

Korea Steps Up Aviation Security with ARINC's electronic Border Solutions



Customer Profile

Name:
Korea Immigration Service
Korea Customs Service

Location:
South Korea

Industry:
Government, Immigration

Applications:
Implementing immigration policies,
Border Controls

Project Brief

Challenge

Enhance border controls to handle increased passenger volumes

Solution

- ARINC's electronic Border System to implement APIS, PNR and iAPP (AQQ)
- AviNet Network Management System

Results

- Better Accuracy
- Faster Response Times

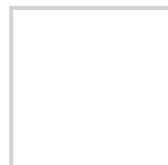
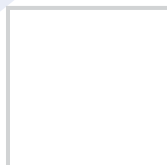
In Summary

As a result of rising travel trends, Korea's immigration and customs agencies had to ensure that border controls at her airports would be able to handle increased passenger volumes. The current system was feeling the strain of managing the increase in traveler and trade-related traffic, on top of the increased measures taken to prevent terrorism and terror-related crimes from entering Korea. To meet these challenges, Korea Immigration Service and Korea Customs Service chose ARINC's electronic Border solutions for its reliability and cost-effective scalability, while providing a platform to support future security requirements.

Situation Snapshot

Like most countries in Asia Pacific, air travel has become popular amongst both the public and business population alike because of its accessibility and larger market opportunities respectively. As a result, airports and border control agencies are finding it difficult to manage the growing number of passengers with limited human resources. In addition, airports are now multi-faceted, offering areas of entertainment, restaurants, cafes, shopping and rest. Not only has this given rise to the number of non-travelers putting additional strain on the system, it has also created a higher risk of threats at airports. Enhancing counter terrorism measures is thus critical, especially at Incheon International Airport, which is considered a hub airport that serves as a main gateway between the East and West.

From 2001, almost all inbound and outbound flights in Korea provided Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS) data through the ARINC network. APIS messages were provided by all airlines with the electronic data interchange (EDI) format, which is an international standard. However, the evolution of travel meant added types of information exchange were involved. In order to enhance border controls, a new electronic Borders solution was sought – One that could support Passenger Name Record (PNR) and APIS Quick Query (iAPP).



Why ARINC?

Over the years, ARINC has maintained a very strong presence in Korea, providing the iMUSE passenger check-in and AviNet Airport network communication services to the country's major airport and airline customers.

For the electronic Borders project, ARINC worked with its long-term partner, KTNET, Korea's leading provider of EDI services, and also the designated company of Korea's immigration and customs agencies to oversee the project. The partnership offered ARINC a unique opportunity to fully understand every key requirement, based on close discussions with Korea's government officials and aviation companies.

A customized electronic Borders solution was then created to include the implementation of PNR (Korea Customs Service) and iAPP applications (Korea Immigration Service) cost effectively and within a stipulated timeframe. This was achieved through working with a local applications partner in Korea, while ARINC provided the networking platform and systems integration services.

ARINC also played the key role of a conduit between Korea's immigration and customs agencies and the various airport and airline companies to facilitate the project's implementation.

Key Benefits

Cost Savings For Airlines

Airlines that have been using ARINC's AviNet Airport service only have to invest a marginal cost to manage any additional electronic Border traffic as it uses the same network infrastructure. Conversely, airlines that are new subscribers to the electronic Border services can also use the network for Type A and B connections. Moreover, once the airline has installed a direct Host connection over AviNet with ARINC, they can easily connect to other countries without hassle and other costly configuration costs.

High Availability And Reliability

To support all security processes for flights in and out of Korea, the electronic Borders system has to provide high availability and reliability. To achieve this, applications are UNIX-based and maintained by an in-country software vendor. In addition, ARINC's Operational Center (AOC) provides 24x7 call center support to provide quick resolution to problems.

ARINC

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Flexible And Scalable

Airlines can choose to select the service that's best-suited for them to implement the electronic Borders solution; Type A Host to Host, Type A Host to Terminal, Type B and the manual method. ARINC can also provide network protocol conversion service (For example X.25 to MATIP), or any customized data format that is required by the customer. This flexibility provided by ARINC greatly facilitated project implementation by taking into account individual airline requirement and budget.

As the project was implemented in partnership with KTNET, the flexibility of working with local partners allowed ARINC to fully understand the specific technical requirements and regulations that came under the border control agencies and aviation companies.

Better Accuracy, Faster Response Times

With PNR for the Korea Immigration Service, and iAPP for the Korea Customs Service, both agencies were both able to enhance their security infrastructure by:

- Reducing errors in passenger identification
- Increasing the accuracy of fraudulent case detection
- Allowing quick and accurate identification of passengers when vetting them against the 'Watchlist'
- Enhancing the interaction and cooperation between the airlines and the government, resulting in a win-win strategy

Future Plans

The Korea Immigration Service and the Korea Customs Service will continue to look at ways of enhancing the security infrastructure at airports, harnessing new technologies and working closely with ARINC and aviation companies to ensure that the country's reputation as an international gateway remains strong.

