Transportation of Disabled and Passengers





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Overview of Presentation

- Historical Background The US Approach
- European Perspective
- Flying from US to EU or vice versa
 - General Regulatory Approach
 - Categories of Passengers
 - Assistance at Airport
 - Aircraft Accessibility
 - Acceptance, limitations and refusal of carriage
 - Passengers travelling with Service Animals
 - Passengers travelling with Emotional Support animals
 - Passengers Rights
- Take home message





Historical Background – the US Approach

U.S. Department of Transportation



14 CFR Part 382

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Air Travel

SUBPART A -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 382.1 Purpose.

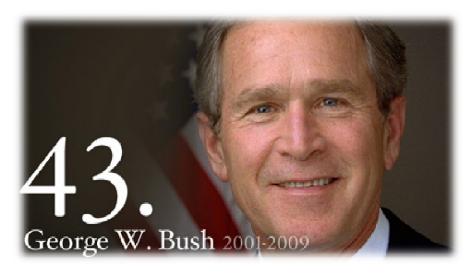
The purpose of this part is to implement the Air Carrier Access Act of 1986 (49 U.S.C. 41705), which provides that no air carrier may discriminate against any otherwise qualified individual with a disability, by reason of such disability, in the provision of air transportation.

Historical Background – Americans with disabilities

Disability is not the experience of a minority of Americans.

Rather, it is an experience that will touch most

Americans at some point during their lives.



President George W. Bush New Freedom Initiative February 1, 2001



Historical Background – Americans with disabilities

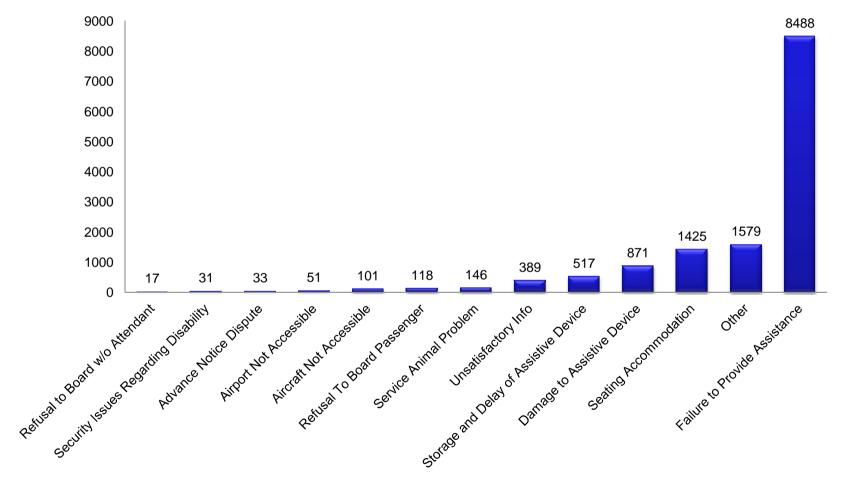


We are facilitating living a fuller life, and air travel is essential to a full life.

Kate Hunter Zaworski
Director, National Center for Accessible Transportation
Oregon State University



Disability-Related Complaints (As reported to the Airlines)

