

Standardisation in Aviation Parts & Maintenance Aerospace ID Forum Cambridge - June 2007

Ken Jones, Director Electronic Data Standards, Air Transport Association



- Non-Profit Association based in Washington, D.C.
- Represents the large commercial operators carrying 90% of the US cargo & passengers
- 19 U.S. Airlines / 4 International Airlines
- Lobby Organization
- Administers Industry Programs
- Develop and Publish Industry Standards



# Why e-Business?





# Why Standardise?



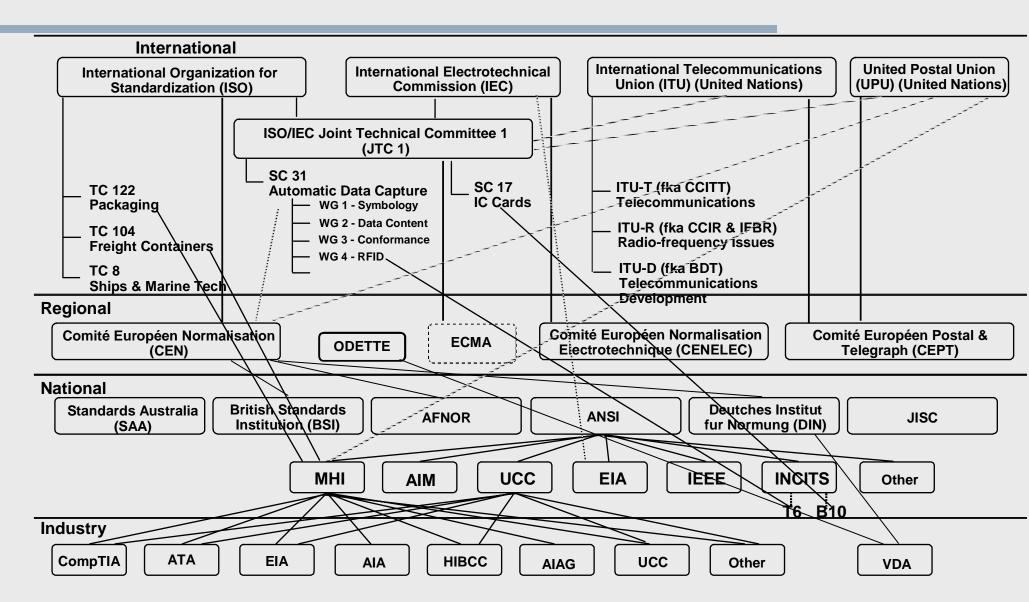


# E-Business Program - Scope

Design	<u></u>	Production	peration Maintenance	
	Con	figuration Management		
		Maintenance Planning		
	Maintenance Procedures			
		Part Identification and Trac	ceability	
Initial Pro	Initial Provisioning Delivery Configuration Reliability Data			
			Industry Performance Metrics	
	Supply Chain Management / e-Procurement / Repair Order Administration / Warranty			
		Electronic Regulatory	Documentation	
		Flight Operations Data	Electronic Aircraft Logbook	
			ATA Aviation Marketplace	
		Digital Data Securit	у	



