

# Business Travel Update

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A Business Travel Update provided by Professional Travel

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## FEATURED ARTICLE

### The Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative

The WHTI-compliant documents described below are acceptable for entry or re-entry into the United States. You may be required to present additional or different travel documents when entering foreign countries, including countries in the Western Hemisphere. Before you travel, make sure you know the entry requirements of the country you plan to visit. See [Country Specific Information](#) for more information on the country you are traveling to.

[\(More Information\)](#)

### TSA Secure Flight Program

Under the Secure Flight rule, commercial airline passengers will see many benefits to air travel such as enhanced security and consistent customer service. Under Secure Flight, you will also notice that airlines will request additional information from you when making a reservation to fly within, into, out of, or over the continental United States.

[\(More Information\)](#)

### Digital IDs Make Clearing Customs Easier

For the first time, U.S. travelers flying overseas may avoid customs lines at a foreign airport by swiping a digital ID card. An agreement Thursday between the Homeland Security Department and the Netherlands allows approved U.S. citizens to speed through customs checks at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport.

USA TODAY 4/23/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

#### [INFLUENZA A\(H1N1\) - UPDATE](#)

### CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION

#### [INFLUENZA A\(H1N1\) - UPDATE](#)

### Senators Seek

#### Probe of Regional Airlines Safty

In a letter released Tuesday, the senators told Transportation Department Inspector General Calvin Scovel that the circumstances of the crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407 near Buffalo in February raised questions about the Federal Aviation Administration's enforcement of regulations related to pilot training and crew rest at regional carriers

MSNBC 5/19/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### The Race to Provide Wi-Fi at 30,000 Feet

SOME airlines are rushing to offer Wi-Fi Internet connections in their domestic aircraft cabins, but none are talking about the space squeeze. On an AirTran Airways Wi-Fi demonstration flight that went up and back down the Northeast seaboard from Baltimore-Washington International Airport last week, the Internet worked just fine. The problem was actually being able to use it efficiently. My laptop was wedged onto a tray table in the cramped space of a coach seat. I had to slide down in my seat just to read the screen.

NY Times 5/18/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### Majority of Business Travelers Now Flying Coach

Goodbye, complimentary Champagne. For the first time since American Express Business Travel began tracking its business travelers' airfare purchases in 1999, more than half are buying coach-class seats for overseas flights. Those buying economy seats on international flights soared 13 percentage points to 56 percent in the first three months this year.

Seattle Times 5-5-09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### Airlines Target Lighter, Thinner Seats to save

Airlines are paying more attention to one of the most important and least-discussed amenities: seats. Seat manufacturers say airlines have a greater selection of coach seats to choose from. And some airlines that are quickly adopting them — Singapore Airlines, Qatar Airways and India's Jet Airways— are putting pressure on U.S. competitors to take advantage of them, too.

USA Today 5/15/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### American Airlines

#### No Longer Accepting Cash

Credit cards will soon be the only payment accepted on many American Airlines flights for passengers who buy food, beverages, headsets and other items. Beginning Monday, the airline said it will not accept cash on flights within the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Canada.

MSNBC 5/27/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### Non-Stop Daily from San Francisco to Dubai

Emirates will fly its brand new Boeing 777-200LR, offering eight luxurious private suites in First Class, 42 of its latest lie-flat seats in Business Class, and generous space for 216

passengers in Economy. The new service starting May 1 will operate daily out of the International Terminal at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), one of the world's 30 busiest airports. Emirates [\(Full Story\)](#)

### Flying the 'elite' skies

Airlines are wooing passengers with upgrades, early check-ins and other perks. But before pursuing this status, consider if it's worth the time, effort and cost. The answer is simple: They flew lots of miles on one carrier. Oh, some may have cheated a bit and bought their miles, but the bottom line is that they were loyal customers, faithfully flying with that carrier and racking up air mileage.

LA Times 5-8-09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

### Travel Taboos, Do's and Don'ts

When Iraqi journalist Muntadher al-Zaidi threw his shoes at President Bush during a press conference in December, 2008, news outlets scrambled to explain the incident to American viewers. Al-Zaidi hadn't intended to hurt the President; he meant to demean him. In Arab countries, the soles of feet are unclean, so you never throw a shoe at a person. For his gesture, al-Zaidi was given three years in prison. ForbsTraveler 5/7/09 [\(Full Story\)](#)

## USEFUL LINKS

[ViewTrip](#)

[View your itinerary 24/7](#)

[TraVisa](#)

[Passport & Visa Assistance](#)

### [CONTINENTAL AIRLINES](#)

You can View updated Continental Flight Status, Seat Map, Flight Standby List, Upgrade Standby List & Inflight Amenities.

[Journeywoman](#) is the ultimate information source for women travelers, especially those traveling solo.

Professional Travel's Business Travel News is published monthly. The information is gathered from current articles and news worthy information regarding the travel industry that we feel is important for those individuals who manage their corporations travel programs. If you have any questions please call us at 1-800-247-0060.