

TRAVEL DISTRIBUTION AND RETAILING UPDATES



WEEKS 11 & 12, 2026

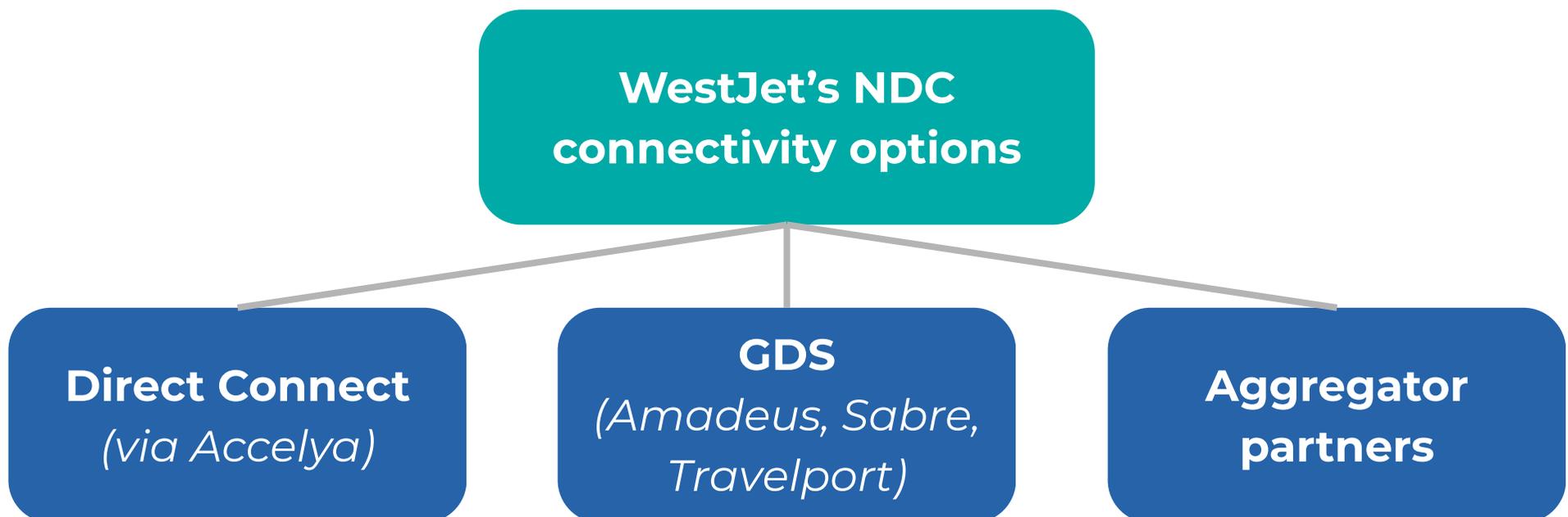
THIS EDITION CONTAINS NEWS ON:

American Airlines | AJet | Azerbaijan Airlines | China Airlines |
EVA Air | Hahnair | Icelandair | Singapore Airlines | Starlux Airlines |
United Airlines | WestJet | Amadeus | TCS | TPConnects | UATP

WESTJET TO LAUNCH NDC IN H1 2026

WestJet is set to launch NDC connectivity in mid-2026, taking a partner-first approach with multi-source connectivity options available to travel sellers. Key elements of the launch include:

