



RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

Information for Schedules Facilitators and Coordinators

Version 9 – 9 June 2006

1. Explanation

The airline community asked the EUACA for clarification on how its Members would interpret and apply certain aspects of Articles 7.1 and 7.2 in the Regulation.

2. References

Article 7.1 of the Regulation states:

*'Air carriers operating or intending to operate at a schedules facilitated or coordinated airport shall submit to the schedules facilitator or coordinator respectively all **relevant information requested by them.....**' (Bold text has been added for emphasis)*

Article 7.2 of the Regulation states:

*'Where an air carrier fails to provide the information referred to in paragraph 1 unless it can satisfactorily demonstrate that mitigating circumstances exist, or **provides false or misleading information**, the coordinator shall not take into consideration the slot request or requests by that air carrier to which the missing, false or misleading information relates. The coordinator shall give that air carrier the opportunity to submit its observations.'* (Bold text has been added for emphasis)

3. Rationale/Description

Interpretation

- Coordinators and Schedules Facilitators are only concerned if the false or misleading information is relevant to coordination parameters and/or limited capacity and facilities i.e. where demand equals or exceeds supply.
- Timescales are also very important as the relevance of the information may increase as the scheduling season approaches. More flexibility should be allowed earlier in the planning process.
- Coordinators are particularly concerned with false or misleading information if it affects the priority that is given to a particular slot request e.g. claiming new entrant status.
- Detailed destination information is not, generally, regarded as relevant information where the destination is not relevant to the coordination parameters and/or limited capacity and facilities or priorities for slot allocation. Where the destination is relevant to the coordination parameters then the air carrier must show the intended destination on its schedule request. Where the destination is not relevant to the coordination parameters then air carriers should inform the Coordinator or Schedules Facilitator of the true destination of their flight as soon as possible but no later than the 30 days before the start of the season.

- Some examples of false information at coordinated airports include:
 - Allocated slots for one Service Type but operating another Service Type e.g. requesting a passenger service but operating a positioning flight.
 - Tactical slot bidding to get higher priority in the slot allocation process e.g. requesting a daily service or a full season operation that the airline has no intention of operating.
 - Requesting slots for a longer period of operation than it is intended to operate
 - Requesting slots based on year round operation priority in say May/June for the Winter season for services that are not planning to operate in the Summer season.
 - Overbidding for slots in order to get a higher share of slots allocated than can be operated.
 - Requesting new entrant status when not a new entrant.

Similar problems may be caused at schedules facilitated airports with airlines giving false or misleading information.

Contacting the Air Carrier

Where the Coordinator/Schedules Facilitator believes that an air carrier may be giving false or misleading information (see examples above) then the Coordinator/Schedules Facilitator should try to contact the air carrier concerned to seek clarification and satisfy himself/herself that the schedule information being provided by the air carrier is correct before the date of operation.

Sanctions

Where an air carrier gives false or misleading information to the Coordinator, or fails to supply information requested by the Coordinator it will not have its requests for slot(s) taken into account by the Coordinator unless mitigating circumstances exist. In general however it is probable that action will be taken on the basis of the Article 14 in the Regulation.

The sanction will only be applied to the slot requests to which the false or misleading information relates and for the season for which the slot requests were made.

4. Status

Agreed at EUACA/38 June 2006

5. Exceptions

In the following countries the Coordinator or Schedules Facilitator may act differently from the method described above: