

ACI and Ground Handling



Non-Movement Area Safety— How Can Airports Manage Ground Handlers More Effectively?

ACI-NA Annual Conference & Exhibition
Long Beach, California
October 4, 2015

Contact: Nicholas Ratledge
Manager, Airport Safety and
Operations, ACI World
Tel: 514.373.1256
nratledge@aci.aero

- Background
- Ground Handling and STSC
- ICAO Ground Handling Task Force
- ACI Ground Handling Policy
- ACI Apron Safety Handbook

Background

- Flight Safety Foundation estimated in 2007 damage from ground handling equipment to airlines cost up to \$10 billion
- Estimated 27,000 – 1 per 1,000 movements – accidents occur annually
- Airports not fully engaged with ground handling agencies despite working on airport property
- Need to have airports involved with ground handling practices needed

Ground Handling and World Safety and Technical Standing Committee (STSC)

- Governing Board:
 - 1st : November 2013 – initial brainstorming discussion
 - 2nd: May 2014 – progress report
 - 3rd: April 2015 – progress report
- Requested the committee to produce a policy proposal, with options.
- Ground Handling Working Group within the STSC was created in Aruba May 2015

Ground Handling and STSC

- Challenges found were airport community had no formal ground handling policy for airports in place.
- Role of airports in ground handling not strong
- Consensus ACI to take leadership role with airport operators
- Highlighted that airport was held liable in ground handling incident for not conducting oversight on ground handling operations (\$\$\$)

ICAO Ground Handling Task Force

- In 2014 the Air Navigation Commission requested the Aerodromes Panel to perform gap analysis to determine what ICAO provisions were needed to determine the focus of best practices that can be created for ground handling.
- Gap analysis conducted
- Recommend future work program for ICAO to consider what package to present to compliment ground handling operations

→ Task force shall:

- Review the request from the Aerodromes Panel to determine specific areas that need to be addressed
- Review current provisions, best practices such as PANS – Aerodromes, IATA ISAGO, IATA IGOM and other documentation from ACI or IBAC
- Analyze available ground damage databases
- Develop recommendations for ICAO

ICAO Ground Handling Task Force

- First meeting of the ICAO GHTF November 2014 – team reviewed existing material related to ground handling safety.
- Additional material related to Safety Management Systems and ground handling safety identified in 2015.
- Aim to develop ICAO document which would assist GHSP in developing SMS and good examples of operational safety procedures.
- Input from IATA, ACI, IBAC, ICCIA, French CAA, UK CAA, ASA
- Second meeting occurred at IATA in Montreal September 11 and 12 – Reviewed material

→ Next Steps

- ICAO Recommended creating a Manual on Ground Handling as a stepping stone to future development of SARPs or PANS
- Provide guidance to States on how to encourage SMS by GHSPs
- ACI to provide guidance on how could they ‘regulate’, ‘oversight’ and ‘license’ ground handlers

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Background

- Development began back at World Annunal General Assembly in Seoul, South Korea May 2014
- Question raised on role of ACI and Ground Handling activities on airports
- Reported back to the STSC and established Ground Handling Working Group to develop policy

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Background

- With the nature of ground handling involving multiple stakeholders, a consolidated approach to regulating ground handling requires coordination
- Coordination underway with IATA and Airport Services Association (ASA)

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Background

- ➔ Responsibility and some extent liability can be shared by airport operator and aircraft operator when it comes to ground handling
- ➔ Airport in most cases owns or manages infrastructure ground handlers use
- ➔ However, if terminal is owned and operated by airline, airport role is limited
- ➔ Aircraft operator also must have contract with ground handler and clear lines of responsibility between both parties

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Background

- Ground Handling services do not benefit from a global regulatory framework
- With this, states and/or regulatory bodies have developed own regulations without a proper framework
- The variations can create a complex, legal environment. Airport operators could take on additional responsibilities not allocated to airports

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Recommendations

- Ground Handling Working Group proposes three general concepts in final policy document

- Licensing
 - Airport operators should provide a license or concession to operate on airport property.
 - Cover all aspects including safety, security, and environmental oversight
 - Eg. CYYZ and Ground Handling Policy

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Recommendations

→ Safety Oversight

- Ground handling providers should develop and maintain a safety management system that is appropriate to their operations and be able to interact with the airport operator SMS.
- Interaction to be determined by airport operator and ground handler on individual basis. Basic interaction like incident information sharing should be covered
- Airport operator SMS should provide oversight of activities

ACI Ground Handling Policy - Recommendations

→ Certification

- Standards for ground handling service providers should be developed and monitored by industry regulatory bodies and certified against such standards
- ACI in collaboration with bodies like IATA and ASA should develop these standards to benefit the civil aviation system