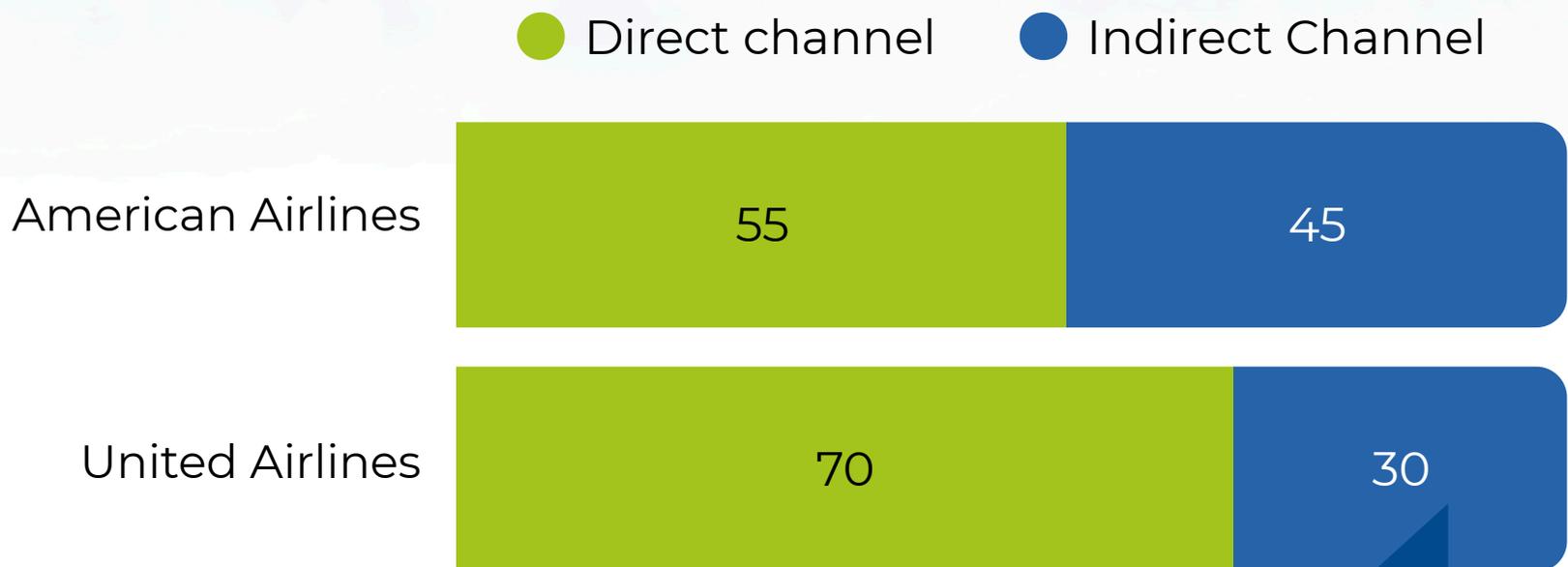
- EDIFACT surcharge of 20-22 USD, applying only to the lowest booking class within each cabin
- Equal prices in NDC channels as with WestJet.com, including access to discounts
- Lowest-priced fare bundle to be exclusively available via NDC channels
- Direct connect incentives



CHANNEL MIX UPDATES FROM US CARRIERS

US carriers, American Airlines (AA) and United Airlines (UA), recently gave insights into their distribution channel mix, indicating a general shift towards direct channels. Both UA and AA have no GDS surcharges and some content differentiation.

AA and UA channel mix in % of total bookings



10%: Non-GDS NDC
20%: Legacy systems

TAIWANESE CARRIERS INCREASE GDS BOOKING SERVICE CHARGES

Three Taiwanese carriers have increased their GDS Booking Service Charges, a cost-recovery fee applied to all GDS-issued tickets and passed to passengers. The increases are taking effect between March and April 2026. Tigerair Taiwan has not increased the GDS Booking Service Charges.

Increase in GDS Booking Service Charges

| | Previous fee (USD per segment) | New fee (USD per segment) | Effective date |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| EVA Air | 25 | 28 | 01 March 2026 |
| China Airlines | 25 | 28 | 17 March 2026 |
| Starlux Airlines | 25 | 30 | 01 April 2026 |



SINGAPORE AIRLINES RENEWS DISTRIBUTION DEAL WITH AMADEUS

Amadeus and Singapore Airlines have renewed their strategic partnership, with a multi-year deal covering both EDIFACT and NDC. The renewal ensures travel sellers on the Amadeus Travel Platform continued access to Singapore Airlines' fares and services.

Singapore Airlines has had a long-running NDC programme, with recent integrations including Navan, TravelPerk, and AirBooking. The airline introduced a USD 20 EDIFACT surcharge in 2023, along with removing V and K fare classes from EDIFACT, and NDC fares typically being priced 6-7% lower than legacy GDS.

ICELANDAIR AND TRAVELPORT EXTEND PARTNERSHIP

Travelport and Icelandair have extended their distribution partnership through a new multi-year content agreement. The deal includes access to the carrier's NDC content for connected Travelport agents. NDC implementation timing is not public.



AZERBAIJAN AIRLINES EXPANDS RELATIONSHIP WITH ACCELYA

Azerbaijan Airlines (AZAL) has expanded its relationship with Accelya, with the technology provider now set to provide the airline's Passenger Revenue Accounting, Cargo Revenue Accounting, Sales Audit, and Payment Reconciliation functions.

Earlier in 2026, AZAL announced it would deploy NDC using Accelya's FLX Select product, which aims to connect airlines to NDC within 90 days. FLX Select, launched in 2024, is part of the broader FLX ONE suite, an API-driven platform built on AWS designed to support the full Offer-Order-Settle-Delivery set of capabilities.

AJET INTEGRATES INTO DRCT PLATFORM

DRCT, an NDC aggregator, has integrated AJet onto its platform. Full content from AJet, Turkish Airlines' low-cost subsidiary, is now available to connected travel agencies, TMCs, and OTAs through DRCT's Extension, Search, and API products.

