



# ICAO/LACAC Regional Facilitation Seminar/Workshop

**Santiago, Chile**

20-22 March 2012



**FAL/SEM, Santiago**



# Advance Passenger Information (API)

21 March 2012



# API: An Overview



1. What is API & Why States want it?

2. API data: What is collected? When?

3. WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines

4. API Regulatory Framework

5. iAPI: the future



## 1. What is API?



### API involves

- . . . the capture of passenger **and/or** crew member biographic data **and** flight details by the aircraft operator when prior to departure of flight . . .
- . . . **electronically** transmitted to the border control agencies in the destination country after the flight departs.



## 1. Why do States want API data?



- ▶ improve clearance at border controls
- ▶ risk management purposes
- ▶ combat illegal migration
- ▶ identify passengers who are a known immigration or security threat
- ▶ more effective allocation of border control and law enforcement resources



## 2. API data: What is collected? When?



- When is the data collected?
  - Beginning when flight “open” for check-in
    - ▶ Online check-in
    - ▶ Physical check-in
  - Ending when flight “closed” for departure



## 2. API data: What is collected? When?



- What is collected?
  - Data on passenger/crew
    - ▶ Personal information
    - ▶ Travel document information
    - ▶ Contact details
    - ▶ Flight details
  - Data on aircraft flight

Approx. **38** bits of data [▶ **Paxlst Message**]



## 2. API data: What is collected? When?



10 data elements from primary MRTD (e.g. MRP):

- 1. SURNAME
- 2. GIVEN NAME(S)
- 3. GENDER
- 4. DATE OF BIRTH
- 5. PLACE OF BIRTH
- 6. NATIONALITY
- 7. TYPE OF TRAVEL DOCUMENT
- 8. TRAVEL DOCUMENT NUMBER
- 9. NAME OF ISSUING STATE/ORGN.
- 10. EXPIRATION DATE OF TD



## 2. API data: What is collected? When?



+3 data elements if MRV is used:

- 11. Visa Number
- 12. Date of Issuance
- 13. Place of Issuance

+2 data elements **IF** other secondary t.d. used:

- 14. Type of travel document [e.g. Canadian PR Card]
- 15. Number of travel document

**[Possible 10-15 elements]**



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### 3. WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines



- 1990: USA 1<sup>st</sup> to implement API
- Concern: Lack of international uniformity
- **WCO+IATA:** API “best practice” Guidelines (1993)
- **2003, 2010:** ICAO endorsement



### 3. WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines



## API Guidelines:

▶ ICAO Public Site → Key activities → Aviation security → SFP Section → Facilitation Programme → Publications

[http://www2.icao.int/en/AVSEC/FAL/Pages  
/Publications.aspx](http://www2.icao.int/en/AVSEC/FAL/Pages/Publications.aspx)



### 3. WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines



- API Guidelines:
  - Costs and Benefits of API
  - Factors relevant to planning an API system
  - Policy issues: WCO, IATA, ICAO
  - Technical aspects of API
  
- ▶ Main issue: need for international uniformity
  - ▶ UN/EDIFACT Pax1st Message:  
Standard e-message for passenger manifest transmissions: **Maximum set of API Data**



### 3. WCO/IATA/ICAO API Guidelines



- API Contact Committee (WCO/IATA/ICA)
- Changes to Paxlst Message: DMRs
- “Data Maintenance Requests” to API CC
- API CC → UN/CEFACT
  - ▶ Body that manages UN/EDIFACT directory



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## 4. API Regulatory Framework



### Annex 9: States' obligation to standardize API requirements

- Standard 3.47: State to adhere to int'. Standards
  - ▶ Note 1: Brief description of API
  - ▶ Note 2: Information on UN/EDIFACT
  - ▶ Note 3: Non-applicability to general aviation
- Standard 3.47.1
  - ▶ Personal & TD information: Doc 9303
  - ▶ All information: conform to Paxlst Message



## 4. API Regulatory Framework



- Standard 3.47.2:
  - ▶ More information than 3.47.1 required, restrict to Paxlst Message elements, or
  - ▶ Request DMR process [▶ API CC]
- Standard 3.47.5: Seek to limit burden on airlines
- Standard 3.47.7: If electronic API, then no paper passenger manifest



## 4. API Regulatory Framework



- Recommended Practice 3.47.3:
  - ▶ If State unable to use Paxlst, consult users on operational and cost impact
- Recommended Practice 3.47.5:
  - ▶ State to minimize number of times API is transmitted for a specific flight



## 4. API Regulatory Framework



### Summary of 3.47, 3.47.1, 3.47.2

States obliged to:

1. adhere to international recognized API standards;
2. require only data elements available in MRTDs, and information to conform to the PAXLST message structure; and,
3. only data elements found in the PAXLST message to be included in API requirements; if additional elements required, then the DMR process to be used.



## 4. API Regulatory Framework



### 37<sup>th</sup> Assembly (2010) Resolutions

- A37-17 (Avsec Resolution)
  - ▶ States urged to use API
- Declaration on Aviation Security
  - ▶ States urged to use API as an aid to aviation security
- A37-20, Appendix D, Section III
  - ▶ States to ensure passenger data requirements conform to international standards adopted by UN agencies



## 4. API Regulatory Framework



5 December 2011

State Letter EC6/3-11/76

▶ “Implementation of Standard 3.47”

States encouraged to ensure adherence to international recognized standards for API transmission



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## 5. iAPI: The Future



- API: action on “high-risk” persons on after flight landed at destination
- iAPI [APP; AQQ]=interactive API
- Passenger-by-passenger 2-way exchange
- At check-in, messages exchanged between departure (airline) & destination (control)
- “Board”/ “No board” (etc.) message
- Aviation security: proactive prevention
- Facilitation: inadmissible persons; efficient clearance at destination



## 5. iAPI: The Future



- API Contact Committee
    - ▶ Updated API Guidelines
    - ▶ Updated Paxlst Message
  - Expected publication: June 2012
- \*API on Agenda of High Level Security Conference, September 2012\***