

oystin

TRAVEL DISTRIBUTION AND RETAILING UPDATES

WEEKS 23 & 24, 2026

THIS EDITION CONTAINS NEWS ON:

Air Europa | Air New Zealand | AJet | All Nippon Airways |
American Airlines | Ethiopian Airlines | Iberia | ITA Airways |
Lufthansa | Nile Air | Oman Air | Turkish Airlines | Vietnam Airlines




OMAN AIR INCREASES GDS SURCHARGE

Starting July 1, 2026, Oman Air (WY) will increase its Distribution Cost Recovery (DCR) Surcharge by 3.5 USD per segment across all connected GDSs (Amadeus, Travelport, Sabre, and Travelsky).

The surcharge applies to all fare types and booking classes on WY and codeshare flights. Bookings made through Oman Air's direct channels, including its website, mobile app, call centres, and NDC connections, are exempt. Last year, WY went live with NDC on Travefusion and has been a long-standing participant on TPConnects.

Evolution of Oman Air's per segment GDS DCR Surcharge (USD)

December 2024		July 2026
10.00		13.50

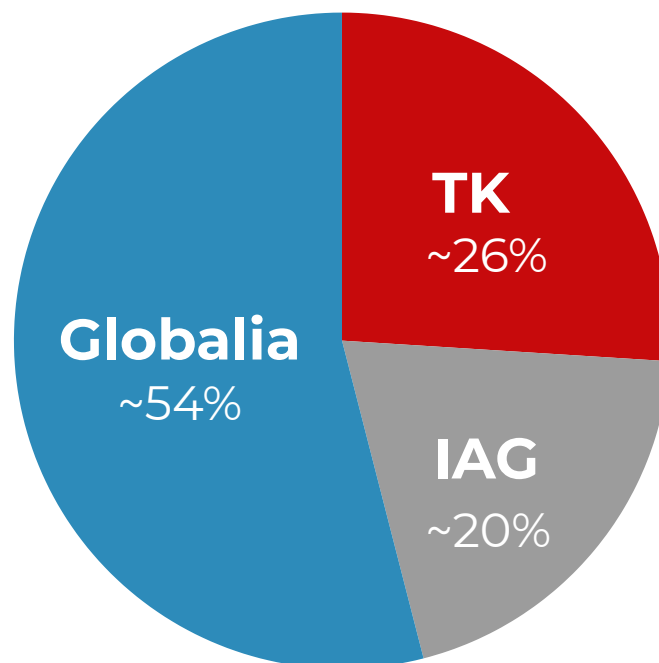


SPAIN CLEARS TURKISH AIRLINES' ACQUISITION BID IN AIR EUROPA

Spanish authorities have approved Turkish Airlines' (TK) planned acquisition of a 300 million EUR minority stake in Air Europa, representing roughly 25–27% of the Spanish carrier. The deal still requires European-level regulatory clearance, with TK expecting the transaction to close later in 2026.

TK will join IAG and Globalia as a stakeholder, making Air Europa one of the few airlines with investors spanning all three major global alliances, namely SkyTeam, Star Alliance, and oneworld.

Air Europa ownership make-up (pending approvals)



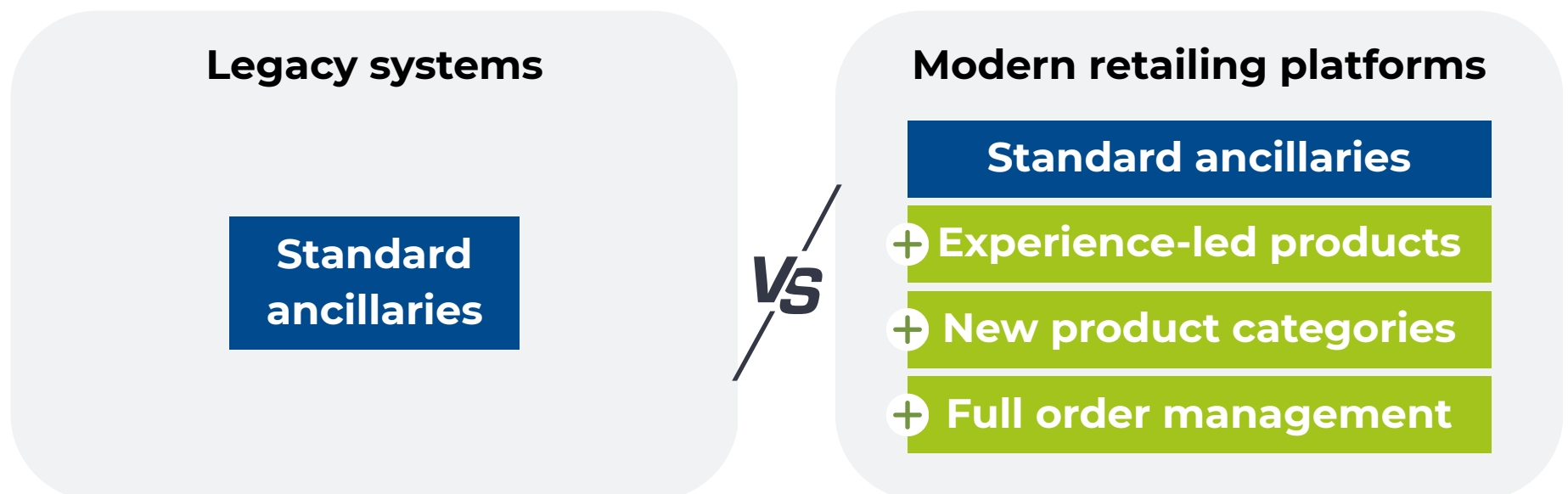


AIR NEW ZEALAND LAUNCHES SKYNEST ON IBS' IRETAIL PLATFORM

New Zealand has selected IBS Software's iRetail platform to commercially launch Skynest, the world's first economy sleep pod experience, debuting on Auckland-New York services later this year. Skynest allows passengers to book four-hour sleep pod sessions, an ancillary product that legacy systems were not designed to support.

iRetail is built on a cloud-native AI-first architecture on AWS, providing the retailing and servicing infrastructure through its Offer-Order-Settle-Deliver suite.

What airlines can retail: legacy systems vs. modern platforms





ITA AIRWAYS JOINS EUROPE-JAPAN JOINT VENTURE

ITA Airways has joined the Europe-Japan Joint Venture alongside Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, Swiss, and All Nippon Airways, with Rome Fiumicino now serving as an additional European hub to Tokyo Haneda. The move is a further sign of ITA's deepening integration into the Lufthansa Group, which announced earlier this year it would increase its stake in ITA to 90%.

Other recent updates from ITA Airways



MAR 2026

LHG to integrate ITA content into NDC platforms from 5 May; Accelya NDC partnership



APR 2026

ITA Airways joins Star Alliance as 26th member; Connects to TPConnects



JUN 2026

ITA joins Europe-Japan joint venture between LHG and ANA



JAN 2025

Lufthansa Group acquires 41% stake in ITA Airways for 325M EUR



MAR 2026

Long-term distribution deal incl. NDC signed with Travelport



MAY 2026

LHG to acquire further 49% stake; Distribution deal signed with Sabre



ATLAS GOES LIVE WITH AJET'S NDC 24.1 CONNECTION

Atlas, a corporate LCC booking platform, has become the first distribution partner to go live with AJet's NDC 24.1 connection, giving travel sellers across EMEA access to AJet's NDC content, including dynamic pricing.

AJet, the low-cost subsidiary of Turkish Airlines, operates an expanding network and aims to serve 101 destinations across 35 countries by the end of 2026.

NILE AIR EXPANDS NDC IMPLEMENTATION VIA AMADEUS

Nile Air has expanded its use of Amadeus's NDC-X platform, making it one of the first Egyptian airlines to adopt NDC at scale. The rollout covers Saudi Arabia, the Gulf region and Europe, enabling travel agents to access the airline's content and offers more directly. The move accompanies broader growth plans including fleet modernisation and new route launches.



ACCELYA, AWS, AND VISTA TO COLLABORATE ON AGENTIC AI

Accelya, which has been owned by Vista Equity Partners since 2019, has teamed up with AWS and Vista's Agentic Factory to embed production-grade agentic AI into its FLX ONE platform. FLX ONE is an API-driven system built on AWS covering the full retailing lifecycle. Recently, Accelya has also received IATA 24.1 ARM index recognition.

The initiative extends Accelya and AWS's 2025 Strategic Collaboration Agreement, aiming to move beyond isolated AI pilots and bring automation into airline workflows.



