The following are some of the main updates to the Airport Handling Manual 39th edition.

Chapter 2 – Baggage Handling
- Entire Chapter 2 has been removed and is now located in the IATA Baggage Reference Manual (BRM) and the Passenger Services Conference Resolutions Manual (PSCRM)

Chapter 3 – Cargo / Mail Handling
- AHM 345 – Revised mobility aid provisions to align to the current version of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.
- AHM 350 - Revised mail handling procedures including receptacle labelling, irregular mail handling and paperless transportation. Addition of new “Alarm Resolutions”, a procedure to follow in case dangerous goods and other prohibited items are discovered in transit.
- AHM 351 – Revised mail documentation to align to current Universal Postal Union (UPU) documentation and specify that a paperless process can be followed if agreed.
- AHM 353 - Allowance for a paperless process if agreed.
- AHM 355 - Revised mail security procedures, including pilfered mail.
- AHM 356 – Clarification on the types of dangerous goods being permitted in airmail

Chapter 4 – Aircraft Handling and Loading
- AHM462 – Introduced a new deviation policy from standard operating procedures, e.g. driving under the wings, allowing greater flexibility to vary safely from a recommended industry Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Chapter 5 – Load Control
- AHM 510 – Updated handling codes to include wheelchair battery types
- AHM 515 – Entirely revised manual loading instruction report
- AHM 539 – Updated policy for the calculation of hand baggage loaded in the cargo hold
- AHM 551 – Entirely revised Last Minute Change (LMC) policy
- AHM 587 – Revised Container/Pallet distribution message to include departing station and number of pieces
- Overall benefits include:
  - Clearer instructions on manual reports for end users
  - Safer process to avoid errors in exceeding limitations
Chapter 6 – Management and Safety
- AHM 610 - New guideline related to setting the Safety Performance Indicators (SPIs) and measurement of the safety performance, which also serves as the ISAGO guidance material. Link between safety and quality assurance programs has been added.
- AHM 617 - New guideline on how to develop the Occupational Health and Safety program and put in place effective programs using the recommended requirements
- AHM 611 –Deleted as training requirements for frontline personnel are now covered under AHM chapter 11
- AHM 612 – Deleted as the ramp oversight is covered in more detail under AHM 610 SMS and AHM 615 QMS
- AHM 615 – Updated to align with ISAGO standards updates and linked to the safety assurance program from the AHM 610

Chapter 7- Aircraft Movement Control
- AHM 790 – Revision of the standard message for communicating aircraft registration changes during operation. Benefits include:
  - more automation reducing human error
  - clearer communication that speeds up data processing
  - moving from data entry to data checking

Chapter 8 Ground Handling Agreements
- AHM 801
  - New explanations such as:
    - Use of the definitions
    - Contracting of ticketing
    - Deviations from IGOM
    - Landside and airside transport
- AHM 803
  - New cargo Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) added and Service Level Agreement (SLA) for cargo updated to measure the quality of service delivery
- AHM 810
  - SGHA 2018 Benefits:
    - Providing a standard baseline for contracting handling services to ensure safe & efficient operations
    - Outsourcing services accurately
    - Clear service descriptions avoiding misinterpretations, grey areas
    - Minimizing the risk of conflicts between parties
    - Avoiding cost differences for services
    - Setting up the liability limits and responsibilities for damage indemnity between airline and handling company
    - Proven contractual framework that is used globally for over 25 years
• AHM 811
  - Additions in the yellow pages – main agreement
    - New definitions
    - Article 5 minimum training requirements AHM Chapter 11 and ULD table 1.6 A, B added;
    - Corporate social responsibility clarified
    - Storage period for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) defined
    - New sub-article 11.4 added to cover the situation when scope of the manuals (e.g. operations, service scope) significantly changes compared to the scope when an agreement was signed which affects the handling costs
  - Additions in the yellow pages - Annex A
    - Mail Registration Device (MRD) scanning added
    - 2.1.9 ticketing services completely updated
    - Airport Collaborative Decision Making (A-CDM) added
    - Update, rewording and renumbering of various services
  - Additions in the yellow pages - Annex B
    - New layout aligning with an industry needs created
• AHM 815 - completely updated
  - Ensures that the contract is aligned with the IATA Resolutions related to the ticketing as well as to address existence of the electronic ticket and changes in the service delivery
• AHM 840 - EDI messaging updated
  - Sets up the period for record rotation as described in AHM 810

Chapter 9 Airport Handling Ground Support Equipment (GSE) Specifications

• AHM 906 - Guidelines for use of pooled and borrowed Ground Support Equipment (GSE)
  - Developed in collaboration with Airside Safety Group (ASG) and the Ground Damage DataBase group (GDDB) this new AHM provides guidelines to assist with the emerging GSE pooling initiatives as well as formalizing the matter of borrowing GSE. Revised
• AHM 916 – Basic requirements for towing vehicle interface (hitch)
  - Now incorporates aircraft towbar and equipment drawbar hitches into one document for ease of use and quick reference with standard pin, clevis and hole sizes.
• AHM 950 - Functional specifications for an airport passenger bus
  - Completely revised text dealing with aspects such as floor structure, doors, visibility of steps, emergency exits and more.
• AHM 965 / 966 / 967 – Functional specifications for Unit Load Device (ULD) dolly
  - Completely revised text incorporating the latest safety features
• AHM 975 / 977 – Functional specifications for self-propelled and towed de-icing / anti-icing units
  - Revisited to align with globally accepted standards