The Evolution of the Slot Guidelines

23 May 2023

IATA

The evolution of slot guidelines in the last 20 years

Early 2000s ➔ **2007-2008** ➔ **2011-2014** ➔ **2016-2019**
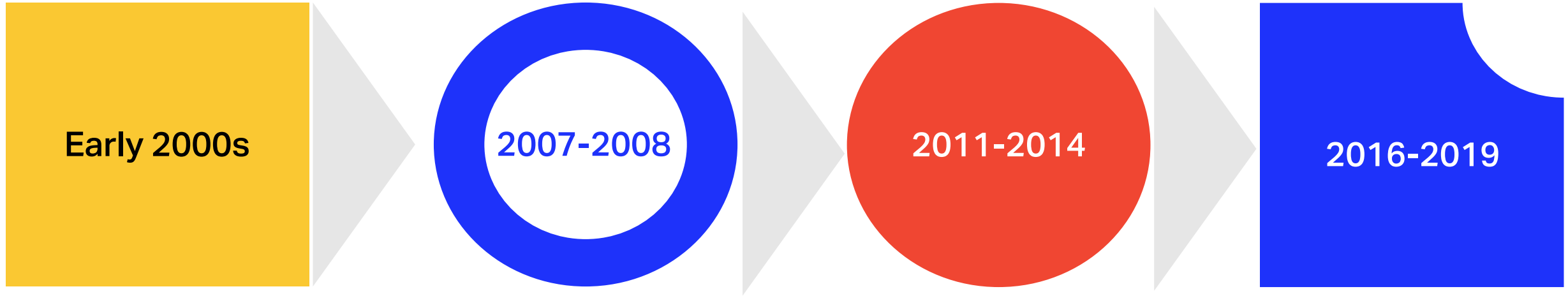
- Sunsetting the Scheduling Procedures Guide (SPG) from 1990's
- Introduction of the new **Worldwide Scheduling Guidelines (WSG)** in March 2000

- **Two Slot Process Reviews** launched in 2007-2008 and 2011-2014
- Major re-write of the slot guidelines and publishing of the new **Worldwide Slot Guidelines (WSG)** in August 2011
- Process evaluation, data analysis resulted in clarifications to policy and general improvements.

- The WSG is translated in Arabic, Chinese, Portuguese and Spanish
- **Strategic Review of the WSG launched with airports, airlines & coordinators** – collaboration across ACI, IATA and WWACG
- Major changes published in WSG 9th and 10th editions
- Culmination of changes in the new **Worldwide Airport Slot Guidelines (WASG)** in 2020

Continuous improvement of the WSG to the WASG

2008

Detailed clarification of the r**oles of Airports and Coordinators in the airport capacity analyses and capacity declaration**

Establishment of **Slot Return Deadline (SRD)** of 15 Jan and 15 Aug to facilitate a more vigorous slot reallocation exercise by coordinators

Introduction of **Minimum System Requirements** for the conduct of slot allocation and management by Coordinators and Airlines

Voluntary secondary trading of slots - Introduction of conditions and procedures, where this is legally possible

The **Slot Conference dates** moved 5 days later to allow more time for preparatory work by airlines.

SAL distribution to all to improve transparency of initial allocation

2011 - 2014

Principles of schedule facilitation – introduction of detailed process providing clarification and detail about the Schedule Facilitation process

SRD - Education Campaign launched to promote series return and reallocation

Review of the Airport Levels Concept

Review of Post SAL/Pre Slot-Conference Activity to make it more efficient

Sunsetting the old 'Type B' slot messages and transition to XML standard

2019-2020

New Entrant definition (change from < 5 to < 7 slots) – improves access and growth of new airlines at congested airports

Priority for allocation from the slot pool – equal distribution (50/50) of newly available slots to new and incumbent airlines

Additonal criteria for slot allocation – clarified and enhanced criteria for coordinators to base their allocation decisions on when there are more requests than can be met

Slot Performance Monitoring – introduction of comprehensive process and tools for coordinators to monitor how slots are used and to minimize slot misuse

Trials and simulations – trial of earlier SRD and the new Enhanced level 2 Airport concept undertaken for assessment of validity of need for change

More details on all the changes to the WSG > WASG are detailed [here](#).

Worldwide Airport Slot Board (WASB)

- Established in 2019 by ACI, IATA and WWACG the WASB is the new governing body in charge of setting the global slot policies, processes and procedures

- The WASB launch the new Worldwide Airport Slot Guidelines (WASG) in 2020 with a refreshed set of objectives for the global slot process

- The WASB continually evaluates the slot policies and process to identify areas for improvement and enhancement