

AEA Technical Specifications

2009 Edition

ATB | Self-Service Kiosk | BTP | BGR



One of many AEA compatible ATB printers:
Unimark XP

The story:

In the early 1980s European airlines, members of the AEA, took an important decision in driving a new technology in the field of ticketing and check-in.

The Automated Ticketing & Boarding pass with the magnetic stripe technology was launched, first in common experimentation and later with the real-time introduction of a new generation of printer/reader/encoder machines.

Throughout its development experts from all AEA member airlines were involved in deciding and defining the hardware and software/firmware specifications, linking the airport based ticket processes with the airline's own host computer.

The joint initiative by European airlines has allowed AEA to adopt a standard approach to the machine printing and reading of ticket information as well as being the leaders in launching a new technology, based on existing industry standard and designed in conjunction with airlines and vendors.

AEA specifications are now recognized worldwide as industry standard for ATB, BTP and BGR equipment.

The product:

The AEA ATB, BTP and BGR specifications detail the message exchange method between applications and the printers / readers used in the airport and airline travel environment. The "how" you get the data to hardware and the "what" the responses must look like.

The data content itself is defined by IATA or ICAO in the corresponding resolutions and recommendations and technical rules are established by ISO standards.

What is new in the 2009 Edition?

ATB Amendments

- Printing on stub part of ATB/BPP
- Code set for printing defined
- New Pectab steering for BASE64 encoded data
- Barcode Printing more details (as demanded by CUSS group)
- BC command aligned with BTP (Bin contrast)
- Updates for RCOK, RIOK, PVOK
- New EP parameters

- ATB Status request - SQ
- Unsolicited Status change - SQNI
- Read Configuration (RC)

BGR Amendments

- MSRI# for input as BGR (magnetic data)
- OCRI# for input as BGR (OCR data)
- BIOI# for input as BGR (Biometric Data)
- E-Gate support as part of BGR process (standard automated processing)
- E-Gate standard fraud scenarios
- E-Gate standard graphics definitions
- Updates for Receipt printing
- New parameters in EP command
- Code set for printing defined
- BGR Status request - SQ
- Unsolicited Status change - SQNI
- E-Gate support as independent PO device

BTP Amendments

- New EP parameters
- ATB Status request - SQ
- Unsolicited Status change - SQNI
- New parameters in EP command
- Code set for printing defined
- Multi Stock handling for RFID/Non-RFID stock in same printer
- Bin stock Status – BL
- BC command aligned with ATB (Bin contrast)

Baggage Scale Amendments

- Newly added support for baggage scale

Who should buy the AEA Technical Specifications?

- **Vendors** who wish to offer their hardware product (printers, readers, scanners, etc.) with AEA compatibility to airport, airline, shared systems providers and other transport business related clients.
- **IT companies** / system integrators who wish to integrate airport, airline and other transport business related hardware to conform to AEA standards.
- **Airlines and handling agent** IT departments who have to certify hardware or have to

AEA – the **Association of European Airlines** – brings together 36 major airlines, and has been the trusted voice of the European airline industry for over 50 years.

- Adria Airways
- Aegean Airlines
- Aer Lingus
- AeroSvit
- airBaltic
- Air France
- Air Malta
- Air One
- Alitalia
- Austrian
- bmi
- British Airways
- brussels airlines
- Cargolux
- Croatia Airlines
- Czech Airlines
- Cyprus Airways
- DHL
- Finnair
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- Icelandair
- Jat Airways
- KLM
- LOT
- Lufthansa
- Luxair
- Malev
- Montenegro Airlines
- Olympic Air
- SAS Scandinavian Airlines
- SWISS
- TAP Portugal
- TAROM
- TNT Airways
- Turkish Airlines
- Ukraine International Airlines
- Virgin Atlantic Airways

Compatibility:

ACCESS

AMT Datasouth

ARINC

Epson

EPSYS

Fujitsu

IER

Nextres

Ultra

Intermec

Unimark

Vidtronics



AEA - Technical Specifications 2009

The AEA Technical WG meets on a regular basis to update the specifications to adapt to the new technologies.

Please address your queries to atbspecs@aea.be

Since 2002 there have been important revisions in 2006, in 2007 and in 2008, with enhancements in barcode printing, inclusion of new commands and the introduction of **RFID** compatibility in baggage tag printers.

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