



# TRAVEL DISTRIBUTION AND RETAILING UPDATES

WEEKS 17 & 18, 2026

**THIS EDITION CONTAINS NEWS ON:**

Air Canada | Air Macau | Centrum Air | Contour Airlines | Ethiopian Airlines | Hahnair | Hawaiian Airlines | Iberia | Lufthansa Group | Royal Jordanian | Skane Aviation | Turkish Airlines | Amex GBT | SAP Concur

# TURKISH AIRLINES INCREASES GDS EDIFACT SURCHARGE

Effective May 01, 2026, Turkish Airlines (TK) is increasing its GDS EDIFACT Distribution Cost Recovery Charge (DCRC) for a second time, to 30 USD per ticket. Additionally, agencies previously exempt from DCRC (selected TMCs and cruise agencies) will now be charged a reduced fee of USD 10 per ticket.

In September 2024, TK went dark on Sabre and subsequently in October, the carrier launched its NDC via Direct Connect, Aggregators, and UI/Portal, and introduced a 24 USD per ticket DCRC GDS EDIFACT surcharge. In June 2025, TK signed a new multi-year agreement with Sabre (incl. NDC) after almost a 10-month absence. The status of NDC implementation and NDC contracts with Amadeus and Travelport is not publicly available.

## Turkish Airlines per ticket DCRC progression



# HAWAIIAN AIRLINES TRANSITIONS TO SABRE PSS

Hawaiian Airlines has transitioned to Alaska Airlines' Sabre PSS, moving from the Amadeus Altéa system that it has used since 2023.

Since acquiring Hawaiian in September 2024, Alaska has been consolidating distribution and IT systems across both carriers, including migrating to a single PSS, restoring Hawaiian's full GDS content, removing its EDIFACT surcharge, and disabling Hawaiian's NDC APIs.



**JAN 2024**

Sabre voluntarily dismisses the lawsuit; distribution deal signed including NDC



**MAY 2025**

GDS surcharge removed and full content restored; move to Sabre PSS announced



**AUG 2022**

Lawsuit filed by Sabre following Hawaiian's surcharge on GDSs and partial content removal



**JUL 2024**

Hawaiian NDC goes live on Sabre



**APR 2026**

Hawaiian completes successful PSS migration onto Sabre PSS, aligning with Alaska

# CENTRUM AIR DEPLOYS TECH PLATFORM WITH VERTEIL

Uzbekistan's Centrum Air has deployed a retailing and distribution platform, powered by Indian travel aggregator and distribution platform provider Verteil Technologies. The launch includes an NDC API Gateway, NDC Agency Portal, and Order Management System. The platform supports automated seller onboarding and multiple settlement models, including BSP, card payments, and alternative methods. Centrum Air content will also be made available through Verteil's aggregator platform.

## Selection of Verteil's recent airline NDC partnerships

*NDC launch aggregator*

- Nile Air
- Riyadh Air
- Turkish Airlines

- Air Canada

- AirJapan

- Airlink

- Centrum Air

- TAP Air Portugal

# SKÅNE AVIATION AND COUNTOUR AIRLINES JOIN HAHNAIR

US-based Countour Airlines has joined the Hahnair Network via an interline agreement. Additionally, Sweden's 'virtual airline', Skåne Aviation, has joined Hahnair, making flights 'available under the X1 code in all major GDSs'. Both airlines use the HR-169 ticket.

Hahnair's HR-169 ticketing product enables airlines connected to GDS to sell tickets in markets without being connected to the local settlement system. Airlines can be booked on select or all GDS using either their own IATA code or Hahnair's X1/H1 codes.

In 2025, Hahnair also launched Distriply, a new brand for its NDC-based solutions and became a part of ARC's NDC Advancement Working Group.



**20+**

**airlines joined Hahnair's network in 2025, including Southwest Airlines**

# AIRLINE AND AGENCY UPDATES FROM TRAVELPORT

Travelport has signed a long-term distribution agreement with Webjet and gone live with NDC content from Royal Jordanian.

1

**Royal Jordanian:** Went live with NDC content on Travelport+ in US and UK, with further rollout expected soon. The carrier announced a five-year extension including NDC with Travelport, in Oct 2025.

