

A&A Services

Foundation for today,
Bridge to the future

ATPCO

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*How can you make
passenger interline billing easier
and more accurate?*

Start using

Auto-Billing

Auto-Billing allows you to automatically bill interline coupons immediately after flight departure using the Integrated Settlement (IS) process and existing A&A functionality. NFP results or Own Prorate Exchange values stored on COMPASS® are retrieved in Billing Value Determination and automatically sent to IS to populate your interline invoices.

Benefits

- Reduces costs and improves data quality by automating your processes from ticketing to settlement
- Removes the need to maintain your own system by providing you the ability to completely outsource interline billing

First & Final™ Interline Billing

First & Final™ Interline Billing is a fully integrated solution that helps ensure correct billing and allows for dispute-free settlements. It combines Neutral Fare Proration, COMPASS® data storage, Billing Value Determination, and Billing Value Confirmation with partner concurrence to accept interline billings without audit or adjustment. We make first-time billings final.

Benefits

- Seamlessly integrates with SIS
- Provides accurate pre-agreed billing values for speed, efficiency, and improved information management
- Improves cash flow through timely settlement
- Eliminates manual audits of qualifying coupons and downline revenue adjustments
- Reduces the number of coupons for sample evaluations over time
- Avoids interpretation disputes

For more information about how to put A&A Services to work for you, please contact A-AServices@atpco.net



A&A Services.

A&A Services are a suite of products that automate and simplify your revenue accounting and interline billing processes and reduce your costs. Our services help improve the accuracy of your interline settlements through SIS.

Who are we? ATPCO (Airline Tariff Publishing Company), and ARC (Airlines Reporting Corporation) are airline industry-owned organizations that have been working together since 2003 to bring effective and efficient solutions to the global revenue accounting community.

Neutral Fare Proration

The IATA- and ACH-endorsed Neutral Fare Proration (NFP) engine provides fully automated proration for interline and online sales records in Industry Sales Record (ISR) format. Industry and SPA prorate values are calculated for each coupon, along with surcharges, interlineable taxes, ISC, UATP discount, handling fees, other commissions, and frequent flyer redemption values. NFP is powered by APEX® and offered by ATPCO and Accelya.

Benefits

- Provides neutral, accurate values for interline settlement and revenue recognition
- Delivers prorate information within 24 hours after sales data receipt
- Eliminates costly maintenance of in-house proration engines and solves inherent system limitations
- Reduces the cost of interline operations
- Supports strategic decisions with comprehensive information

No matter how many transactions you process, a few hundred or millions, A&A's Neutral Fare Proration engine can reduce your costs and increase the accuracy of your interline billing.

Own Prorate Exchange

Own Prorate Exchange enables you to transfer bilaterally agreed prorate information to your interline partners using one convenient process. Built on existing A&A infrastructure and using ISR (Industry Sales Record) record layouts, the Own Prorate Exchange delivers Switched and Stored prorate information that you can easily integrate into your revenue accounting systems. Here's how it works: the issuing airline generates the proration values and forwards them to A&A, who then switches (sends) them to the planned interline partners. The values can also be stored in COMPASS® for later retrieval during Billing Value Determination or Auto-Billing.

Benefits

- Eliminates the need to maintain individual file transfer processes for each of your partners
- Standardizes record layouts for easy system integration
- Supports anti-trust rules and data privacy concerns
- Uses A&A processes without requiring use of NFP
- Reduces the cost of alliance settlement

Billing Value Determination

Billing Value Determination allows you to retrieve NFP or Own Prorate Exchange values from COMPASS® at the time of uplift for planned and unplanned coupons. If the sales data is stored but prorate values are not available, the transaction may be sent to NFP for proration.

Benefits

- Provides an NFP solution for airlines that use lift-based revenue accounting systems
- Minimizes or eliminates the need to store interline transactions internally
- Eliminates currency conversion calculations for rate changes between month of sale and billing month
- Allows unplanned lifts to be settled at correct re-protection agreement values in prime billings
- Facilitates fully integrated, efficient interline billing processes





Taxes Calculated and Reported at the Coupon Level

Standard sales reporting today provides taxes at the ticket level, which means your organization must calculate each tax and allocate it to its respective point of sale, departure, or arrival, leading to higher costs. If there are errors, balance sheet write-offs and losses may occur within your sales audit, interline settlement, and remittance processes.

Align your collection, accounting, remittance, and interline billing and settlement of taxes with A&A Services Taxes at the Coupon Level. Using ATPCO's Tax Collection & Distribution data and data application, applicable taxes can be reported consistently to the sale, departure, or arrival to which they accrue.

Benefits

- Allocate departure and arrival taxes at the time of sale for accurate coupon matching at the time of lift
- Share the data between interline partners to allow for simplified tax settlement
- Avoid the cost of audits and disputes with travel agencies and interline partners over the applicable tax value
- Reconcile your forward taxes precisely to your remittances to reduce balance sheet losses

Billing Value Confirmation

Billing Value Confirmation compares the values on your inward billing files to the values provided by NFP or the Own Prorate Exchange and stored on the A&A database. A&A flags any discrepancies and notifies the billing airline so they may research whether an error exists within their billing systems.

Benefits

- Validates all billing values: fare (including surcharges), interlineable taxes, ISC/handling fees, UATP, and frequent flyer redemption
- Adjusts for currency rate changes between the month of sale and the billing month
- Ensures the values being billed are equivalent to the values generated by NFP or provided in the Own Prorate Exchange
- Provides integrity checks and quality assurance for billed interline values, resulting in fewer interline disputes
- Detects invoicing mistakes or manipulation of values

Mismatch reports are provided in IS-WEB so you can monitor both inward and outward billings for discrepancies between what was billed and what should have been billed.



Coupon Values at Time of Fare Creation

Revenue accounting departments spend significant resources rebuilding pricing details and using complex industry rules to come up with a coupon value for interline billing and settlement. Special Prorate Agreements and industry proration methodologies should reflect market reality and help protect revenue, but they aren't updated often enough.

Take this opportunity to participate in ATPCO's pilot to evolve coupon value determination. When you determine accurate coupon values for the total price at the time of fare or offer creation with concurrence from your interline partners, you can receive these same coupon values at the time of interline settlement—without any surprises.

This solution will have the added benefit that it will work in the same way both for traditional distribution and for New Distribution Capability (NDC) transactions.

Benefits

- Achieve your expected revenue for interline travel
- Save resources wasted on rebuilding pricing details and navigating complex industry rules
- Know your interline settlement yield before you even sell an interline transaction
- Eliminate all interline billing rejections that are due to disagreement over the coupon value
- Make the adoption of NDC much easier with little or no change to your workflow

Simplified Involuntary Reroute Settlement

Concurring carriers enjoy the benefit of a streamlined, one-step approach to the billing of involuntary reroute tickets and FIMs by agreeing to settle at an applicable percentage of the IATA Weighted Mileage Factor based on the origin and destination of the flight coupon or FIM. Managed by ACH, the applicable percentages are calculated and distributed monthly for 10 global regions by comparing MPA prorate amounts to IATA Weighted Mileage Factors from 1 percent of sales of participating airlines.

Benefits

- Eliminates rejections and rebills
 - Reduces SIS transaction fees
 - Reduces manpower requirements for revenue accounting
- Minimizes prior period adjustments to revenue
 - Internal customers receive accurate and timely revenue recognition values