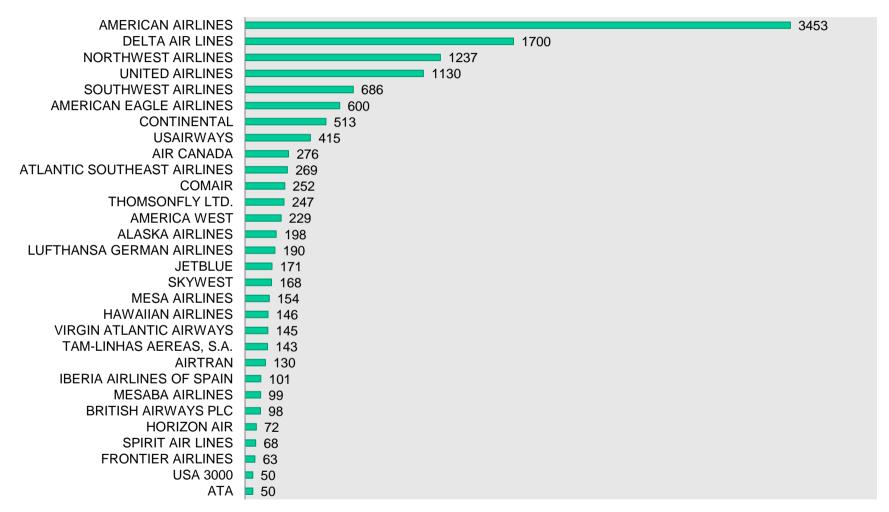


Source: air consumer. ost. dot. gov/publications/2006 Complaint Summary. doc





Number of Disability-Related Complaints by Carrier (50 or more)



Source: airconsumer.ost.dot.gov/publications/2006ComplaintSummary.doc



ECAC POLICY STATEMENT IN THE FIELD OF CIVIL AVIATION FACILITATION

ECAC.CEAC DOC No. 30 (PART I) 9th Edition/July 2003

As amended by DGCA/122 (Paris, 24-25 November 2004) and including two additional Annexes (K and L) approved by FAL/32 (October 2005)

ECAC POLICY STATEMENT IN THE FIELD OF AVIATION FACILITATION

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FACILITATION OF THE TRANSPORT OF PERSONS WITH REDUCED MOBILITY 1

Definition of a person with reduced mobility:

A person with reduced mobility (PRM) is understood to mean any person whose mobility is reduced due to a physical incapacity (sensory or locomotory), an intellectual deficiency, age, illness or any other cause of disability when using transport and whose situation needs special attention and the adaptation to the person's needs of the services made available to all passengers.

This definition was accepted by the eleventh ICAO Division, and inserted in Chapter 1 of Annex 9, tenth edition, under the definition of "Persons with disabilities".

FACILITATION OF THE TRANSPORT OF PERSONS WITH REDUCED MOBILITY ¹

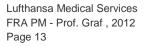
5.2 PASSENGERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

5.2.1 Identification of passengers needing special assistance

Certain passengers on account of their physical, mental or medical condition require special facilities in relation to airport infrastructure, ground and air transport, and adequate assistance from airlines and airport operators in application of the principle of equal right to unimpeded access for all air transport users.

Flying from US to EU or vice versa – literally around the world ...









General Regulatory Approach

PART 382	EC 1107
✓ Subpart A – K is a binding mandate, imposed on all carriers flying to and from the US	→ Doc 30 is a guidance document for organizing provisions of assistance
→ Foreign Carriers may apply for a conflict of law waiver if a foreign legal requirement conflicted with Part 382	

Impact: Guidance, recommendations, codes of best practice or regulation that authorizes carriers to adopt a certain policy, does not create a conflict cognizable under the conflict of laws waiver provision.

Foreign Carriers must therefore comply with Part 382!





Categories of Passengers

Physical Disabilities



Wheelchairs, visual and hearing impairments

Intellectual Disabilities



Mental retardation, learining disabilities

Medical Cases



Stretcher, medical oxygen,



Categories of Passengers

PART 382	EC 1107
Categories of passengers covered under Part 382 are any individual who has a permanent or temporary physical or mental impairment	Categories of passengers covered under EC 1107 are any person whose mobility when using transport is
→ Physical impairments, disorders or conditions:	reduced due to:
Visual, speech, hearing impairments, anatomical loss, musculoskeletal, cosmetic disfigurement, cardiovascular, diabetes, drug addiction and alcoholism, epilepsy, cancer, digestive, etc.	 any physical disability (sensory or locomotor, permanent or temporary) Visual, speech, hearing, impairments Passengers requiring a wheelchair to and
→ Mental or psychological disorders	from the aircraft,
Mental retardation, emotional or mental illness, learning disabilities	→ intellectual disability or impairment As part 382
Passengers using medical oxygen or respiratory assistive devices	



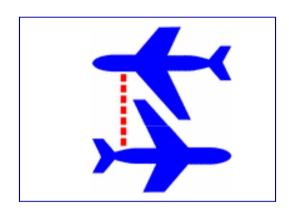
Assistance at Airports

Enplaning/Deplaning



Lifts, ramps, wheelchairs

Connecting



Transit, reaching connecting flight

Assistance



To lavatory, gate-checked or carry-on bags, assistance dog



Assistance at Airports

Services within Airports



Impact: Carriers may be held responsible if any European Airport does not meet the requirement of Part 382. The carrier must supplement such services.

