

NDC Release Notes

The NDC Release Notes provide the latest updates on NDC and API functionalities and enhancements that can improve your implementation.



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Please find below the latest news and updates of Lufthansa Group NDC content.

1. NDC 24.1 Acceptance flow for time change (TK)

This enhancement will add the ability to reissue tickets for itineraries with schedule changes where only the time is changed (TK disruption type).

- Reissue type to be used if passenger accepts the schedule change: Accept-SC with OrderChange.
- NDC API 17.2 flow: OrderRetrieveRQ/OrderViewRS → OrderChangeRQ with Accept-SC/OrderViewRS.
- NDC API 24.1 flow: IATA_OrderRetrieveRQ/IATA_OrderViewRS → IATA_OrderChangeRQ with Accept-SC/IATA_OrderViewRS.

The flow already exists and works for UN/TK scenarios where flight number or flight date or both are changing. There is no change in the flow when it is used for TK (time change) scenarios.

2. LATAM prime code integration

The aim of this project is to enable interline offers with LATAM by exposing LATAM prime flights (LA) in all the LHG channels: NDC API, Baseline API and SPRK. Interline itineraries shall be offered when following pre-conditions are met:

Flight is sold in combination with a LHG flight number, where LHG is the fare owner and validating carrier (LH, OS, LX, SN, 4Y, EN, VL) Itinerary originates in Europe and ends in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru or Uruguay via TC1 and vice versa (Geographical scope)

3. Handling of Unavailable Seats*

The objective of this enhancement is to improve how seat availability and pricing are returned to ensure only bookable seats return and display prices.

- Seats that are not available for booking (e.g., status T, U, R) will no longer return pricing or seatlevel service data:
 - SeatAvailabilityRS/OptionalServices/Service/Seats/Seat
- If all seats within a service are unbookable the Service will be omitted:
 - SeatAvailabilityRS/OptionalServices/Service
- Only bookable seats will:
 - Have pricing
 - Be linked to services
 - Be selectable
- Seats that are unavailable (for example, T, U, R) will:
 - Still appear in SeatDetails for display purposes
 - Not appear in OptionalServices or SeatMap OfferItemRefs
 - Not be selectable or purchasable

SPRK behavior

For seats that are unavailable:

- When hovering over a seat:
 - The upper (white) section of the pop-up will still display:
 - Seat number
 - Seat characteristics (e.g. window, aisle)
- The lower (shaded) section of the pop-up will not be displayed:
 - No price
 - No seat option / service details

This ensures the seat is visible for context, but clearly not selectable or purchasable

**This change is non-backward compatible and will be published no earlier than release 12.0.*

4. Update to Airline Preference Handling

Currently, when processing the FareSearch request and the Specific attribute is not sent for the Include preference option (see XPath paths below), the orchestration layer is automatically interpreting the request as Preferred instead of Include.

The following enhancements will be made to update this behavior:

- When this change is published, the system will no longer use the Specific attribute to qualify the preference option and will instead use the preference element sent in the request, unchanged (i.e., Include, Exclude, or Preferred - see XPath paths below)
- In addition, the Specific attribute will be removed from FareSearchRQ no earlier than release 12.0. See the deprecation notice for the Specific attribute under section Schema Changes.

XPath for Specific attribute:

- FareSearchRQ/OriginDestination/Preferences/Airline/@Specific

XPaths for preference elements:

- FareSearchRQ/OriginDestination/Preferences/Airline/Include
- FareSearchRQ/OriginDestination/Preferences/Airline/Exclude
- FareSearchRQ/OriginDestination/Preferences/Airline/Preferred

5. Free Services in ServiceList NDC 24.1

Currently, the Special Service Requests (SSR)—such as for example wheelchair assistance and IATA meal options—are provided through a single static list in the 24.1 ServiceListRQ/RS. Many services shown on the list cannot actually be booked in the NDC API due to manual intervention required (for example EXST) or even generally (for example meal codes on flights where meals are not served). LHG wants to enhance the customer experience in NDC 24.1 so that customers see services that are potentially valid and bookable for their specific flight. To address these challenges, LHG needs to control and customize which SSRs are offered in the 24.1 IATA_ServiceListRS

6. Validating airline verification for BSP

Previously, during the Pricing/Repricing process, it was not considered whether the validating airline is BSP participant in the market and users received an error only at the moment of ticket issuance. This enhancement aims to ensure that only participating carriers will be used during Pricing/Repricing by validating carrier participation before pricing is executed. The solution introduces a pre-pricing validation mechanism in the orchestration layer to verify whether the initially selected validating carrier is BSP participant the POS country. If the validating carrier is not participating in the BSP market, the system will default to LH as the validating carrier, ensuring that pricing proceeds with a valid carrier from the start.