Implementation, integration, and installation services. Our implementation team provides system integration and testing services; develops product extensions, enhancements, and connectivity software for importing data to and exporting data from external systems; and creates reports. The team also configures, installs, and tests hardware, software, and equipment for you when you choose to integrate the SmartAirline Operations Center or SmartAirport Operations Center solutions in your IT environment, and quickly sets up an environment in our hosting center for you when you choose to gain access to the solutions over the web.

Training services. We provide a wide range of user, administrator, trainer, and refresher training classes in person at your location, at our Cambridge, MA, headquarters, and remotely over the web. We also provide operational training services in person and remotely when you begin to use the SmartAirline Operations Center or SmartAirport Operations Center solutions in production.

Maintenance and support services. We offer Standard Support Services Monday through Friday during our normal office hours in Cambridge, MA, and Premium Support Services around the clock. Both provide comprehensive remote user support services via telephone, email, and Internet, as well as software maintenance, such as product updates, patches, and releases. We provide a web-enabled support portal that enables you to ask questions and receive responses, request service, report problems, and track issues.

More information

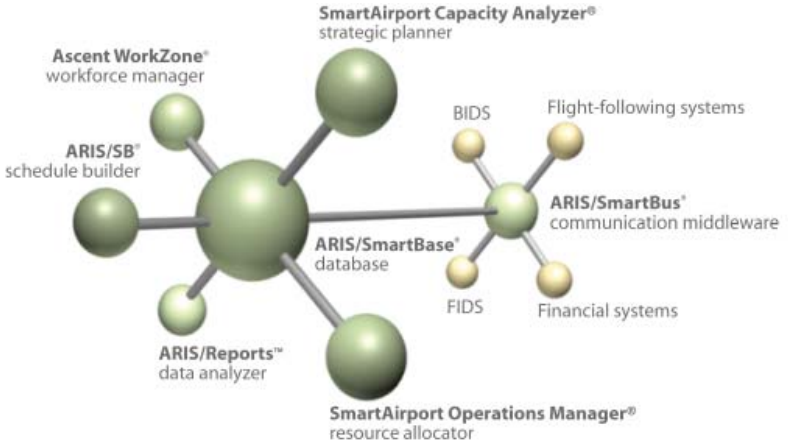
To learn more about how the SmartAirline Operations Center or the SmartAirport Operations Center solutions can help you optimize your resources to greatest advantage, send email to sales@ascent.com or call our Sales and Marketing department at +1.617.395.4800.

Technology platform

You can gain access to the SmartAirline Operations Center or SmartAirport Operations Center solutions in two ways: you can integrate the solution into your own IT environment, or you can gain access over the Internet to the solution running in our IT environment in our hosting center.

Database server: A server that supports Oracle® Database Standard Edition
Compute and/or connectivity server: A server running Microsoft Windows Server® operating system or Linux® operating system; if virtualized, our solutions are certified to run on VMware® server virtualization products

Desktop: A PC running Microsoft Windows Vista®, Microsoft® Windows XP, or Microsoft® Windows 7 operating system; or some versions of the Linux operating system



Ascent airport architecture

Reports

You can print hardcopies of the ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator Gantt chart.

The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator stores information in the ARIS/SmartBase database, which runs on the Oracle® database. We can create reports for you, and you can create your own reports from a synchronized reporting database using Oracle-compatible report-generator tools, without interfering with the integrity or performance of the ARIS/SmartBase database.

Ways we can help you

Advisory and consulting services. We provide unbiased advice about resource allocation, optimization, planning, scheduling, management, and deployment methodologies; develop cost-benefit analyses; analyze business processes; manage projects; gather and document technical requirements; develop functional specifications; and specify hardware, software, and devices.

Project management services. Our project management team works closely with you, following our time-proven delivery methodology, and uses face-to-face meetings, teleconferences, web conferences, and email exchanges to keep you informed every step of the way. We believe careful project management is the key to successful on-time and on-budget deliveries of SmartAirline Operations Center and SmartAirport Operations Center products, services, and solutions.