## Standardisation - the Solution



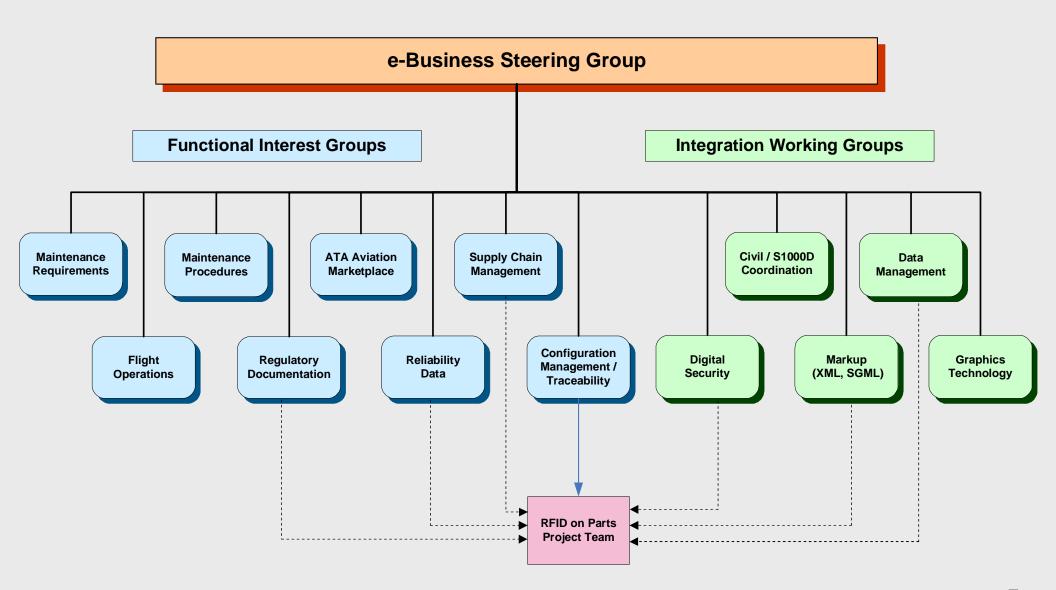


### **E-Business Specifications**

- Spec 2000 ATA "Materiel" standards
  - Provisioning, procurement, part marking / traceability, reliability, warranty, industry metrics, regulatory documents.
- iSpec 2200 Technical Information
  - Illustrated Parts Catalog, Maintenance Manuals, Service Bulletin, Flight Operations, Wiring Manuals, etc.
- Common Support Data Dictionary
  - Over 2000 terms, data elements, formats, tags, etc.
- Need for Integration & Harmonization of Data Exchange for the aircraft lifecycle



# ATA e-Business Program





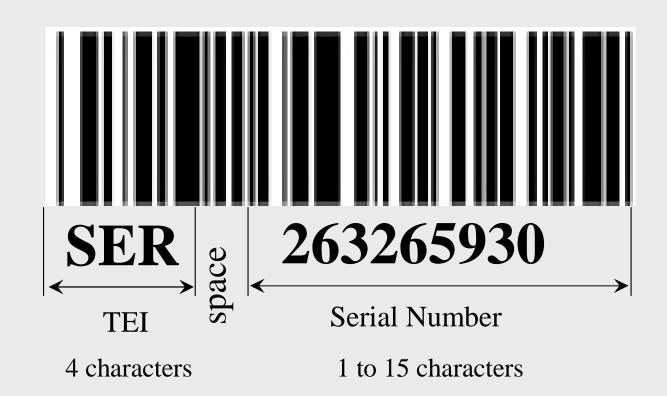
# So what are we standardising?

Serial Number ? 263265930 Employee Number? SSN without the dashes? Location? Order Number? Who knows?

This is a NAKED number without any intelligence!



# Standarised Part Identity

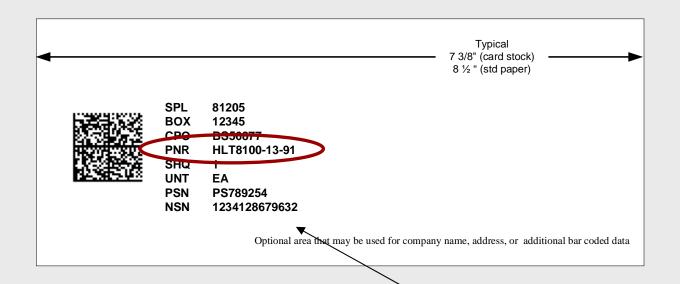


Simple Information – Human Readable (Serial Number)

Machine Readable.



