



ICAO SOUTH AMERICAN REGIONAL OFFICE

TECHNICAL SHEET – AGA/21/01

Virtual Seminar on Ground Handling	
Regional Strategy	<p>In 2019, ICAO published the first manual on ground handling a joint work between ICAO and the Industry focused mainly on safety aspects and the implementation of SMS in these services providers.</p> <p>Currently ICAO doesn't have SARP's directly applicable to Ground Handlers, and in the States these providers are usually considered under the responsibility of either the aerodrome operator, the aircraft operator or both. However, the current model based on contracts, services level agreements (SLAs) and others do not necessarily provide the expected level of safety. In fact, incidents, and accidents on the ground, which include accidents with a GH component, continue to be a category with the highest occurrence according to ICAO data (2020 safety report).</p> <p>With the publication of the new ICAO Ground Handling manual, the SAM region's strategy is to first hold an event to promote awareness of the manual, so that it can serve as a starting point of reference for States to analyze the problem and identify, accordingly, the implementation of measures to guarantee operational safety by these suppliers.</p> <p>To achieve this, the Regional Office proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Create awareness of the available documentation. ✓ Survey the States to determine the baseline of the regulation and surveillance models of these providers. ✓ Identify existing gaps that prevent suppliers from achieving an acceptable level of operational safety in their processes. ✓ Implementation of measures agreed by the States (at the local or regional level) – To be defined.
ICAO Strategic Objectives	<p>A- Safety</p> <p>B- Capacity and Efficiency of Air Navigation</p>
Activities carried out by SAM Region	<p>✓ This is the first ICAO Regional activity on this specific topic.</p>
Current Situation of the SAM Region in	<p>Currently it is necessary to collect data on the business models of these providers, as well as the different regulation or oversight models implemented in the States to determine the current situation.</p> <p>✓ Independent</p>

terms of implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ As part of a subsidiary of the aircraft operator ✓ As part of a subsidiary of the aerodrome operator
Objective of the activity	The webinar aims to raise awareness of the availability of current ICAO documentation, generate synergy among participants, and collect feedback from them to guide regional efforts.
Nature of the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Presentations by subject matter experts and stakeholder representatives (IATA, ACI, ASA, IBAC, UK CAA, ICAO HQ) ✓ Presentations of current experiences by two identified States (one regulating directly, the other indirectly)
Competences that the event will generate	Participants are expected to gain skills to identify in their own realities the gaps and opportunities for improvement that could be achieved based on following ICAO guidance.
Participant's profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ AGA Inspectors of the CAAs of the States ✓ OPS/Ground Safety Inspectors of the CAAs of the States ✓ Aircraft operators ✓ Ground handlers ✓ Aerodrome Operators ✓ SMS managers of the States and service providers
Next steps in the development of the strategy by States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Get feedback on the event ✓ Compile information and data ✓ Implementation decision-making
Regional framework update	Depending on the results of the event, future actions could be planned to include ground handling aspects in high-level group discussions such as RASGPA.
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