

Dear Members and Industry colleagues,

Welcome to this newsletter, which is part-sponsored by Tiralis Global, and covers our activities since the end of February.

Topics included are:

1. **Membership - welcome to new members**
2. **Air Transport Consultations**
 - Denied Boarding Regulation
 - Consumer protection
 - Copying of Documents
 - Later operation of the London Underground at Heathrow
3. **BAR UK website**
4. **General Meetings and the Annual General Meeting (AGM)**
5. **Future Heathrow Group**
6. **Gatwick Express**
7. **Facilitation (Immigration and Passports)**
 - IRIS
 - APIS (USA)
 - Machine-readable passports (USA)
8. **Metal cutlery**
9. **Career opportunities**

1. Membership - welcome to new members

BAR UK is sad to see existing delegates leave the UK, but is pleased to welcome their replacements:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| ➤ ANA | Mr F Yonesato |
| ➤ JAL | Mr Makoto Itagaki |
| ➤ Malaysia | Mr Lim Cheng Hoe |
| ➤ MEA | Mrs Naima Kassir |
| ➤ Sri Lankan | Mr Johann Wijesinghe |
| ➤ Turkmenistan | Mr Soyunov |

ADVERTISEMENT



Station Accounting

Achieving further reductions in station costs without adversely affecting customer service and internal quality is becoming increasingly difficult. Finding new ways of working can often be the key.

Tiralis Global has presented an opportunity for the airline community in the UK to achieve cost and service improvements on station accounting through a Shared Service Centre model using proven web-based accounting software and best practice. This would also enable some Members to upgrade their station accounting activity without capital expenditure. A document providing more detail on the proposition, scope and benefits is an attachment to the mailing of this newsletter.

Tiralis Global would be prepared to carry out a feasibility study without cost to interested Members. If you would like to discuss a feasibility study or find out more about this new approach to station accounting you can contact Eddie Eldridge by e-mail at eeldridge@tiralisglobal.com.

Note: Details of this opportunity are provided by BAR UK for information only and without liability or endorsement

2. Air Transport Consultations

BAR UK continues to be active in responding to various consultation documents. Members have been regularly updated, and the details posted on the members pages of www.bar-uk.org. These include:

- **Denied Boarding Regulation**

The second round of consultation regarding the UK implementation law was concluded and no further changes were made to the proposed text. At the time of writing, it was expected to be confirmed that it successfully passed through Parliament prior to its dissolution because of the general election on 5 May.

- **Consumer protection**

It is unclear what recommendations the CAA may have made in respect of mandatory protection for flight-only purchases, and in what form.

Previously, BAR UK members had been encouraged to adapt their UK-specific websites with notices that advised consumers that their purchases were not covered by the CAA's ATOL scheme against scheduled airline failure, and to purchase the relevant travel insurance if they wished to enjoy such protection.

Until matters become clear, BAR UK has recommended that its members do not proceed with the time and financial investment required in respect of their websites.

- **Copying of Documents)**



The Home Office provided a consultation document in respect of proposals to substantially reduce the number of passengers arriving without documents e.g. passports and visas, known as UDAs (UnDocumented Arrivals).

In brief, they proposed that airlines volunteer to copy all documents on inbound routes to the UK, as nominated by the Home Office, and that all equipment and scanning costs were to be borne by airlines. The cost/benefit analysis was all in favour of the Home Office.

The thanks of BAR UK go to the very many airlines that responded to this consultation, and whose feedback was valuable and useful.

A robust response rejecting the proposals has been provided to the Home Office, and further developments are now awaited.

iv. Later weekend operating of the London Underground at Heathrow
Transport for London (TfL) is proposing to operate the Underground one hour later at weekends, for which the consultation responses were required by 22 April.

BAR UK has provided its response that concentrates on these issues:

- The current Underground schedule already under-serves Heathrow
- Over 230 arriving and departing flights would be affected by the proposals
- Staff would be hugely inconvenienced
- Additional environmental effects would be incurred
- Current and future capital investments would be diluted.

Further information concerning this consultation process is now required.

3. BAR UK website

BAR UK BOARD OF AIRLINE REPRESENTATIVES IN THE UK The website is a good one but, like all products, required review and improvement.