### Examples



Spec 2000 Shipping Label

Same Spec 2000 data formats as in Purchase Order, Electronic Shipping Notice, Planned electronic 8130-3



# RFID on Parts Project Overview

#### Objective

- Standardize formats and data structure for information that will be permanently stored on aircraft parts
- Accommodate not only identification, but other part information that facilitates maintenance and troubleshooting when in a "non-connected" state.
- Provide for adequate security
- Work in conjunction with other standards bodies to ensure compatibility
- Designed to be included "in addition" to other part marks, such as "human readable" and bar-code/data matrix.
- Designed to not affect airworthiness, and in such a way that part can still be used if RFID tag is inoperable



## RFID on Parts Project Overview

#### Status

- Data requirements related to a newly manufactured parts is finalized (i.e. – the part "birth record)
- Data formats are being finalized. Compact on-tag formats in conjunction with corresponding XML off-tag formats
- Part History records are in development. This is a challenging area in that many companies perform business differently. Need to agree on most important data.
- Security still not finalized, but in work. Tradeoff between security and complexity.
- Submitted request for EPCglobal headers to ensure that the RFID tags are consistent with their objects.



#### **Permanent**

EPC<br/>DataBirth DataCurrent<br/>DataMechanic's<br/>Scratchpad

Header Information to ensure compatibility with EPCglobal standards

Part History/	Part History/	Part History/	Г+о
Action Log 1	Action Log 2	Action Log 3	EIC.



#### **Permanent**

EPC Birth Data	Current Data	Mechanic's Scratchpad
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"Identity Plus"

Manufacturer CAGE Code, Serial Number, Original Part Number, Manufacture Date, Description, Expiration Dates, Hazardous Material info, ESD, Customs / Export Info, Software Part Indicator, etc.

Part History/	Part History/	Part History/	Etc.
Action Log 1	_	_	



#### Rewriteable

EPC Birth Data Current Mechanic's Scratchpad

**Current Part Number, Modification Status, Airline Part Numbers, etc.** 

Part History/	Part History/	Part History/	Etc.
Action Log 1	Action Log 2	Action Log 3	Lic.



#### Rewriteable



Freeform text for operator's use

Part History/	Part History/	Part History/	E+c
Action Log 1	Action Log 2	Action Log 3	EIC.



EPC<br/>DataBirth DataCurrent<br/>DataMechanic's<br/>Scratchpad

Record "important" part status changes or traceability information

e.g. – service bulletins worked, repairs performed, "no fault found", ownership changes, etc.

Part History/ Part History/ Part History/ Action Log 1 Action Log 2 Action Log 3

Permanent



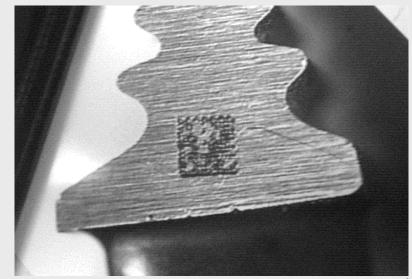
# Samples



FedEx Pilot
Project –
integrated RFID

Very Small Direct Part Mark w/o RFID (Spec 2000 compatible MFR/SER only)







# Related ATA Projects

#### Electronic Airworthiness Documents

- The airworthiness release certificate is a regulatory "document" that must travel with all parts when they are approved as airworthy (either when new, or when repaired).
- An ATA e-Business committee has produced an electronic version (digitally signed XML) of these documents
- Currently expecting FAA approval in late 2007, EASA in 2008. Draft specification available today (will change with regulatory approval)



# **Current Activity**

#### Electronic Teardown Report

- > This report identifies what has been done to a component when it is repaired. To be used in conjunction with the regulatory electronic Airworthiness Release Certificates.
- This team has identified all data, proposed an XML format and will be meeting at the end of July to finalize.
- Potentially could form a basis of information that an operator may wish to add to a repaired unit's RFID tag.

### Reliability Data Exchange

Spec 2000 Chapter 11 has been released and is in the implementation stage. The team is reviewing configuration data records, which could possibly inter-relate with RFID.



