



المينة العامة للطيران المدني
General Authority of Civil Aviation

GACA Circular No. R-4- 2009

01 October, 2009

TO: SAUDI ARABIAN REGISTERED AIR CARRIERS SEEKING OR MAINTAINING CODE-SHARE AGREEMENT.

SUBJECT: CODE-SHARE SAFETY PROGRAM

Code-sharing is a marketing arrangement through which an airline places its designator code on flight(s) operated by another airline, thus permitting the selling and issuing of tickets for that flight(s). Air operators throughout the world continue to form code-share alliances to strengthen or expand their market presence or competitive ability.

Saudi Arabian air carrier seeking or maintaining a code-share agreement with foreign operators is required to submit to GACA a Code-share Program for each code-share agreement. The program shall include:

1. Economical Analysis.

GACA aims to ensure that general public interest is protected and that consumers are well informed, and that code-share arrangements are in line with official transport agreements. The program shall include the following information:

- a. Means to inform consumers that the air transportation they are buying or consider buying involves a code-sharing arrangement including the transporting carrier's identity, in accordance with CAER Subpart 7.5 (Disclosure of code-sharing arrangements and long-term wet leases)..
- b. Code-sharing agreement and its route schedule.

2. Audit Program

GACA recognizes IOSA (IATA Operational Safety Audit) Program as the acceptable audit program, which is an internationally recognized and accepted evaluation system designed to assess the operational management and control systems of an operator. IOSA is based on industry-proven quality audit principles, and is designed to ensure that each audit is conducted in a standardized manner to achieve consistent results.

One of the following audit approaches must be complied with:

- a. The foreign air operator must be IOSA registered (reference IOSA Program Manual).
- b. In case such code-share foreign operator is not IOSA registered, the Saudi Arabian air carrier shall ensure that a code-share audit is performed, at least



every 24 months, of the operator utilizing IOSA standards and recommended practices. The Saudi Arabian air carrier shall ensure that such audit is performed by an IOSA Accredited Audit Organization IAW IOSA Program Manual and a standard IOSA report is produced.

3. Audit Report:

The program must include a copy of a valid IOSA audit report of the foreign air operator. It shall also include a summary of the air carrier's analysis of the audit report.

4. Continuous Monitoring:

The Saudi Arabian air carrier shall assign responsible person(s) within its management to:

- a. Continuously monitor the foreign air operator accidents rate and risk indicators affecting safety.
- b. Monitor the foreign air operator status on IOSA register and ensure renewal audits are conducted in a timely manner.
- c. Maintain liaison with GACA and immediately report failure of the foreign operator to maintain its IOSA approval.

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