

# Fly America Act Open Skies Agreements

*Making sense of it all!*

December 6 & 7, 2010

# What is the Fly America Act?

- When traveling on funds provided by the federal government you must use U.S. Flag Carriers or U.S. Codeshare service, with a few exceptions.
- “Open Skies Agreements” provide a limited exception to the Fly America Act.

## What is an “Open Skies” agreement?

- Bilateral or multilateral air transportation agreements to which the US and a foreign government are parties, AND
- Determination by the US Department of Transportation that the agreement meets the requirements of the Fly America Act.

# What does this mean for UCAR?

- Open Skies Agreements allow use of a foreign carrier for travel as long as:
  - A GSA City-Pair contract does not exist
  - Travel is not funded by the DOD
  - The foreign carrier is a member airline of the European Union, Australia, or Switzerland
- Note: Currently there are no Asian Airlines that fall under Open Skies Agreements

# Open Skies Agreement Partners:

- European Union Member States
- Australia
- Switzerland

You can fly anywhere in the world on a foreign carrier as long as that airline is a member of the EU, Australia or Switzerland, no city-pair agreement exists and travel is not DOD funded.

## EU Member States

Austria	Germany	Netherlands
Belgium	Greece	Poland
Bulgaria	Hungary	Portugal
Cyprus	Ireland	Romania
Czech Republic	Italy	Slovakia
Denmark	Latvia	Spain
Estonia	Lithuania	Sweden
Finland	Luxembourg	United Kingdom
France	Malta	

# EU Candidate Countries

## EU Membership Pending

- Croatia
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Iceland
- Turkey

# GSA City-Pair Program

- <http://apps.fas.gsa.gov/citypairs/search>
- Based on true origin and destination.
- Annual fiscal year contracts

If transportation is between points for which there is a city-pair contract fare in effect, use of a U.S. flag air carrier is required unless one of the other exceptions to the use of such service, as set out in the Federal Travel Regulation, applies. **Refer to Desktop Reference: Appendix A**

# Determine if a Foreign Air Carrier is Allowed

1. Consult the GSA City-Pair website/query at <http://apps.fas.gsa.gov/citypairs/search>.
  - If a City-Pair contract exists the Fly America Act is in force.
  - If no City-Pair contract exists you may use a foreign carrier provided they are a member of the EU, Australia or Switzerland.
2. If the travel is funded by the DOD you MUST Fly Flag.
3. Upon verification, travel with a non-federal account key can use either U.S. air carrier or foreign air carrier. Use of U.S. air carriers is always encouraged.

# Examples

## Denver to Delhi

- No city-pair agreement exists

UA 8879 DENVER-FRANKFURT 5:35P- 11:30A

UA 8906 FRANKFURT-DELHI 1:20P – 1:15A **YES!**

LH 447 DENVER-FRANKFURT 5:35P – 11:30A

LH 760 FRANKFURT-DELHI 1:20P – 1:15A **YES!**

UA 8879 DENVER-FRANKFURT 5:35P – 11:30A

AI 8760 FRANKFURT-DELHI 1:20P – 1:15A **NO!**

# Examples Cont.

## Denver to Beijing

- No city-pair agreement exits.

BA 218 DENVER-LONDON 5:20P- 9:05A

BA 39 LONDON-BEIJING 4:35P – 10:25A **YES!**

UA 869 DENVER-SAN FRANCISCO 8:22A – 10:15A

UA 889 SAN FRANCISCO – BEIJING 11:07A – 3:40PM **YES!**

UA 869 DENVER-SAN FRANCISCO 8:22A – 10:15A

CA 8889 SAN FRANCISCO-BEIJING 11:07A – 3:40PM **NO!**

# Reservation Requests

- All Open Skies tickets must be booked through Boulder Travel.
- All reservation requests must be submitted using the new reservation form.
- Reservation forms containing incomplete information will be returned to the sender and no further action will be taken until the form is properly completed and resubmitted.
- All requests must be sent to: [ucar@bouldertravel.com](mailto:ucar@bouldertravel.com)

## Q & A