SITA Bag Fast

Print fallback sortation bag tags on demand

At most Tier 1 and Tier 2 airports, bags are moved from check-in areas to baggage loading areas using a baggage handling system (BHS). The system works by reading a barcoded bag tag. Problems arise if check-in staff cannot print tags or the BHS doesn't receive information about tags that have been printed. Special barcoded fallback tags must be used when this happens, in order to keep the bags moving through the BHS. SITA Bag Fast is an application that produces the fallback tags.

BACKGROUND

Meeting the BHS vendor's requirement for fallback tags

- When a BHS is installed, the airlines need to ensure that they can produce fallback tags as and when required

Availability and storage of preprinted fallback tags

- Traditionally, fallback tags are preprinted and stored in expensive, climate controlled areas to prevent glue seepage

- At large airports with many piers, each with hundreds of preprinted tags, finding the right tags quickly can be problematic

SOLUTION

- SITA Bag Fast is a simple application that enables on demand printing of fallback bag tags which can be read by a BHS

- If fallback tags are needed, the user starts the SITA Bag Fast application on their CUTE workstation

- Using the graphical interface (GUI), they'll notify SITA Bag Fast how many tags are required, for which carrier, and in which loading area

- SITA Bag Fast then prints the required number of fallback tags for the appropriate BHS loading area (also known as a pier)

BENEFITS

- 100% availability of fallback tags when they are required

- SITA Bag Fast prints as and when required, so there's no need for climate-conditioned storage areas for preprinted tags

- No money wasted on the preprinting of fallback tags that might not be required

RESULTS

$3,500

The estimated annual cost of preprinting and storing fallback tags incurred by one carrier at a major airport

SITA **AT AIRPORTS**

SITA Bag Fast

How does it work?
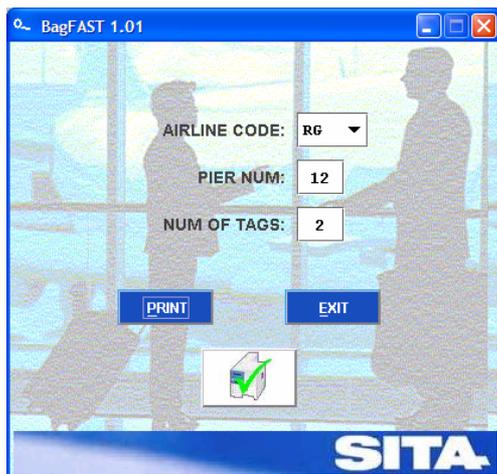
- Regular bag tags cannot be printed (e.g. communications or DCS outage) or BHS does not receive BSM from DCS

- Check-in supervisor activates SITA Bag Fast and uses the simple GUI to input the number of tags required and the relevant pier number

- SITA Bag Fast produces the required number of fallback tags, bar-coded and IATA-compliant

SOLUTION COMPONENTS

1. **IATA-compliant fallback tag**
   IATA RP1740b and RP 740b specify fallback tag format and the data printed on them – SITA Bag Fast is fully IATA compliant

2. **Fully supported by SITA**
   SITA Bag Fast is supported by SITA Global Services (SGS) – an integrated team dedicated to optimizing performance reliability and maximizing availability

3. **Platform independent**
   SITA Bag Fast is a certified CUTE application available on any SITA common-use platform at any SITA common-use airport

4. **Prints on any CUTE-compatible bag tag printer**
   SITA Bag Fast prints the fallback tags on any CUTE-certified bag tag printer (BTP)

CASE STUDY

A major Far Eastern airport with over 100 loading piers required its tenant carriers to have the capability to produce fallback tags. These were for use by the BHS in the event of communications or DCS failures.

The carriers estimated that it would cost each of them around US $3,500 annually to preprint and store such tags. Although not a huge sum per airline, with 60+ airlines at this particular airport, this represented a significant expense overall.

Instead, SITA Bag Fast was installed and made available to every carrier as and when needed.

This resulted in reduced costs for the airlines and less disruption in the baggage handling processes at the airport. This is even after taking into account the effect of unplanned outages requiring the use of fallback tags.

For more information please contact us at
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