Assistance at Airports

Advanced notice

PART 382	EC 1107	*** * * * * * *
Carriers cannot generally require passengers with a disability to provide advanced notice	Passengers should notify of least 48 hours before	carriers at
(only for specific services)		

Impact: European Airports may face major difficulties assisting a significant number of disabled passengers arriving, departing or transiting at the same time without advanced notice.



Aircraft Accessibility

Armrests



Aisle moveable armrest

Lavatories



Wheelchair accessible lavatories

Stowage



Wheelchair stowage space, onboard aisle chair



Aircraft Accessibility Requirements

PART 382	EC 1107
Applies to aircraft ordered after 13 May 2009 ✓ Moveable armrests (30 passengers aircrafts)	Not covered under EC 1107:
 ✓ Accessible lavatories (double aisle aircraft) ✓ Wheelchair stowage (100 passenger aircraft) ✓ On-board aisles chair (60 passenger aircraft no matter of the age of aircraft) passengers should provide 48 hours' notice 	Guidance under Doc. 30 for aircraft coming newly into service or major refurbishment

Impact: Foreign Airlines flying to and from the US must comply with the regulation if the aircraft was ordered after 13 May 2009



Medical Certificate



Medical clearance, fitness to fly certificate

Communicable disease



SARS, Influenza A, Meningitis,

Portable Oxygen



Electronic Respiratory
Assistive Device



Medical Certificate

PART 382	EC 1107
Carriers cannot generally require passengers to have a medical certificate or to undergo pre-flight medical clearance. Unless for: > Stretcher	Passengers with medical conditions are not covered under EC 1107. Medical certificate or medical clearance may be requested if: fitness to travel is in doubt
Oxygen required during flightCannot safely complete the flight	
Communicable disease posing a direct threat	→ operation

Impact: European Carriers flying to/from the US or check-in agents requesting a medical certificate if passenger fitness to travel is in doubt may violate Part 382



Communicable Disease

PART 382	EC 1107
Passengers may be refused transportation only for communicable diseases that pose a direct threat. The condition must be both readily transmitted and have serious health consequences: > SARS	Air Carrier may request a "fitness to fly" certificate or refuse transportation ☐ chicken pox ☐ H1N1

Impact: European Carriers flying to/from the US refusing a passenger with Influenza A (H1N1) may violate Part 382

Medical Portable Electronic devices

PART 382	EC 1107	
Label from the manufacturer that FAA requirements are met: ↑ tested and meeting RTCA requirements ↑ capable of being stowed ↑ required number of batteries	Not covered under EC 1107. Assuming the device is classified as dangerous goods, EU-OPS states that carriers must not transport the devices unless approved to do so.	

Impact: Complete new regulation, 11 devices are labelled as meeting FAA requirements. Additional approval required to meet EU-OPS



Limitation



Limitation on numbers or categories

Safety Assistant



Escorts, Care Assistant,

Refusal



Denied Boarding

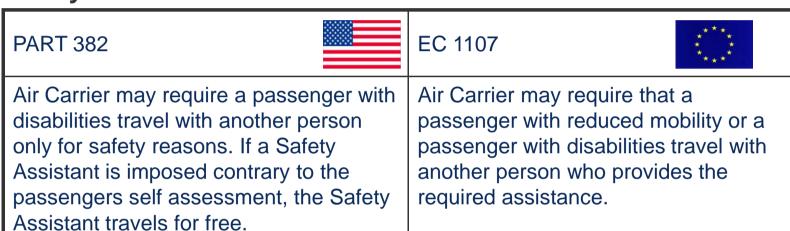


Limit on Numbers or Categories

PART 382	EC 1107
Air carrier must not limit the number of passengers with a disability who travel on a flight	EU-OPS recommends that the numbers of passenger with reduced mobility should not exceed the number of passengers able to assist in an emergency evacuation

Impact: A conflict of law waiver is not accepted as EU-OPS does only recommend limiting numbers.

