



New Passenger Data Requirements Coming In Early 2009

What You Need to Know

Dear Valued Customer:

As you may be aware, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in October announced the final rule for the Secure Flight program, which is designed to enhance the security of domestic and international commercial air travel through the use of improved watch list matching. Upon full implementation of the Secure Flight program, each passenger travelling to or from a U.S. destination will be required to provide specific information before an airline can issue a boarding pass.

This is an initial advisory from Travelport regarding our plans to help you and your customers comply with the new rule. More information will be forthcoming.

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to conduct passenger screening

Through the Secure Flight program, the TSA will assume from airlines, responsibility for conducting prescreening of passenger information against federal government watch lists. Initially, airlines with flights operating within the United States will be required to provide the TSA with the following passenger data; in a second phase, international flights will be added:

- Passenger's full name as it appears on the ID used to pass through airport security
- Date of birth
- Gender
- DHS Redress Number (if available) or Known Traveler Number (if available, once the Known Traveler Program is implemented)

What the rule means to airlines:

Airlines must transmit to the TSA approximately 72 hours prior to departure:

- Specific passenger data described above
- If provided by passenger, passport information and itinerary information

What the rule means to travel agencies:

- If you have not already done so, we recommend you begin updating traveller information where possible with the new required data.
- To streamline the check-in process for travellers and to ensure travellers are able to obtain boarding passes, airlines will need the information from agencies in advance.

What Travelport is doing to enable you to comply with the new rule:

Travelport will provide a mechanism for travel agencies to transmit the needed passenger information to ensure smooth travel experiences for their customers.

- Travelport is reviewing industry standards for easy entry of required passenger information into the Travelport systems.

When will the Secure Flight rule go into effect?

TSA will notify each airline of the specific dates by which the airline must be capable of collecting and transmitting the Secure Flight Passenger Data. TSA expects airlines to begin providing passenger names in February 2009.

By assuming watch list matching responsibilities from airlines, TSA will:

- Decrease the chance for compromised watch list data by limiting its distribution
- Provide earlier identification of potential matches, allowing for expedited notification of law enforcement and threat management
- Provide a fair, equitable and consistent matching process across all airlines
- Reduce instances of misidentified and inconvenienced individuals
- Offer consistent application of an expedited and integrated redress process for misidentified individuals via the [Department of Homeland Security's Travel Redress Inquiry Program \(DHS TRIP\)](#)

Travelport is working quickly to make this transition as easy and seamless as possible for you and your customers. For additional information about the Secure Flight program, please visit: [Secure Flight Program](#).

Best Regards,

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