of passengers and their bags between airlines.

Members of the group should have experience in day-to-day involvement in interline traffic agreements, and industry processes supporting the interline system such as Interline, Alliances, Intermodal, Scheduling, Distribution, Industry Affairs, Legal, Interline billing.

Intermodal Work Group
The Intermodal Work Group develops business requirements relating to facilitating intermodal passenger processes.

EXHAUSTION OF FLIGHT NUMBERS & INDUSTRY CODES GROUP
The Exhaustion of Flight Numbers & Industry Codes Group is responsible for evaluating new flight identifier and codes options and exploring short- and long-term industry solutions from growing industry concerns.

Members of the Group should have current experience and day-to-day involvement with systems and industry processes supporting the usage of industry codes and/or flight numbers as well as solid understanding of digital transformations shaping the future requirements for industry identifiers.

Note: in addition to the groups listed above, Strategic Partners will also have access to the Architecture and Technology area of involvement, including all groups within it. For additional information, please refer to the Architecture and Technology product sheet.

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).

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