



Baggage check-in

- the most complex task of any airline

As a passenger it always looks so easy. You leave your suitcase at check-in, sit in the plane and get it back at the destination airport from the conveyor belt. But logistics professionals know: in the background, an airline needs to ensure a wide range of tasks in terms of luggage, so that it can work this way:

- Proper allocation of luggage to the appropriate flight ✓
- Proper storage until the aircraft can be loaded ✓
- Guide the luggage to the responsible loading station ✓
- Ensure that the luggage is in the correct flight ✓
- Check that the passenger and baggage are on the same aircraft ✓

The Licence Plate Number (LPN)

The 10-digit License Plate Number (LPN), which is printed as a 1D barcode on the luggage straps, is used to ensure such a reliable luggage clearance. Through different barcode readers anywhere in the airport, they are captured and the luggage is properly allocated. By this system, only one of 10,000 suitcases is transported wrong on average. However, the rate of baggage losses and the associated high costs is high, as measured by the annual baggage of nearly 4 billion passengers. The graphic on the right shows how vulnerable the barcode system is:

