

General within the meaning of section 41902 of the Statute may, within not more than four calendar days after the issuance of such order, apply to the Department for a postponement of the effective date of that order pending review: *Provided*, That if the final day of the four day period is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday for the Department, the application may be filed with the Department no later than the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday.

(b) An application for postponement of the effective date filed under this part may be made in writing or by telegraph, and shall be conspicuously entitled Application for Postponement of the Effective Date of Order of the Postmaster General Pending Review Under section 41902 of the Statute. Such application for postponement shall specify:

(1) The schedule affected and identity of the order complained of;

(2) The manner in which the applicant is or would be aggrieved by the order;

(3) The relief which will be sought;

(4) That the applicant intends to file a timely application for review of the order under § 232.1; and

(5) A summary of the justification and facts relied upon to establish that the stay should be granted.

(c) Any interested person may, within not more than four calendar days after the service of an application for postponement of the effective date, serve and file with the Department an answer in opposition to, or in support of, the application: *Provided*, That if the final day of the four day period is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday for the Department, the application may be filed with the Department no later than the end of the next day which is neither a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday: *Provided further, however*, That the Department need not consider any answer filed later than eight calendar days after issuance of the Postmaster General's order.

[41 FR 49479, Nov. 9, 1976, as amended by Docket No. 47939, 57 FR 40102, Sept. 2, 1992; 60 FR 43524, Aug. 22, 1995]

§ 232.5 Filing and service of applications, answers, and replies.

(a) An application, answer or reply filed hereunder shall be deemed to have been filed on the date on which it is actually received by the Department at its offices in Washington, D.C.

(b) At the time a written or telegraphic application, answer, or reply is filed under this part, a copy thereof shall be served by personal service, registered mail, or telegraph upon the Postmaster General and upon the air carrier operating or ordered to operate the mail service in question. Except in the case of telegraphic delivery each copy so served shall be accompanied by a letter of transmittal stating that such service is being made pursuant to this section. In the case of telegraphic delivery the copy shall be accompanied by a telegraphic statement that service is being made pursuant to this section.

(c) The execution, number of copies, and verification of a written application, answer, or reply filed under this part, and the formal specifications of papers included in such application, answer, or reply shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Rules of Practice relating to applications generally (see part 302 of this chapter).

[41 FR 49479, Nov. 9, 1976, as amended by Docket No. 47939, 57 FR 40102, Sept. 2, 1992]

PART 234—AIRLINE SERVICE QUALITY PERFORMANCE REPORTS

Sec.

- 234.1 Purpose.
- 234.2 Definitions.
- 234.3 Applicability.
- 234.4 Reporting of on-time performance.
- 234.5 Form of reports.
- 234.6 Baggage-handling statistics.
- 234.7 Voluntary reporting.
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- 234.10 Voluntary disclosure of on-time performance codes.
- 234.11 Disclosure to consumers.
- 234.12 Waivers.

AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 329 and chapters 401, 417.

SOURCE: Amdt. No. 234–1, 52 FR 34071, Sept. 9, 1987, unless otherwise noted.

NOTE: The reporting requirements contained in this part have been approved by the

Office of Management and Budget under control number 2138-0041.

§ 234.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to set forth required data that certain air carriers must submit to the Department and to computer reservations system vendors in computerized form, except as otherwise provided, so that information on air carriers' quality of service can be made available to consumers of air transportation. This part also requires that service quality data be disclosed directly to consumers.

§ 234.2 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

Cancelled flight means a flight operation that was not operated, but was listed in a carrier's computer reservation system within seven calendar days of the scheduled departure.

Discontinued flight means a flight dropped from a carrier's computer reservation system more than seven calendar days before its scheduled departure.

Diverted flight means a flight which is operated from the scheduled origin point to a point other than the scheduled destination point in the carrier's published schedule. For example, a carrier has a published schedule for a flight from A to B to C. If the carrier were to actually fly an A to C operation, the A to B segment is a diverted flight, and the B to C segment is a cancelled flight.

Extra-section flight means a flight conducted as an integral part of scheduled passenger service, that has not been provided for in published schedules and is required for transportation of traffic that cannot be accommodated on the regularly scheduled flight.

Flight means any nonstop scheduled passenger flight segment with a specific flight number scheduled to be operated pursuant to a published schedule within a specific origin-destination city pair, other than transborder or foreign air transportation. In the case of reporting to computer reservations system vendors, *flight* also means one-stop or multi-stop single plane scheduled operations that include any flight segments for which performance is reported pursuant to this part.

Late or late flight means a flight that arrives at the gate 15 minutes or more after its published arrival time.

Mishandled-baggage report means a report filed with a carrier by or on behalf of a passenger that claims loss, delay, damage or pilferage of baggage.

New flight means a flight added to a carrier's schedule to operate in a specific origin-destination city pair and not scheduled to depart within 30 minutes of any discontinued flight that was contained in the carrier's published schedules for the same city pair during the previous month.

On-time means a flight that arrives less than 15 minutes after its published arrival time.

