[0004] Due to competitive concerns and issues, complete cross-border mergers and complete domestic interline agreements in the airline industry are unlikely for the foreseeable future, and there will be demand for further tools to facilitate passenger journeys involving unaffiliated airlines and other transport providers.

[0005] As the world of airline interlining and intermodal passenger transportation continues to move forward with inferior solutions, there is a global need for a next generation baggage service that:

- Gives customer better and more appropriate choices;
- Takes into consideration the stakeholders and agreements between the stakeholders, including:
    - Airports – Hub, Feeder, Domestic, International, multi-terminal, multi modal ports (e.g. Rail and Air)
    - Airlines – FSC (Full Service Carriers), LCC (Low Cost Carriers), HVC (Hybrid Value Carriers), carriers connected by a MITA (Multilateral Interline Traffic Agreement), and independent carriers
    - Passengers
- Provides a solution that takes into consideration the customer, their journey, and the options available presenting a simple option for the customer to purchase a complete solution for the independent travel on participating airlines including through baggage service at most airports.

SUMMARY

[0001] The following presents a simplified overview of the example embodiments in order to provide a basic understanding of some embodiments of the example embodiments. This overview is not an extensive overview of the example embodiments. It is intended to neither identify key or critical elements of the example embodiments nor delineate the scope of the appended claims. Its sole purpose is to present some concepts of the example embodiments in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description that is presented hereinbelow. It is to be understood that both the following general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive.

[0001a] According to a first aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a method for providing managed through baggage service for interline baggage, including: providing a through baggage computer-based system including: a through baggage software application; and a through baggage passenger name record (PNR) database; wherein said through baggage software application and said through baggage PNR database are in electrical communication with each other; wherein a traveler books a first flight on said first airline that departs from a first airport and arrives at a second airport; wherein said traveler books a second flight on a second airline that departs from said second airport and that arrives at a third airport; wherein said first flight and said second flight include a traveler itinerary; offering to said traveler to have one or more checked bags be interlined from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport during a stopover; wherein said traveler elects to have said one or more checked bags be interlined automatically from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport; creating a complete manifest itinerary of said traveler itinerary in said PNR database, said complete manifest itinerary includes a plurality of traveler information, a plurality of flight information, and a plurality of airport information; sharing by said through baggage computer-based system said complete manifest itinerary with a first airline passenger service system and a second airline passenger service system, such that said first airline passenger service system has a plurality of information needed to generate one or more bag tags that are configured to be associated with said one or more checked bags; wherein said traveler checks into said first flight and said second flight; wherein said traveler checks said one or more checked bags, such that one or more bag tags are generated and associated with said one or more checked bags, such that there are one or more tagged checked bags; wherein a plurality of information related to said one or more tagged checked bags are shared with said through baggage computer-based system; utilizing by said through baggage computer-based system a bag message system to ensure that said one or more tagged checked bags are unloaded from said first flight and loaded onto said second flight without said traveler having to retrieve said one or more tagged checked bags at said second airport and re-check them into said second flight.

[0001b] According to a second aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a method for providing managed through baggage service for interline baggage, including the steps: providing a through baggage computer-based system that includes a through baggage software application;

a through baggage eligibility server; and a through baggage passenger name record (PNR) database; wherein said through baggage software application, said through baggage eligibility server, and said through baggage PNR database are all in electrical communication with each other; booking by a traveler a first flight on said first airline that departs from a first airport and arrives at a second airport; booking by said traveler a second flight on a second airline that departs from said second airport as said first airline arrives in said second airport and arrives at a third airport; wherein said first flight and said second flight include a traveler itinerary; offering to said traveler to have one or more checked bags be interlined from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport during a stopover; selecting by said traveler to have said one or more checked bags be interlined automatically from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport; determining by said eligibility server that said traveler itinerary is eligible for managed through baggage service; creating a complete manifest itinerary of said traveler itinerary in said PNR database, said complete manifest itinerary includes a plurality of traveler information, a plurality of flight information, and a plurality of airport information; sharing by said through baggage computer-based system said complete manifest itinerary with a first airline passenger service system and a second airline passenger service system, such that said first airline passenger service system has a plurality of information needed to generate one or more bag tags that are configured to be associated with said one or more checked bags; checking into said first flight and said second flight by said traveler; checking one or more checked bags by said traveler for said first flight; generating one or more bag tags; associating said one or more bags tags with said one or more checked bags, such that there are one or more tagged checked bags; sharing, by said first airline passenger service system, a plurality of information related to said one or more tagged checked bags with said through baggage computer-based system; providing a bag message system that is configured to manage a plurality of messages related to said one or more tagged checked bags between said first airline, said second airline, said first airport, said second airport, and said third airport; utilizing by said through baggage computer-based system said bag message system to ensure that said one or more tagged checked bags are unloaded from said first flight and loaded onto said second flight without said traveler having to retrieve said one or more tagged checked bags at said second airport and re-check them into said second flight.

[0001c] According to a third aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a system for providing managed through baggage service for interline baggage, including: a through baggage computer-based system including a through baggage software application; and a through baggage passenger name record (PNR) database; wherein said through baggage software application and said through baggage PNR database are in electrical communication with each other; wherein said system is configured to allow a traveler books a first flight on said first airline that departs from a first airport and arrives at a second airport; wherein said system is configured to allow said system is configured to allow aid traveler books a second flight on a second airline that departs from said second airport arrives in a third airport; wherein said first flight and said second flight include a traveler itinerary; wherein said traveler is offered an option to have one or more checked bags be interlined from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport during a stopover at said second airport; wherein said traveler elects to have said one or more checked bags be interlined automatically from said first airline to said second airline at said second airport; wherein a complete manifest itinerary of said traveler itinerary is created in said PNR database, said complete manifest itinerary includes a plurality of traveler information, a plurality of flight information, and a plurality of airport information; wherein said through baggage computer-based system shares said complete manifest itinerary with a first airline passenger service system, which includes a first airline departure control system, and a second airline passenger service system, which includes a second airline departure control system, such that said first airline passenger service system has a plurality of information needed to generate one or more bag tags that are configured to be associated with said one or more checked bags; wherein said traveler checks into said first flight and said second flight; wherein said traveler checks said one or more checked bags, such that one or more bag tags are generated and associated with said one or more checked bags, such that there are one or more tagged checked bags; wherein a plurality of information related to said one or more tagged checked bags are shared with said through baggage computer-based system; wherein said through baggage computer-based system utilizes a bag message system to ensure that said one or more tagged checked bags are unloaded from said first flight and loaded onto said second flight without said traveler having to retrieve said one or more tagged checked bags at said second airport and re-check them into said second flight, such that said traveler is able to stay within a security zone of said second airport during said stopover.

[0002] In accordance with the embodiments disclosed herein, the present disclosure is directed to