### **RFID** on Parts

#### Issues / Challenges

- Consensus on security (even consensus on definition of business risk)
- How much on the tag vs. in databases, and what level of "optional use" will provide the most value for a nonhomogeneous industry.
- Widely varying infrastructures within industry (even different "line stations" for airlines)
- Synchronization to network/databases
- Read ranges and speeds in challenging environments
- Identification of specific parts and/or specific location



# Questions or want to get involved?

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# ATA e-Business Program

### **Background Information**



## ATA e-Business Program - Vision

- To be an agile, cost effective, global commercial aviation industry enabled through effective & efficient information sharing
  - Agility
    - Business models can be effectively adjusted in a timely manner as conditions require
    - Information is as dynamic as the business environment
  - Cost effective
    - Minimal data processing for distribution or consumption
    - Information is complete and ready for consumption when provided
    - All data dependencies are known



### ATA e-Business Program - Mission

- Establish a global commercial aviation industry information framework that facilitates improved business agility, reduces costs, increases speed of business, and maintains the highest level of safety.
- Guiding Principles and goals for the framework:
  - Information-centric, not document-centric
  - Platform neutral open architecture
  - Consistent data structures, definitions and properties across all applications of the data
  - Leverage other standards where applicable (e.g., ISO, PKI)
  - Enable an appropriate level of data security for the application
  - Meet all applicable regulatory requirements

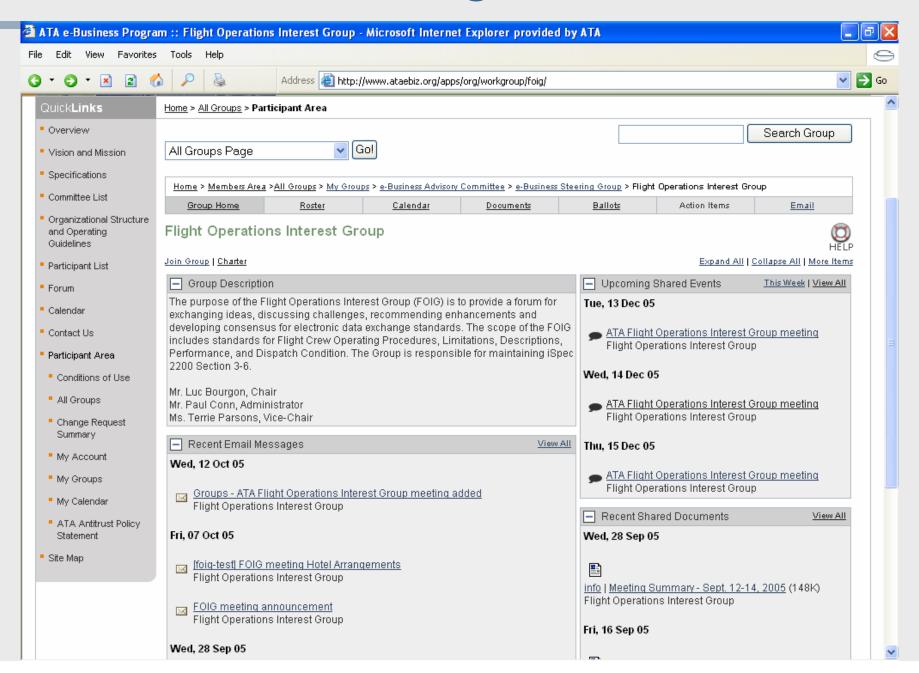


# Value to Industry

- Creates common business & IT language Allows standardization of business processes among airlines and their suppliers
- Drives down costs
- Increases accuracy, quality (e.g., Part marking, delivery configuration data, etc.)
- Facilitates safety (part marking, traceability, electronic 8130-3)
- Facilitates data analyses (e.g., Initial provisioning data, reliability data, etc.)
- Enables inventory reduction (inventory collaboration, surplus, initial provisioning)
- Participative process
- Widely used among major industry players