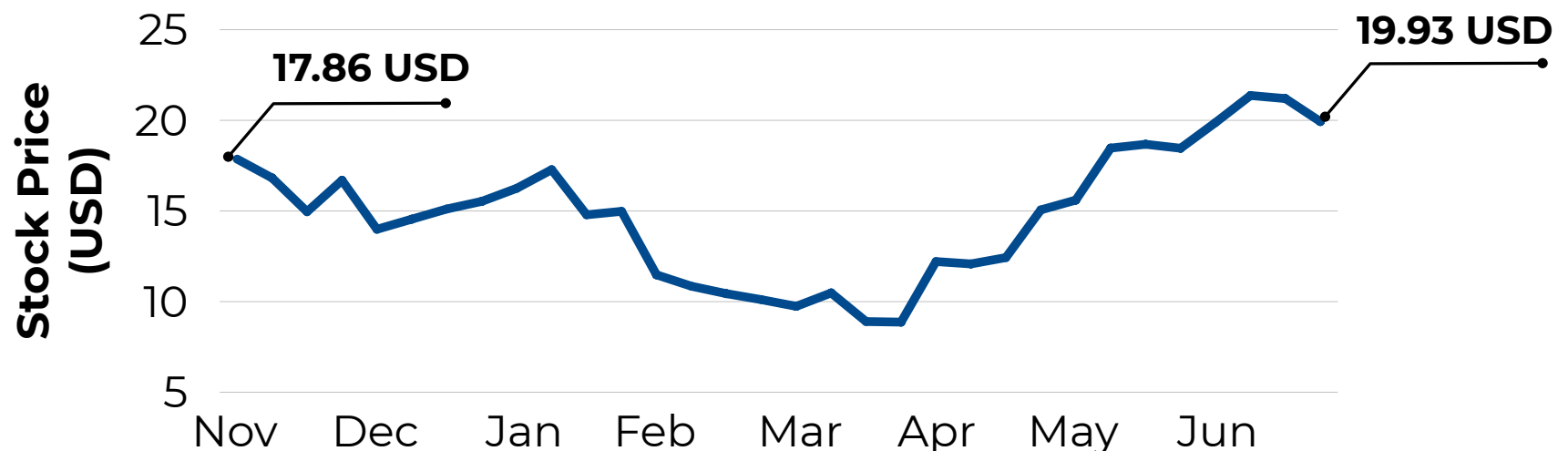


NAVAN EMBEDS AI AGENTS INTO GOOGLE GEMINI ENTERPRISE

Navan has integrated its AI travel agents into Google Gemini Enterprise, allowing users to plan, book, and manage travel directly within the platform. The move is the first step in the company's "Navan Anywhere" initiative, which aims to add its AI agents to additional corporate platforms later this year.

The announcement came alongside strong Q1 financial results, with gross booking volume up 50% year-over-year to 3.1 billion USD and RFP volume tripling.

Navan's stock price development since IPO in October 2025





JUNIPER GROUP ACQUIRES DERBYSOFT AND DEEM

Juniper Group, part of Canadian conglomerate Constellation Software, has acquired DerbySoft and Deem within days of each other. DerbySoft, a hotel distribution and connectivity technology provider, and Deem, a corporate travel management platform acquired from Travelport, will both continue operating independently under their existing leadership.

Travelport's sale of Deem follows Sabre's sale of its corporate self-booking tool GetThere to Serko for 12 million USD in late 2024.

Constellation Software made headlines earlier this year by acquiring a 12.7% stake in Sabre and securing the appointment of a Constellation executive to Sabre's board

Excerpt of Constellation Software's travel tech portfolio

Juniper Group

Deem

DerbySoft

Sabre



TRAVELPORT LAUNCHES AI-READY API PLATFORM TRIPSERVICES

Travelport has formally launched TripServices, its cloud-native API platform designed to power AI-driven travel distribution by normalising and curating content across air, hotel, and ancillaries from a single connection.

The platform also serves as the foundation for Travelport's recently announced collaboration with Cognizant and Anthropic, introduced under Travelport's broader ambition to evolve from a traditional GDS into an "intelligence layer powering AI-driven travel commerce."

Travelport's recently announced AI collaboration





INDUSTRY AI UPDATES

Iberia and **American Airlines** have both launched AI-powered booking tools, allowing travellers to describe their ideal trip in natural language and receive matching flight suggestions with live prices. Both are part of a greater effort to personalise and simplify the end-to-end customer experience.

Expensify has launched a Model Context Protocol (MCP) layer allowing AI assistants such as ChatGPT and Claude to access client expense data directly, without manual integrations or exports. Users can query spending details and pending approvals in natural language, reflecting MCP's emergence as a standard for AI-to-business-tool connectivity.

Klook, a travel experiences and activities booking platform, is beta-testing an AI shopping agent that allows travelers to find and book experiences through natural language conversation. The move addresses a structural gap, as online penetration for experiences stands at just 34% compared to 81% for flights.



PAYMENTS UPDATES

Vietnam Airlines has partnered with 2C2P by Antom to introduce localised payment methods across eight Asia-Pacific markets, including Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and Japan. Rolling out in the second half of 2026, the first phase covers domestic bank transfers and QR payments, followed by mobile wallets.

Ethiopian Airlines and the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia have launched a co-branded Visa prepaid card, allowing customers to make secure payments across international destinations while earning travel rewards from everyday spending.



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- 2) Distribution Strategy - END-TO-END PROJECT
- 3) Distribution as a Service - ONGOING EXPERT SUPPORT

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