

# Cargo Handling

## Transparent Cargo Handling and Documentation

As a service provider in the airfreight handling sector, your success in this competitive market is determined by a number of key factors: comprehensive and efficient documentation of cargo handling, reduction of cargo throughput times, and the ability to provide cost effective services. In addition to economic aspects, your customers will place a high premium on the range and flexibility of services offered.

To assist you in meeting these complex and demanding requirements, AirIT has developed its *Cargo Information System (CIS)* that graphically displays the routine tasks involved in freight handling to ensure smooth and efficient data processing. Manual data entry is minimized because CIS includes a centralized data repository and interfaces directly to internal and external information systems.

## The Centralized Solution for Decentralized Cargo Handling

AirIT's **CIS** is based on modern Client-Server architecture and a central database. By processing the data resident in the centralized database, numerous services can be performed automatically for your customer, minimizing manual input. These services include automatic SITA messages for your customers on specific cargo-handling events and the printing of AWB data on AWB forms.

**CIS** is user-group specific and highly customizable so it can be configured to your staff, customers, airlines, agents, forwarders, cargo crew, or shift supervisors specifications. The system administrator has the ability determine data access per workstation, user, and function.

This facilitates an adaptable and efficient means of task sharing between you and your customers. Within the **CIS** environment, your customers can perform a precisely defined quantity of operations on "your" cargo items/data, which is then forwarded to you for further processing. In order to meet today's high security requirements, **CIS** is equipped with controls for the reconstruction and identification of cargo data modifications, as well as a wide range of access-protection functions.

The **CIS** server operates on either Unix (IBM-AIX) or SUN Solaris platforms. Standard-PCs running OS/2 or Windows-NT are deployed as Clients. On the user level, **CIS** provides approximately 300 input and information boxes to cover the cargo handling sequences, which can request and display the necessary information in a customized format. **CIS** can be networked to utilize your existing printers.

## Modules for all Phases and Areas of Cargo Handling

### Flight Schedule

**CIS** obtains all current flight data from your central database system (e.g., the **AODB**) and filters or augments it with department specific data required for cargo handling, such as the seasonal schedule for alternative means of transport, or comments on cargo handling.

### SITA-Communication

By means of Cargo IMP messages (CIMP) via the SITA network, **CIS** allows you to communicate with customers and business partners. SITA messages (e.g., FFM, FWB) are automatically incorporated into the system, issued, and transmitted. For example, during cargo processing, **CIS** automatically issues FSUs and transmits them - freely configurable - via the SITA network. The functionality also allows for communications via EDIFact.

## Cargo Handling

### Import Cargo Handling

- Issue of import and check manifests, if necessary, from FFM
- Automatic forwarding of all customs-relevant shipment data to the national customs IT systems
- Distribution and delivery to forwarding agents or the export cargo handler

### Export Cargo Handling

- Acceptance of cargo assigned to an AWB
- Handling of Not-Ready-To-Go-Cargo (NRTG)
- Pooling of truck cargo in "Truck Manifests"
- Notification-To-Captain (NOTOC) and Shippers Declaration.
- Consideration of special cargoes, such as Dangerous Goods (complex checks under the terms of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations)
- Issue and automatic transmission, via SITA, of the freight documents, such as flight manifests, *ULD-Handling*
- Allocation ULD/consolidated quantity
- Warehouse movements and flight classifications (ULD manifest) or Off-Load/Cancellation/Rebooking
- Tracing of ULD movements
- Correct handling of pool flights

### Weighing and Transportation

- Weighing direct from CIS
- Flight-related assembly of freight cars in lanes
- Issue of transport orders for transmission to departure control system

### AWB Handling

- Rapid entry of AWBs
- AWB full entry
- Print out of IATA AWB form
- Dispatch as FWB to the cargo consignee
- Administration of AWB number blocks

### Warehouse Management

- Warehouse classifications of consignments and UDLs, including movement records
- Monitoring of maximum radioactivity levels
- Warehouse fee billing

### Special Service Entry and Billing

- Automatic generation of special services
- Consolidation of invoices
- Transfer of billing data records to the accounting system
- Issue of cash receipt printouts

### CASS Entry

- CASS entry for airlines

### Reference Data

The maintenance of reference data, such as customers, airlines, countries, IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) and Validity periods are always referenced for informed decision making. During all processes, access authorization checks are conducted on the operating user: function, consignment access, warehouse access, etc.

### System connections

- Central database for flight-data transfer
- SITA network
- Customs IT systems
- Departure Control Systems (transport orders, departure messages, etc.)
- Billing systems
- EDI network
- Airmail center

## Technical Highlights

- State-of-the-art Client-Server model
- Centralized database for warehousing all relevant data
- User-definable language setting
- Can be integrated into existing system environments
- **CIS** can, of course, operate within an integrated system together with our **Resource Management System (RMS)** and **Mobile Resource Management System (MRMS)**.

## References

The **AirIT CIS** was developed in cooperation with Frankfurt International Airport (FRA) as a functional and technical advancement of the existing host system installed by FRA. The system has been operating at Frankfurt International Airport since January 1997 with more than 150 simultaneous users.