DRCT has over 20 airline clients globally.

AMADEUS AND TCS ENTER GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Amadeus and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) have announced a global strategic partnership to accelerate modern airline retailing. TCS will develop the Service Centre User Interface for the Amadeus Nevio platform. The interface will be built for airline customer service agents, combining offer and order management with AI insights and retailing capabilities.

The partnership is expected to expand into additional Amadeus solution areas, including airport operations.

Nevio's current roster (and announcement date)

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Lufthansa Group | January 2026 |
| Air France- KLM | February 2025 |
| British Airways | April 2024 |
| Saudia | October 2023 |
| Finnair | December 2022 |

TPCONNECTS ADDS MCP LAYER TO ASTRA NDC PLATFORM

TPConnects has integrated a Model Context Protocol (MCP) layer into its Astra NDC platform, delivering what the company describes as the industry's first 'AI-ready orchestration layer' for airline distribution. The MCP layer brings different NDC schema versions into a single unified interface, so airlines and travel sellers only need to integrate once rather than building separate solutions for each carrier. For travel sellers, the layer provides zero-code or low-code connectivity to airline capabilities.

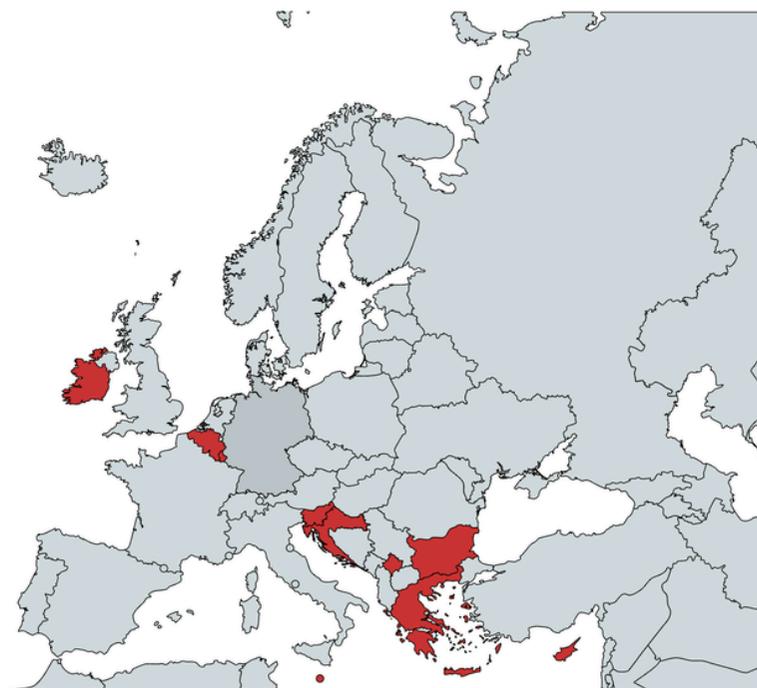
Astra is TPConnects' airline NDC platform, providing an API gateway, offer and order management, and a B2B portal. In 2025, TPConnects added a conversational AI agent to both Astra and its agency platform, Iris, aimed at improving accuracy and reducing response times across distribution processes.

HAHNNAIR'S DISTRIPLY ONE NDC PLATFORM EXPANDS IN EUROPE

Hahnair has expanded its NDC booking platform, Distriply One, into ten additional European markets. The platform lets travel sellers book NDC fares without needing a GDS connection or IATA accreditation and includes post-booking servicing such as rebookings, cancellations, and refunds.

In 2025, Hahnair launched Distriply, a new brand for its NDC-based solutions. Distriply is designed to simplify access to NDC content for airlines and travel agencies.

Hahnair's current Distriply One European expansion



- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Greece
- Ireland
- Kosovo
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Slovenia

PAYMENTS UPDATES

Outpayce from Amadeus and **UnionPay** have partnered to enable UnionPay card acceptance across both direct and indirect channels on the Amadeus Travel Platform. The integration is expected to roll out in H1 2026.

2C2P and **M-Pay** have entered a collaboration to enable payments for **Sun PhuQuoc Airways**, an upcoming Vietnamese airline. The integration supports cards, digital wallets and QR-based payments. Sun PhuQuoc Airways will operate its inaugural international flight later this year.

UATP announces new developments:

- United Airlines has expanded its cost-free UATP billing programme, powered by **TreviPay**, to Europe, Australia, and New Zealand.
- UATP has partnered with **Hands In** to integrate split payment functionality, allowing travellers to split flight and ancillary costs across multiple cards at checkout.



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- Structured, flexible and customizable, modular approach to distribution strategy solutioning
- Audits that offer airlines solutions to specific problems in GDS and NDC distribution
- Offer-Order transformation approach

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