

The Benefits of IATA Interlining

WHAT IS IATA INTERLINING?

- In choosing between air transport alternatives, consumers value schedule, elapsed time, comfort, and the flexibility to change their plans. In some cases the specific needs of consumers may only be satisfied by multiple connecting flights.
- IATA Interlining consists of travel or potential travel involving multiple airlines on a single ticket, bought in a single transaction, using a single currency, which offers a passenger through-checked baggage, and a high degree of flexibility as to choice of timing, routing and carrier.
- The multilateral interline product gives consumers the flexibility to choose the schedule and the routing that meets their needs, and to change the schedule and routing should their needs change.
- The IATA interline ticket, is a product that cannot be produced by any airline or alliance on its own. It combines the schedules and services of over 240 airlines worldwide.

Benefits to airlines

- The IATA Interline system is especially important for small and regional airlines that can obtain much greater scope in the number of origins/destinations that they can offer to their customers.
- The IATA system provides airlines with important additional sources of passengers.
- This allows airlines to operate at higher capacity utilisation and therefore at lower average total cost per seat.

Benefits to consumers

- More convenient and lower cost services for connecting passengers and cargo;
- Flexibility, particularly for time-sensitive passengers and cargo.
 - Passengers may choose the airlines and schedules that suit their requirements and have the ability to change their flight, their carrier, their routing (subject to certain distance limits) and add or delete stopping points.
 - For cargo, the IATA system provides the means to get cargo from one destination to another, with the ability to 'seamlessly' transfer the cargo at connecting airports.
- Dedicated freight operators use the IATA system to enable them to reach destinations outside their networks, and to cover urgent or part shipments that they cannot accommodate in their network for a variety of reasons.
- Single ticket, and a single contract guaranteeing connections;