



# ABIA Tarmac Delay Emergency Contingency Plan



**Subject: AUS Tarmac Delay Emergency Contingency Plan**  
**Effective Date: May 10, 2017**

**Prepared by:**

A blue ink signature of Scott Madole.

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**Approved by:**

A blue ink signature of Jim Smith.

**Jim Smith**  
**Executive Director**

This Tarmac Delay Emergency Contingency Plan is prepared by Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. ABIA submitted the original plan on May 10, 2012. The act requires that covered airports which include ABIA to submit an updated for Department of Transportation by May 15, 2017. ABIA is a commercial airport and this airport is used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Scott Madole at [Scott.Madole@austintexas.gov](mailto:Scott.Madole@austintexas.gov).

## AUS ABIA Airport Information

ABIA is a medium hub airport located in Central Texas. It serves as a primary diversion airport for Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and George Bush Intercontinental Airport and as well

as Dallas Love and Houston Hobby Airports. The terminal has 26 contact gates. In addition to the gates, parking is available on the Maintenance Ramp. An Airport Operations Duty Officer is available on a 24/7 basis at (512) 530-7550. Information is also available 24/7 through the Department of Aviation Communications Center at (512) 530-2242.

## **Purpose**

This plan describes how, during excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, ABIA will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

## **Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays**

ABIA owns some equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft in the event of emergencies. Only limited number of airport personnel are trained on the equipment to assist in the deplanement of passengers. The airport will provide a list of airlines, ground handlers, fixed base operators and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines that have incurred excessive tarmac delays as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines at the contact number listed above.

## **Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency**

All but five gates at ABIA are under preferential long term lease to air carriers and are not fully controlled by the airport. The airport is unable to direct a tenant airline to accommodate another air carrier aircraft at a preferential leased gate without prior coordination of the leasee. During excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, the airport will request tenant air carriers to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate. Five of the contact gates that are not leased are controlled by the airport. These gates may be available on request for use by tenant air carriers or other air carriers not represented at ABIA during an extended tarmac delay. Additionally, a large maintenance ramp may be available for use and air carriers may off-load passengers on the ramp using tenant owned equipment. Passengers may be transported to the terminal using tenant owned buses and additional buses may be available through the Department of Aviation with prior notice.

## **Plan to Provide a Sterile Area Following Excessive Tarmac Delays for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection**

ABIA has a defined sterile area in the terminal that is capable of accommodating up to 250 international passengers. We will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border

Protection to be deplaned into this sterile area following excessive tarmac delays to the extent practicable.

**Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan**

ABIA will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan by posting the document on its website at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/austinairport/>