API & PNR: A Standards Overview

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Strengthening Aviation Security through Improved Traveller Identification
OBJECTIVE

• Understand the complexities of passenger data programs
• Increase awareness of existing international standards and airlines’ capabilities
• Understand that ICAO, WCO and IATA can offer assistance and expertise
Requirements In Early 2000

Introduction
INCREASING NON-STANDARD REQUESTS

API: Commercial Solution

etc.

PNR
State Design

API: Web/Email
Definitions
API helps identify people you know about.

For instance: people on a watchlist

PNRGOV (from PNR) helps notice people and trends you did not know about.

For instance: suspicious travel patterns
Advance Passenger Information (API)

Information about a person’s identity.

- API can be useful for:
  - Immigration
  - Customs
  - Security
AP I – TRANSMISSION

Legacy (Batch) API
API – TRANSMISSION
Interactive API (iAPI)
Information about a person’s travel reservation.

It can be useful:

• For customs, law enforcement, security
• To help identify contraband, smuggling, etc
• To assist in risk assessment
• PNR contains personal data
• Countries have different perspectives on how much is “private” or how much can be shared
• State to State agreement may be necessary
• Sensitive data should not be required
Standards and Recommended Practices for API, iAPI and PNR

API and iAPI data elements are listed in the WCO-IATA-ICAO Guidelines on API

PNR data elements are listed in the ICAO Guidelines on PNR Data (Doc. 9944)
Key Principles
“ACE” stands for

- Alignment with standards
- Cooperation with industry and other States (data protection)
- Efficiency: necessary data only
Single Window
INTERACTIVE API (iAPI)
BENEFITS OF STANDARD TRANSMISSION

- Faster implementation
- Better compliance
- Cost control
- Reliable data
- Minimum impact on airport infrastructure
NATIONAL SECURITY BENEFITS

- Watch-list screening
- Integrated Border Management
- Single Window
- Automated Border Control
- International Cooperation
- Travel history and analysis
GLOBAL CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

• IATA/ICAO/WCO Passenger Data Toolkit

• IATA Guide to Facilitation
  – Detailed summary Annex 9 Standards, Recommended Practices

• API/PNR seminars in cooperation with UN, ICAO, WCO, IOM, INTERPOL, OSCE
  – Seminars for those States planning Passenger Data programs

• IATA Passenger Data Training
  – Training on Passenger Data specifications for practitioners
EMERGING ISSUES

• Electronic Travel Systems
  – Pre-validation of travel authorization through interactive API
  – Purpose: ETS expedites the pre-vetting and acceptance of low-risk passengers into a country, while providing a secure method for applicants, governments, and airlines to verify the acceptance for travel.
  – Definition: The automated process for the lodgement, acceptance and verification of a passenger’s authorization to travel to a State, in lieu of the standard counterfoil visa.

• Dual citizens and API
  – Best practices needed?
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