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## **APEC API Standards Project and Australian Advance Passenger Processing**

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# APEC API Standard Project and Australian Advance Passenger Processing

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## Overview

- Advance Passenger Information (API)
- Advantages of API
- APEC Recognition of API
- APEC API Standards
- Australian APP – Best Practice Reflections
- APEC API Feasibility Studies

## Advance Passenger Information

- API involves a government receiving data about travellers on an aircraft before the aircraft arrives
- It can include information about passengers, crew and transit travellers
- API can be used for immigration, security and customs purposes

## Advantages of API

- Enhanced security
  - enables more thorough checking of travellers (particularly high risk travellers)
  - capacity to prevent a traveller from boarding an aircraft using Interactive API
  - improved intelligence gathering
  - API provides a platform for joining the RMAL initiative

## Advantages of API [2]

- Passenger facilitation
  - Border processing is faster
- Administrative benefits for governments
  - more efficiently managing border processing resources
  - reduced pressure on decision makers
- Benefits for airlines
  - airlines receive a clear boarding directive for each traveller with Interactive API

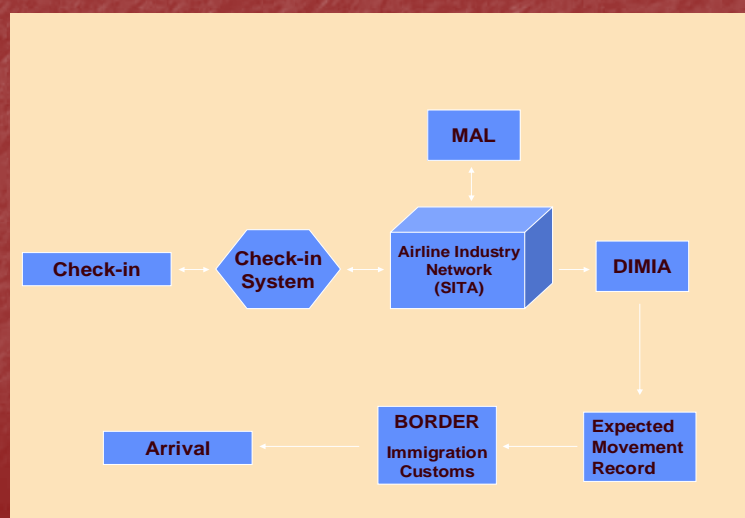
## APEC Recognition of API

- APEC Leaders endorsed the development of unilateral API systems as an APEC "Pathfinder Initiative" in 2002 & 2003
- APEC approved "API Statement of Principles" in 2003

## API Statement of Principles

- Provide “Standards for Implementing API”, including minimum data elements
- Benefits
  - ensures systems are compatible with systems used by airlines and other APEC economies’ systems
  - standardisation ensures same benefits of an API system are shared by APEC economies
  - allows for data and database access

## Advance Passenger Processing



## APP Developments

- Crew Travel Authority from January 2004
- APP website used for passenger, crew and smaller airlines pre-arrival information
- Trial of APP in the maritime cargo sector
- Regular forum with Qantas, Air New Zealand, NZ Immigration Service and CPS Systems to examine operational issues

## Best Practice in Secure Trade APP Case Study

- Stakeholder Cooperation/Public-Private Sector Interaction
- Efficient use of technology
- Strong planning
- Regional cooperation

## APEC API Feasibility Studies [2]

- Feasibility Studies are a core part of the implementation plan
- The study process involves
  - study visit to economies and analysis of information collected
  - discussion of draft report with economy
  - presentation of report
  - confidentiality of report and recommendations

## APEC API Feasibility Studies

- Study visits have occurred in Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, China, Chinese Taipei and Chile
- Technical assistance has been provided to Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
- In 2005, visits are planned for Brunei, Mexico, Peru, Vietnam, Singapore and Papua New Guinea

## Summary

- To achieve best practice in implementing API, it is recommended that economies
  - adopt APEC API standards
  - undertake strong planning
  - ensure stakeholder cooperation
  - cooperate with other economies in the region