Safety Assistant



Impact: Air Carriers flying to and from the US may have to offload full paying passengers to accommodate Safety Assistants

Refusal of Carriage

retusar or ourriage	
PART 382	EC 1107
Air carrier must not refuse transportation to a passenger with a disability on the basis of his or her	Air Carriers may refuse transportation to meet applicable safety requirements established by
disability	✓ International law
	→ Community or National law
	✓ Size of the aircraft or its doors
	makes embarkation impossible

Impact: Foreign Carriers flying to/from the US refusing a passenger based on EC 1107 may violate Part 382





Passengers travelling with Service Animals

Service Animal



Hearing Dogs

Service Animal



Guide Dogs

Service Animal



Assistance Dogs



Passengers travelling with Service Animals

Service Animals in the Cabin

PART 382



EC 1107



Foreign carriers will not be required to carry any service animals in the cabin except dogs.

As evidence that an animal is a service animal, you must accept credible verbal assurances of a individual with a disability or:

- identification cards
- → other written documentation
- → presence of harnesses, tags

Air Carriers must only carry recognized assistance dogs in the cabin (subject to National Regulation)

"Recognized" means: Assistance dogs are accepted by and affiliated to the International Guide Dog Federation. Assistance dogs are trained by an organisation that meets the full membership criteria of Assistance Dogs International (ADI).



Emotional Support Animals (ESAN)

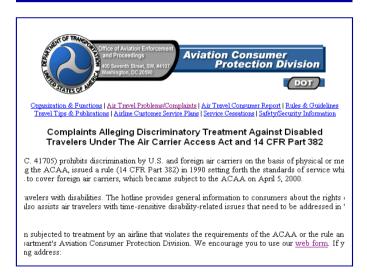




- ✓ No reptiles and rodents allowed on board.
- ✓ Passenger carries the medical advice to be accompanied by an animal for emotional reasons.
- ✓ Certificate must be issued by a physician.
- ✓ ESAN travels in cabin, no need for a harness.

Passenger Rights

Aviation Consumer Protection



http://airconsumer.dot.gov/ACAAcomplaint.htm

National Enforcement Body



http://ec.europa.eu/transport/passenger s/air/air_en.htm



Complaints

PART 382



EC 1107



- ✓ Carriers must make a Complaint Resolution Official (CRO) available— either in person or via telephone—at each airport the carrier serves, at all times the carrier is operating at the airport.
- ✓ CROs must have authority to definitively resolve complaints. They must have the power to overrule decisions of other carrier personnel.
- ☐ The CRO must write the complainant and describe the carrier's corrective action. Air carrier must make a dispositive written response within 30 days of its receipt.
- ☐ The EU rules oblige Member States to nominate or create "national enforcement bodies", whose role is to verify that carriers are treating all passengers in accordance with their rights. Passengers who believe they have not been treated correctly should contact the body in the
- → Acknowledgment of receipt within 2 weeks

country where the incident took place.

→ Case submission to the airline requiring replay within 6 weeks from the date of receipt.



Take home message

AMEs from either side of the Atlantic Ocean may be worried that sometimes it is very hard to distinguish whether a passenger carries a disability or suffers from a disease.

- ✓ Need for supplemental oxygen is a disability in the US.
- ✓ A broken leg is immobilized and therefore a disability according to the DOT.
- ✓ History of severe anaphylactic reaction is a disease and allows clearance.

Take home message

All European airlines were carrying handicapped passengers long before the implementation of the present EU Regulation (1107/2006).

In the early 2000's many countries or organizations published codes of good conduct (or good practice): ECAC Doc 30 is the best example.

Many improvements have been made to the conditions of air transport for these passengers. The Regulation has played an important part in this by imposing binding rules on all carriers.

Yet, paradoxically, these new provisions may be a source of difficulties for our customers in certain circumstances













Thank you very much for your attention!