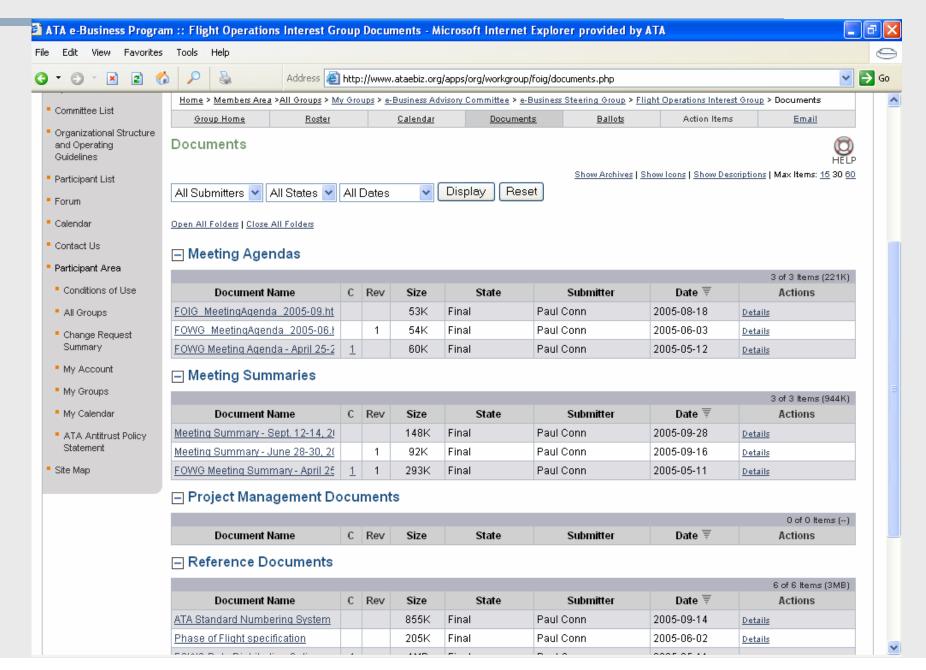


# Project team working areas www.ataebiz.org



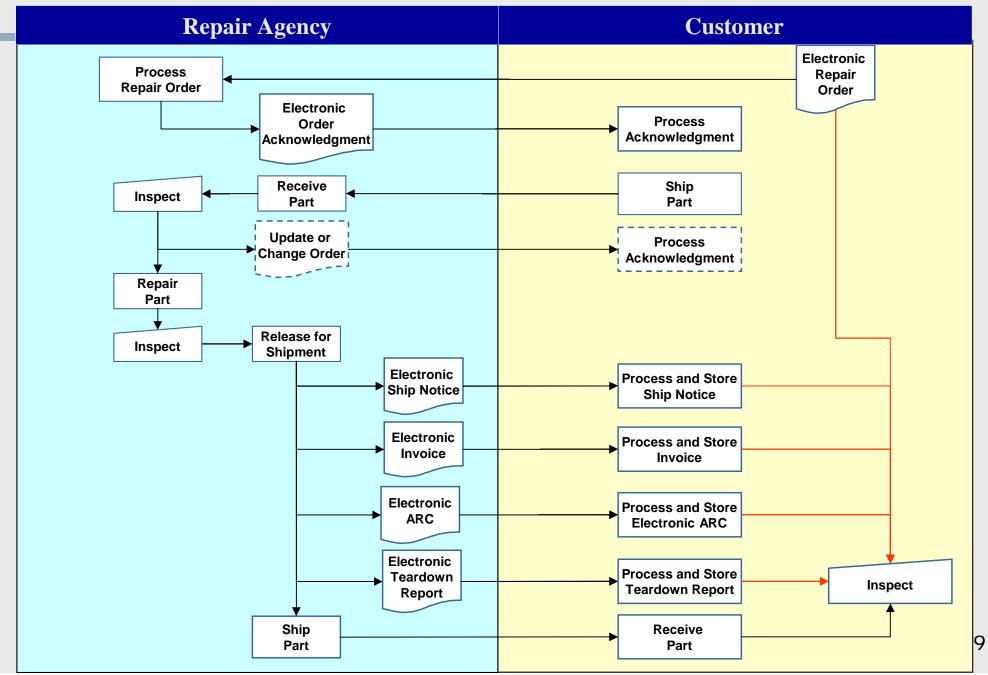


# Project team working areas - document repositories





### Process Flow – Return to Service





### Process Flow – Return to Service

