PAYMENT CARD INDUSTRY – DATA SECURITY STANDARDS (PCI-DSS)

The Payment Card Industry in its efforts to prevent the fraudulent use of credit cards and to strengthen data security standards has introduced a standard that is applicable to all their members, merchants and service providers. This standard is mandated by the Payment Card Industry to protect all card account information that is processed, stored or transmitted by any entity regardless of the industry. Airlines and Agents are therefore required in the interests of securing their own data security and to avoid penalties imposed by the Payment Card Industry to comply with the Payment Card Industry standards. The Agency Conference has therefore adopted the following text in Resolution 890:

“The Agent shall ensure their full compliance with the Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standards, as provided by the Card companies and made available to agents through IATA, and that all sensitive card data obtained during the process of completing a card sales transaction is handled, stored, and transmitted with due regard to the security of the data.”

For information the compliance standards produced by the Payment Card industry can be accessed via the following Internet link:

https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/

Any questions concerning these standards should be addressed to your acquirer, to the appropriate contact within the Payment Card industry shown on the above website link, or directly through your service supplier.