

Posted: January 22, 1998
1 p.m.

Order 98-1-20



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Served: January 28, 1998

**Action on IATA Agreement
Issued by the Department of Transportation
on the 22nd day of January, 1998**

Docket: OST-97-3121, R-1 through R-5 1/

Description: The agreement revises existing resolutions and recommended practices (R.P.'s) relating to travel documents, document forms, booking codes, and collection of transportation charges. It establishes procedures on how to apply and collect the new U.S. flight-segment tax on international tickets. Although this tax applies to domestic travel, if there is a stopover of more than 12 hours at a U.S. point on an international journey, the tax must be collected on any U.S. domestic legs flown behind or beyond that stopover point. The agreement also amends several R.P.'s to assign additional form codes to certain standard travel documents; to establish the Airline Tariff Publishing Company (ATPCO) as the single source of reservation booking indicators, as IATA will no longer publish these after December 31, 1998; and to clarify that the airline issuing a ticket is responsible for collecting any applicable transportation taxes or other charges at the time the ticket is issued.

We do not find the resolutions incorporated in the above docket to be adverse to the public interest or in violation of 49 U.S.C. 41309, provided that approval is subject, where applicable, to conditions previously imposed.

Accordingly, we approve and grant antitrust immunity to the agreement, subject, where applicable, to conditions previously imposed.

This order shall be effective and become the action of the Department of Transportation upon the expiration of ten days, unless within such period a petition for review is filed pursuant to 14 CFR 385.50 or the Department gives notice that it will review this order on its own motion. Such actions are subject to judicial review under 49 U.S.C. 46110.

1/ IATA memorandum PSC/Reso/089, adopted at IATA's 19th Passenger Service Conference and filed with the Department on November 12, 1997.

Given the noncontroversial nature of this agreement and the availability of the above procedure, we are waiving the 21-day period prescribed by 14 CFR 303.42.

Paul L. Gretch
Director, Office of International Aviation