

## Paperless Boarding

**Ted Shaffrey:**

Get ready for paperless air travel. We're all used to e-tickets, but now Continental Airlines, along with the government, are rolling out the electronic boarding pass at several airports across the country.

**Lara Uselding:**

TSA created the concept. Continental came up with the software behind this to ensure authenticity of the electronic boarding pass.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

Many travelers say they like the paperless option.

**Sean Boland:**

That's pretty wild.

**Robert Gower:**

Uh, it's very convenient, you get right to the- You know, you get it at home, and then you can get right to the airport and it- I think it speeds the process up.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

Here's how it works: using a computer or cell phone, passengers check in electronically before a flight, by entering the confirmation code from an e-ticket. A boarding pass is then immediately emailed to the passenger's cell phone. It has an encrypted bar code on it with the passenger's name and flight info. Then a TSA officer just scans the person in through security.

**Jared Miller:**

If you think about the business traveler, who may not have access to a printer or a fax machine, they now can use that mobile phone or PDA, skip the counters, and go straight to the checkpoint.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

The TSA says the paperless system is not only good for the environment, by saving paper, but is more secure than the paper boarding pass.

**Lara Uselding:**

This is another great security layer for us here at the airport because it's helping to ensure that people aren't coming through with fraudulent boarding passes.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

Some travelers, however, fear it may be an open invitation to hackers.

**Sean Boland:**

I'm sure somebody will figure out some way; they always do.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

The paperless boarding passes are now available for flights out of Newark, Houston, Boston, and Ronald Reagan Washington National.

**Ted Shaffrey:**

Ted Shaffrey, The Associated Press, Newark, New Jersey.

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