On-time performance means the percentage of scheduled operations of a specific flight that an air carrier operates on-time during a month.

On-time performance code means a single character determined in accordance with the provisions of this part that reflects the monthly on-time performance of certain nonstop flights and single plane one-stop or multi-stop flights, the schedule and availability of which are listed in a computer reservation system (CRS) regulated by 14 CFR part 255.

Reportable flight means any nonstop flight, including a mechanically delayed flight, to or from any airport within the contiguous 48 states that accounts for at least 1 percent of domestic scheduled-passenger enplanements in the previous calendar year, as reported to the Department pursuant to part 241 of this title. Qualifying airports will be specified periodically in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Office of Airline Information.

Reporting carrier means an air carrier certificated under 49 U.S.C. 41102 that accounted for at least 1 percent of domestic scheduled-passenger revenues in the 12 months ending March 31 of each year, as reported to the Department pursuant to part 241 of this title. Reporting carriers will be identified periodically in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Office of Airline Information.

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Wet-leased flight means a flight operated with a leased aircraft and crew.

[Amdt. 234-1, 52 FR 34071, Sept. 9, 1987, as amended by Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49797, Sept. 30, 1994; 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 234.3 Applicability.

This part applies to certain domestic scheduled passenger flights that are held out to the public by certificated air carriers that account for at least 1 percent of domestic scheduled passenger revenues. Certain provisions also apply to voluntary reporting to on-time performance by carriers.

§ 234.4 Reporting of on-time performance.

(a) Each reporting carrier shall file BTS Form 234 "On-Time Flight Performance Report" with the Office of Airline Information on a monthly basis, setting forth the information for each of its reportable flights held out in the *Official Airline Guide* (OAG), in the computer reservations systems (CRS), or in other schedule publications. The reportable flights include, but are not limited to, cancelled flights, mechanically cancelled flights, diverted flights, new flights and wet-leased flights. The report shall be made in the form and manner set forth in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Director, Office of Airline Statistics, and shall contain the following information:

- (1) Carrier and flight number.
- (2) Aircraft tail number.
- (3) Origin and Destination airport codes.
- (4) Published OAG departure and arrival times for each scheduled operation of the flight.
- (5) CRS scheduled arrival and departure time for each scheduled operation of the flight.
- (6) Actual departure and arrival time for each operation of the flight.
- (7) Difference in minutes between OAG and CRS scheduled arrival times.
- (8) Difference in minutes between OAG and CRS scheduled departure times.
- (9) Actual wheels-off and wheels-on times for each operation of the flight.
- (10) Date and day of week of scheduled flight operation.

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(11) Scheduled elapsed time, according to CRS schedule.

(12) Actual elapsed time.

(13) Amount of departure delay, if any.

(14) Amount of arrival delay, if any.

(15) Amount of elapsed time difference, if any.

(b) When reporting the information specified in paragraph (a) of this section for a diverted flight, a reporting carrier shall use the *original* scheduled flight number and the *original* scheduled origin and destination airport codes.

(c) A reporting carrier shall report the information specified in paragraph (a) of this section for a new flight beginning with the first day of the new scheduled operation.

(d) A reporting carrier shall not report the information specified in paragraph (a) of this section for any discontinued or extra-section flight.

(e) Actual arrival, departure and elapsed times shall be measured by the times at which the aircraft arrived at and departed from the gate or passenger loading area.

(f) The published arrival time and departure time of a flight shall be, respectively, the scheduled arrival and departure times in effect on the date of the scheduled operation of the flight, as shown in the most recent *Official Airline Guide*, and in computer reservations systems. Each carrier shall designate a single computer reservations system in addition to the *Official Airline Guide* as the sources of scheduled arrival time and departure time data in its reports to the Department and shall report the scheduled arrival times and departure times listed in those sources for each flight. Scheduled elapsed times, amount of departure and/or arrival delay, and elapsed time difference shall be calculated using the scheduled times shown in the designated CRS source.

[Amdt. 234-1, 52 FR 34071, Sept. 9, 1987, as amended by Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49797, Sept. 30, 1994; 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 234.5 Form of reports.

Except where otherwise noted, all reports required by this part shall be filed within 15 days of the end of the month for which data are reported. The

reports must be submitted to the Office of Airline Information on ADP computer tape in the format specified in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Director of that office.

[Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49798, Sept. 30, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

§234.6 Baggage-handling statistics.

Each reporting carrier shall report monthly to the Department on a domestic system basis, excluding charter flights, the total number of passengers enplaned systemwide, and the total number of mishandled-baggage reports filed with the carrier. The information shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days of the end of the month to which the information applies and must be submitted with the transmittal letter accompanying the data for on-time performance in the form and manner set forth in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Director, Office of Airline Information.

[Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49798, Sept. 30, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

§234.7 Voluntary reporting.

(a) In addition to the data for each reportable flight required to be reported by this part, a reporting carrier may report to DOT for every other nonstop domestic flight that it schedules, the reportable flight data specified in this part.