*Selection of recent Travelport airline NDC go-lives*

Finnair

TAP Air Portugal

Saudia

EVA Air

Air Canada

All Nippon Airways

2

**Webjet:** The OTA has extended their partnership to 2029, with Travelport remaining Webjet's GDS provider. The renewed deal includes continued access to NDC content via Travelport+ and deeper technical collaboration on automation and AI capabilities within Webjet's booking experience.



# **AIR CANADA AND SPOTNANA ENTER STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

Spotnana has gone live with a direct NDC connection to Air Canada, covering the full booking and servicing lifecycle, alongside a Flight Pass integration allowing corporate travellers to apply prepaid credits within the platform without agent involvement.

The NDC integration supports continuous pricing, negotiated fares, unused credit management, and self-service exchanges/cancellations.

# **RESULTS FROM DATALEX AND AND AIR MACAU PARTNERSHIP**

Air Macau signed a 5-year agreement for Datalex's offer management solutions in December 2023, going live with the Stellex Offer Shopping & Pricing Engine in September 2024. In the 18 months since, the airline has expanded its fare product portfolio, with the engine now available across seven channels, including the airline's website, mobile app, Douyin, and MPAY, amongst others.

## MORE AIRLINE UPDATES

**Lufthansa Group** introduced a new Economy Basic fare on short- and medium-haul routes from 28 April, rolling out across all seven group carriers. The fare is personal item only, non-refundable, non-rebookable and is available exclusively through direct and NDC channels. The existing Light fare has been updated to include a rebooking option.

**Iberia** has activated FareSync, a pricing automation module within **Airnguru's** Pantheon orchestration engine, automating fare synchronisation in response to competitor price moves. Airnguru's Pantheon is already in use at Avianca, British Airways, and other airlines.

**Ethiopian Airlines** and **Visa** have expanded their co-branded card agreement, targeting wider adoption of Visa-branded cards for travel payments and everyday purchases. The deal includes joint marketing across booking, loyalty, and customer engagement touchpoints.

# AMEX GBT EXITS PUBLIC MARKETS IN 6.3 BILLION USD DEAL

General Catalyst-backed Long Lake Management has agreed to take Amex GBT private in a deal valued at USD 6.3 billion. Shareholders will receive USD 9.50 per share, a 65% premium over the stock's 30-day weighted average price. The deal is expected to close in the second half of 2026.

In late 2025, Bloomberg reported that Amex GBT was exploring a sale amid struggling performance on the stock market.

## Recent Amex GBT developments



**SEPT 2025**

Successful closure of CWT acquisition, 18 months after the deal was announced



**MAY 2026**

Amex GBT to go private, via an acquisition by Long Lake Management



**JUL 2025**

Joins Accelya's NDC FastTrack programme as one of the first partners



**OCT 2025**

Amex GBT and SAP Concur enter strategic alliance for an AI-based, end-to-end T&E platform

# SAP CONCUR GIVES NDC AND ROUTEHAPPY UPDATE

01

SAP Concur now offers NDC content across 17 airlines, having added 11 carriers in the past 12 months. NDC bookings grew over 500% in Q4 2025 versus Q1 2025 and hit one million transactions by the end of January 2026. 2,000+ companies have adopted NDC through Concur Travel.

US-based TMC Gant Travel has also recently joined SAP Concur and Amex GBT's joint TMC Partner Program, GBTNetwork.

02

SAP Concur has integrated ATPCO's Routehappy Virtual Tours product into its booking flow, joining Navan, Fareportal, AmTrav, MyRiva and Travel Code. Over 100 airlines now contribute visual cabin content through the Routehappy platform.

ATPCO's Routehappy Visuals product allows airlines to show images and videos of their offerings across all booking channels.



# MYRIVA ACCELERATES NDC DIRECT CONNECT ADOPTION

myRiva, a corporate travel marketplace, has reported that nearly 82% of bookings across its participating carriers are now powered by NDC Direct Connect via Accelya. The platform uses Accelya's FLX platform to distribute airline content within managed travel.

myRiva was founded in 2021 by alumni of eBay, American Express, Expedia, Microsoft, and BCD. It is an AI-driven corporate travel marketplace that enables travellers to search, book, and manage flights through direct NDC connections with airlines.



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- Offer-Order transformation approach

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