

BAGFAST

Prints 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 bar-coded 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 bar-coded fallback tags must be used when this happens, in order to keep the bags moving through the BHS. BagFast is an application to produce the fallback tags.

ISSUES

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 pre-printed fallback tags

- Traditionally, fallback tags are pre-printed and stored in expensive, climate-controlled areas to prevent glue seepage
- At large airports with many 'piers', each with hundreds of pre-printed tags, finding the right tags quickly can be problematic

SOLUTION

- BagFast 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 BagFast application on their CUTE workstation

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

- BagFast 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
- BagFast prints as and when required, so there's no need for climate-conditioned storage areas for pre-printed tags
- No money wasted on the pre-printing of fallback tags that might not be required

\$3,500

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

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 BagFast and uses the simple GUI to input the number of tags required and the relevant pier number
- BagFast 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 – BagFast is fully IATA compliant
- 2. Fully supported by SITA**
BagFast is supported by SITA Global Services (SGS) – an integrated team dedicated to optimizing performance reliability and maximizing availability
- 3. Platform independent**
BagFast 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**
BagFast 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 pre-print 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 BagFast 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 info@sita.aero