



ONE Record

Fact Sheet

Background

Imagine a world where every shipment across the air cargo industry is fully visible, seamlessly connected through standardized, event-driven data sharing, and significantly less dependent on fragmented legacy systems or paper-based processes. That vision is within reach, but achieving it depends on the unified adoption of ONE Record as the preferred IATA standard for data sharing.

Today, the industry faces a defining moment. Legacy standards like Cargo-IMP and Cargo-XML, introduced respectively in 1975 and 2010, were designed primarily for structured message exchange and were not originally built for today's API-driven, connected, and collaborative global supply chain environment. Air cargo stakeholders expect transparency, real-time updates, and reliability, but fragmented legacy systems create inefficiencies, limit interoperability, and slow industry innovation. Modernization and digitalization are no longer optional but essential.

Data sharing standard

ONE Record offers a transformative solution—an API-based standard designed to enable seamless, transparent, and event-driven data sharing across all air cargo stakeholders.

The technical standard is composed of:

- **A common data model** for air cargo that facilitates data integration with existing and new data services
- **An API specification** that details how airlines and their partners can easily connect their systems with each other
- **A security specification** that ensures data privacy and confidentiality for all parties

These specifications are available at <https://iata-cargo.github.io/ONE-Record/stable/>

Industry benefits

The objective of ONE Record is to enable standardized, secure, and interoperable data sharing across the air cargo ecosystem, supporting the industry's transition toward a more connected, automated, and fully digital operating environment. By improving data accessibility, transparency, and collaboration between stakeholders, ONE Record also creates opportunities for new value-added services, operational efficiencies, and innovative business models.

This includes:

1. **Enhanced data sharing and collaboration:** ONE Record enables transparent and secure data sharing between stakeholders in the air cargo supply chain, such as airlines, freight forwarders, ground handlers, and customs. This leads to greater efficiency and streamlines operations.
2. **Real-time data access:** ONE Record enables real-time and event-driven access to shipment data, allowing stakeholders to make informed decisions and respond quickly to changing circumstances, such as delays or disruptions.
3. **Improved data accuracy and consistency:** By utilizing a standardized air cargo data model, ONE Record ensures that all parties have access to accurate, consistent, and up-to-date information. This reduces errors and discrepancies, leading to more efficient operations and better customer service.
4. **Increased transparency and traceability:** ONE Record offers greater visibility into the entire supply chain, allowing stakeholders to track shipments and monitor their progress at every stage. This transparency helps identify bottlenecks and inefficiencies, leading to improved performance and customer satisfaction.
5. **Reduced paperwork and manual processes:** Supporting the original objectives of the e-freight program, ONE Record continues to eliminate paper by digitizing and standardizing data exchange.
6. **Future of digital cargo:** ONE Record creates the foundation for true digital air cargo where airlines, their partners, and service providers can develop collaborative and automated digital services and welcome a new generation of digital savvy air cargo innovators.

Industry milestone: 1 January 2026

Resulting from an industry-wide effort including (but not limited to) forwarders, airlines, ground handlers, and IT solution providers, the IATA Cargo Services Conference endorsed ONE Record as the preferred standard for data sharing among air cargo stakeholders effective 1 January 2026.

More than 200 companies across the global air cargo ecosystem have participated in ONE Record-related pilots, implementation initiatives, and industry working groups focused on use cases such as exchange of air waybill data, freight tracking, customs processes, and multimodal transport integration. Many of these pilots are now evolving into operational and production-oriented implementations.

Additional information and technical specifications are available at: <https://www.iata.org/one-record>