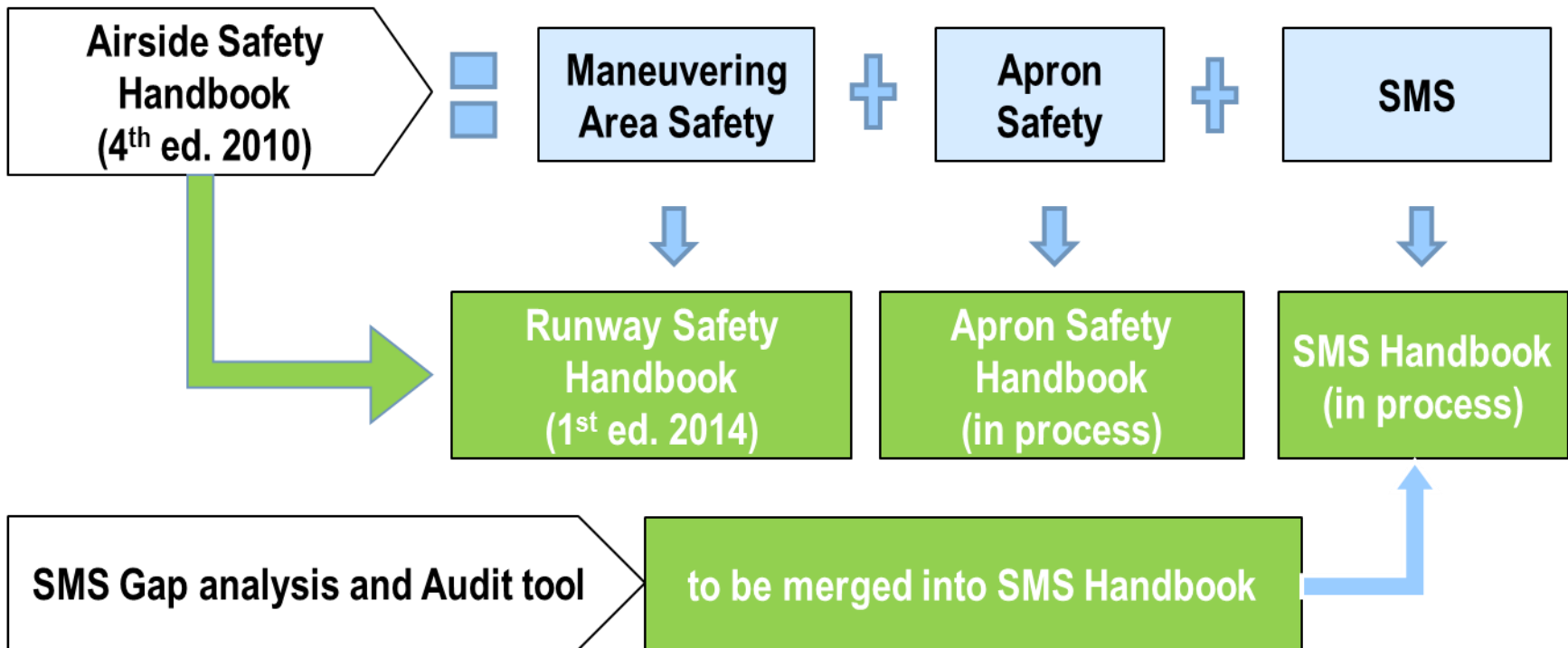
- Considerations a policy should have include:
 - Adoption of local airport regulations by ground handling service providers
 - Developing solid relations with airlines for improved communication with their ground handling service providers
 - Including ground handling service providers in the measurement of overall airport operational performance
 - Allocating responsibilities and liabilities between the airport operator and ground handling company
 - Developing a cost recovery plan with ground handling companies to recover costs for establishing ground handling facilities

ACI Apron Safety Handbook

- To be published by end of 2015
- To expand on the aspects of apron safety previously contained in the Airside Safety Handbook
- Provides guidance and best practices when establishing a comprehensive apron safety plan

ACI Apron Safety Handbook

- To be divided into 3 handbooks; Runway Safety, Apron Safety and SMS



- **Apron Safety**
 - Apron (Airside) Workplace Health and Safety
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Safety Promotion
 - Safety Culture (Multiple Stakeholders)
 - Safety Communication
- **Apron Planning and Design**
 - Apron Types and Considerations
 - Remote Apron
 - De-icing Apron
 - Passenger Boarding Bridge
 - Apron Visual Aids
- **Services and Operations**
 - Airside Vehicle Permit
 - Surface Movement and Control
 - Enforcement and Sanction Policy
 - Ground Handling
 - Aircraft Fueling
- **Apron Maintenance and Construction**
 - Construction on Apron
 - Preparing for Maintenance and Construction Activities

Thank you!