The site has been extensively updated and now has:

- an updated 'home page', including the role of BAR UK
- details of membership benefits for Members, Active Associates and Associates
- details of the annual subscription rates for each category
- application forms for new airline and associate members
- a diary of BAR UK's main activities
- an updated 'Industry Issues' section
- updated 'members only' pages

Feedback and other comments or suggestions will be welcomed.

4. General Meetings and the AGM



(a) AGM and Members' Meeting - 19 May 2005

As previously advised, the AGM, followed by a Members' Meeting, will be held on 19 May 2005 at the Park Inn Hotel at Heathrow.

The main agenda is being finalised but will include the opening of Terminal 5, dedicated operations for alliance airlines, the relocation of some non-aligned carriers from T3 to T5, and the several issues arising from all of these. The BAA is also expected to be able to discuss various longer-term development plans for Heathrow.

(b) Venues for Members' Meetings

The third Members' Meeting of the year will be on October 13th. The venue will be at London City Airport, and the meeting and its facilities are generously being hosted by the airport and its managing Director, Richard Gooding.

Further details will be announced much nearer the date. Venues for meetings in 2006 are being reviewed.

5. Future Heathrow

The purpose of Future Heathrow, a newly established organisation, is to support and encourage sustainable capacity growth at Heathrow Airport in accordance with the strategy set out in the Government's White Paper on aviation.

The success of Heathrow is central to the British economy, and especially important to West London and the continuing commercial predominance of London. Future Heathrow is a broad based coalition of business, trades unions and the aviation community. The formal launch takes place in London on May 23rd.

Full details of the organisation, its founders (which include BAR UK) and its purpose, will be found on www.futureheathrow.org. It is currently under construction, but can be bookmarked now, and goes live in a few weeks time.

6. Gatwick Express

The future of the



Gatwick Express is still unknown.

At the time that the UK General Election had been called, no policy decision appeared to have been taken, and now cannot be until the new Government is formed. It's still a matter of waiting.

7. Facilitation (Immigration and Passports)

(i) **IRIS** - This is fast track passport entry scheme for regular non-UK air passengers.



Planned introductions of the system have been delayed on a couple of occasions because of technical problems, but it is now due to go into operation at any time now.

Full details of the scheme are available at www.iris.gov.uk

(ii) **API (advance passport information) -USA.**

The 'Final Rule' has just been published to airlines, requiring far more passenger information than ever before to be provided to the US immigration authorities.

The full details, including effective date, will be circulated separately to BAR UK member airlines.

(iii) **Machine readable passports (USA)**

Effective 26 April, only machine-readable passports (MRPs) only were due to accepted for entry into the USA.

However, some flexibility is still being shown in practice regarding travel from Visa Waiver Programme countries. Officially the need for MRPs still exists, but official advice from the Department of Homeland Security is now being sought to clarify what is an informal situation

8. Metal cutlery



SUCCESS!

As previously advised, BAR UK has been in dialogue with the DfT and TRANSEC about the reintroduction of metal cutlery.

BAR UK cannot claim to be the sole reason why the standards have been revised but we believe that our intervention was productive. Effective 26 April 2005, metal cutlery meeting the new specifications, can now be used in-flight and in certain parts of the airport such as restaurants and

lounge areas, and member airlines will now be able to finally enhance their premium products

9. Career opportunities

BAR UK is not in a position to act as an employment intermediary, but can advise members of positions open, or being sought, which may save them time and money.

The following career opportunities have been brought to our attention:

El Al PA to General Manager UK & Eire,
CVs to : lynj@elal.co.uk

Finnair Sales Executive
Enquiries to : HR Manager,
Finnair OY,
Birkett House
27 Albemarle Street
London W1S 4BQ

Kuwait Airways Secretary for Assistant Country Manager Office
Assistant Secretary for Accounts department
Marketing and Sales Representative (PAX)
Cargo Sales Representative
Catering Officer
Enquiries to : Assistant Country Manager
Kuwait Airways
16 Baker Street
London W1U 3HS

Malaysia Airlines Executive Secretary to Regional Manager UK/Europe
Enquiries to : bapu@uk.malaysiaairlines.com

Employment sought:

Mr Richard Castle and ex-BAR UK alternate (Senior airline management with Swiss Airlines and other carriers). Seeking new opportunities and can be contacted on r.j.hcastle@btinternet.com

**THE NEXT EDITION OF THE BAR UK NEWSLETTER WILL BE
PUBLISHED AT THE END OF JUNE 2005**