Knowledge engineering services. Knowledge engineering is the process of identifying your business knowledge—the business rules, policies, procedures, preferences, and requirements that guide the way your organization operates—and then codifying your business knowledge in the knowledge base at the heart of SmartAirline Operations Center and SmartAirport Operations Center solutions. The business knowledge in the knowledge base determines how the solutions behave. Our knowledge engineers work with you to gather and enter the business knowledge that enables the solution to behave exactly the way you want it to.

The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator knows how many bags each belt and carousel can handle and understands the physical layout of the airport. It tracks flight schedules, parking position assignments, passenger loads, and passenger counts. It associates specific check-in counters with specific make-up belts and specific aircraft parking positions to specific reclaim belts, and then assigns baggage belts dynamically based on flight schedules and changes in belt loads.

Information from the ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator can be distributed to baggage information display systems automatically through the ARIS/SmartBus® communication middleware.

The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator can be deployed over the Internet and internal networks to workstations throughout the airport.

Who we are

Since our founding 25 years ago by members of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Ascent Technology has helped organizations deploy costly resources as efficiently, effectively, and economically as possible. Our highly trained and capable team of technologists, problem solvers, and solution designers has broad domain expertise and substantial experience in artificial intelligence, computer science and engineering, system design, mathematical optimization, operations research, and resource optimization, planning, scheduling, and management.

Representative features

Allocation status is available at a glance. The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator provides an easy-to-use, mouse-driven, colorful graphical user interface that displays detailed flight and baggage information to users and alerts users to potential problems.

Automatic allocation with manual override. The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator assigns make-up units and reclaim belts automatically and allows you to override automated allocations as needed.

Multi-user access. If you have multiple users, changes made by one user are seen by all other users within a few seconds.

Customizable business rules govern the allocations. Customizable business rules contain knowledge about the number of bags each belt can handle as well as the physical relationship between check-in counters and make-up belts and between aircraft gates and reclaim belts. They also govern the way in which each assignment is performed, for example, adjusting reclaim belt allocations to start at different times to reflect the time it takes to transport baggage from remote parking positions, recognizing domestic and international baggage-handling requirements, and distinguishing among early bags, normal bags, and first-class bags.

Dynamic reallocation. The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator re-assigns make-up belts and reclaim belts dynamically when a previously-working belt breaks.

Information distribution. The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator releases information to baggage information display systems manually and automatically.

Capacity balancing. The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator keeps belt capacity balanced throughout the day based on knowledge about the maximum passenger load for an aircraft and the passenger count for a given flight.

Web-enabled for cost-effective rapid and wide deployment. You can gain access to the ARIS/BB baggage belt allocator using a standard web browser, without installing the tool on your desktop. You can provide access to the ARIS/baggage belt allocator through secure Internet links and local networks.

ASCENT
TECHNOLOGY, INC.

ARIS/BB® baggage-belt allocator

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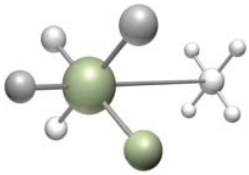

Allocate your baggage make-up and reclaim belts efficiently and effectively

The ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator assigns make-up and reclaim belts and carousels to arriving and departing flights so you can use your baggage belts and carousels to maximum advantage.

With the ARIS/BB baggage-belt allocator, you can:

- Plan and allocate baggage make-up and reclaim belts and carousels for arriving and departing flights automatically, based on flight schedule, aircraft size, passenger load, passenger count, type of flight, and class of service
- Handle code shares and alliances
- Create allocation plans that ensure the most efficient use of your baggage belts and carousels
- Override automated allocations when needed
- Handle arrival and departure delays automatically
- Vary baggage reclaim belt and carousel assignment start times to reflect the time it takes to transport baggage from different gates, stands, and remote parking positions
- Keep baggage belt and carousel capacity balanced throughout the day based on knowledge about expected and actual number of passengers on a given flight
- Adjust allocations in response to flight schedule changes and other unanticipated events on the day of operation
- Update baggage information displays automatically
- Improve passenger satisfaction by minimizing baggage delays
- Use baggage belts and carousels efficiently during facility remodeling or when changing airport resources.