(b) Any air carrier that is not a reporting carrier may file the data specified in this part for every reportable flight that it schedules, or for every nonstop domestic flight that it schedules.

(c) Voluntary reports containing information not required to be filed (1) must be submitted in the same form and manner, and at the same time, as reports containing data required to be filed, and (2) must be accompanied by a written statement describing in detail the information that is being voluntarily submitted. A carrier that files a voluntary report must continue to do so for a period of not less than 12 consecutive months.

§234.8 Calculation of on-time performance codes.

(a) Each reporting carrier shall calculate an on-time performance code in accordance with this section and as provided in more detail in accounting and reporting directives issued by the Director, Office of Airline Information. The calculations shall be performed for each reportable flight, except those scheduled to operate three times or less during a month. In addition, each reporting carrier shall assign an on-time performance code to each of its single plane one-stop or multi-stop flights, or portion thereof, that the carrier holds out to the public through a CRS, the last segment of which is a reportable flight.

(b) The on-time performance code shall be calculated as follows:

(1) Based on reportable flight data provided to the Department, calculate the percentage of on-time arrivals of each nonstop flight. Calculations shall not include discontinued or extra-section flights for which data are not reported to the Department.

(2) Based upon the on-time performance percentage calculated in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, assign a single digit code to each flight that reflects the percentile of on-time performance achieved by the flight, as set forth in the following table:

ON TIME PERFORMANCE	
Code:	Percentage
9	90-100
8	80-89.9
7	70-79.9
6	60-69.9
5	50-59.9
4	40-49.9
3	30-39.9
2	20-29.9
1	10-19.9
0	0-9.9

(3) For a one-stop or multi-stop flight, or portion thereof, listed in a CRS, the performance code for the nonstop flight segment arriving at the destination listed in the CRS shall be used.

(4) In the case of a new flight, carriers shall assign a performance code consisting of the letter "N." A flight

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that is not a new flight shall be assigned the performance code calculated for the flight that it replaces, even if the two flights do not have the same flight number. In the case of a flight scheduled to operate three times or less during a month, carriers shall assign a performance code consisting of the letter "U."

(c) Carriers shall calculate on-time performance percentages and assign on-time performance codes on a monthly basis. This process shall be completed no later than the 15th day of each month, when the reports required by this part are due to the Department, and the codes shall reflect the previous month's operations.

[Amdt. No. 234-1, 52 FR 34071, Sept. 9, 1987, as amended by Amdt. No. 234-3, 52 FR 48397, Dec. 22, 1987; 53 FR 27677, July 22, 1988; Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49798, Sept. 30, 1994; 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

§ 234.9 Reporting of on-time performance codes.

No later than the 15th day of each month, each reporting carrier shall deliver, or arrange to have delivered, to each system vendor, as defined in 14 CFR part 255, the on-time performance codes required to be determined above. Carriers may report the codes by insuring that they are included in basic schedule tapes provided to CRS vendors or by providing a separate tape that will permit the CRS vendors to match the performance codes with basic schedule tapes.

§ 234.10 Voluntary disclosure of on-time performance codes.

(a) Any air carrier may determine, in accordance with the provisions of § 234.8 of this part, the on-time performance codes for the flights for which it voluntarily provides flight information to the Department pursuant to § 234.7 of this part.

(b) A carrier may supply these additional on-time performance codes to system vendors at the same time and in the same manner as the required disclosures are made to system vendors, provided that voluntary disclosures must continue for a period of not less than 12 consecutive months, and must be supplied either

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(1) For each of the carrier's reportable flights and each of its single plane one-stop or multi-stop flights, or portions thereof, that it holds out to the public through a CRS, the last segment of which is a reportable flight or

(2) For each of the carrier's domestic flights.

§ 234.11 Disclosure to consumers.

During the course of reservations or ticketing discussions or transactions, or inquiries about flights, between a carrier's employees and the public, the carrier shall disclose upon reasonable request the on-time performance code for any flight that has been assigned a code pursuant to this part.

§ 234.12 Waivers.

Any carrier may request a waiver from the reporting requirements of this part. Such a request, at the discretion of the Director, Bureau of Transportation Statistics may be granted for good cause shown. The requesting party shall state the basis for such a waiver.

[Docket No. 48524, 59 FR 49798, Sept. 30, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 66722, Dec. 26, 1995]

PART 240—INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS AND PROPERTY

Sec.

240.1 Interpretation.

240.2 Obligation of air carriers, foreign air carriers, and ticket agents.

§ 240.1 Interpretation.

(a) In the exercise of the authority granted by section 407(e) of the Act, the authority of any special agent or auditor to inspect and examine lands, buildings, equipment, accounts, records, memorandums, papers or correspondence shall include the authority to make such notes and copies thereof as he deems appropriate.

(b) The term "special agent" and "auditor" are construed to mean any employee of the Bureau of Enforcement and any other employee of the Board specifically designated by it or by the Director, Office of Facilities and Operations.

(c) The issuance in the form set forth below of an identification card and credentials to any such employee shall be