

# Airbus A380

## Australian Airports Operational Issues

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# Airbus A380

## A380 Australian Airport Operational Issues

- There are no problems with the A330 however there are some issues to solve
- We will look at the operational issues in these areas
  - Airfield
  - Terminal
  - Miscellaneous/Costs to Operator

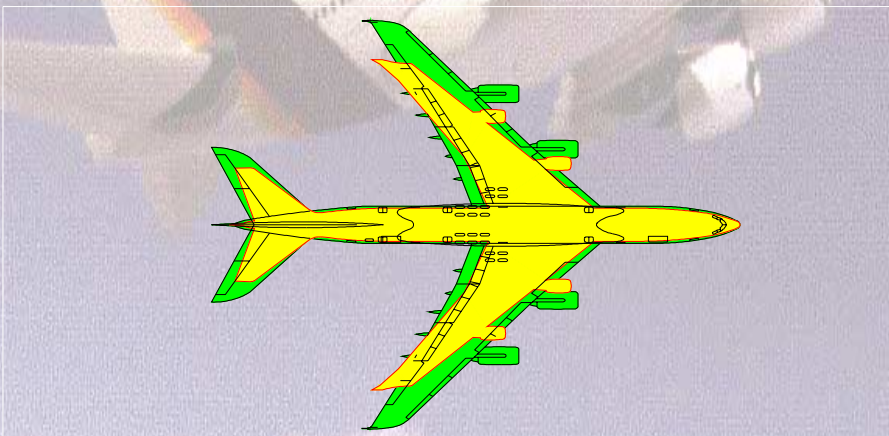


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## Airfield

Firstly look at the differential between and A380 and the 747-400

- \*B747 – 400 ER  
Code E  
Box 64.4m x 70.66m
  - A380  
Code F  
Box 78.60m x 73.60m
- A comparison of what this means to the airfield is as follows:





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## Aircraft

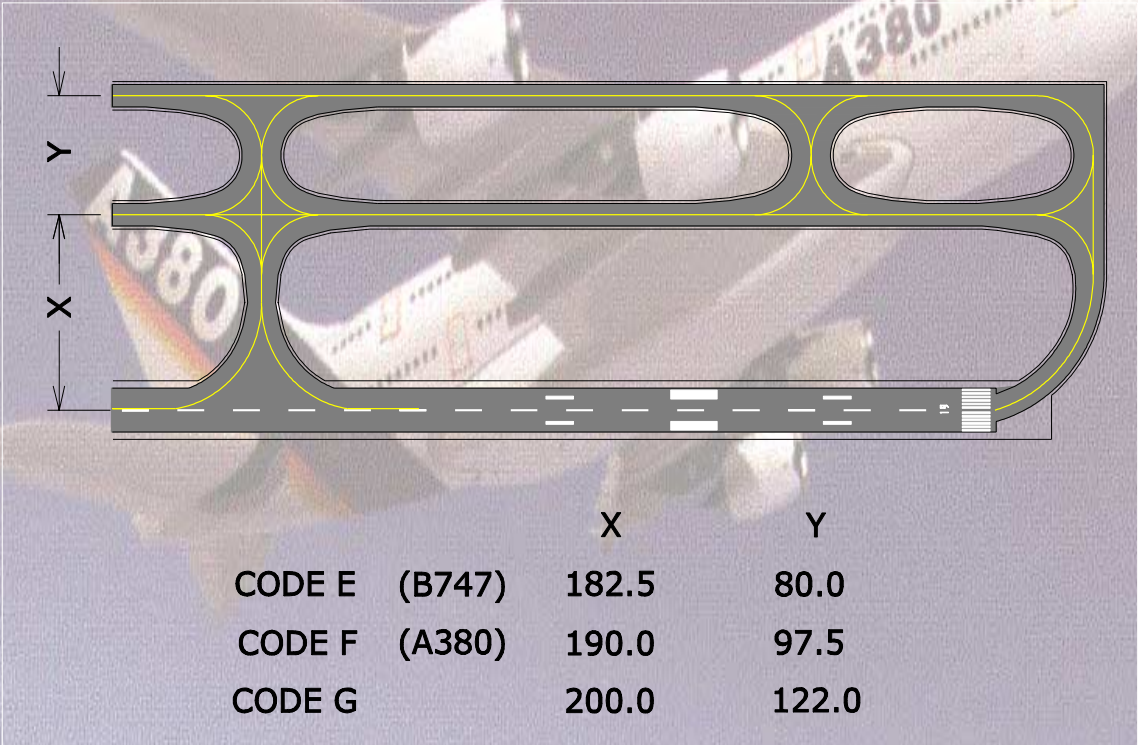


	Runway Width	ACN No	Passengers	MTOW
B747	45	>97	396	400
A380	45/60?	>103	548	555



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Airport	Runway Length	Runway Width	PCN	Taxiway Runway Separation
Perth	✓ (3444)	(45)?	55	✗ E
Melbourne	✓ (3657)	(45)?	79	✗ E
Sydney	✓ (3962)	(45)?	67	✗ E
Brisbane	✓ (3500)	(45)?	97	✓ G





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- Solutions
- rebuild the taxiway system to achieve separation
- introduce taxiway management system to control operation to avoid conflicts.



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- Taxiway Width/Strength
- most Australian taxiways are 23metres wide and could be a problem with taxiway curve radius



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- Aprons

Some solutions are:

- additional length of A380 could cause problem with width of apron
  - or load through second doors?
  - or tugs to project onto perimeter road?
  - Bay spacing will have to increase or down grade adjacent bays
  - Strength of aprons
- Not much change to B747 – 400





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## Terminals

- Size issues
- Gate spacing as above
- Passenger processing
  - increase of numbers of 39%/aircraft
  - loading and unloading increase of time of 39%?
  - time on bay to increase by 20 minutes
- Refuelling – maybe an increase in time for refuel
- Check-in – based on a 747 of 8 counters/flight
- Check-in for an A380 requires 11 counters/flight



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- Gate Capacity
  - seating/queuing
  - single aerobridge head
  - maybe need to introduce double heads
  - need to possibly have two level access to aircraft
- CIQ Increases of peak load due to arrival of additional passengers at peak



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## Miscellaneous/Costs to Operate

- Issues
- Cost to reconfigure airport to accommodate A380 including taxiway/runway separation
  - reduced capacity if not separated
- Cost to increase aerobridge spacing
  - reduced usability of adjacent gates if spacing not increased
- Cost of taxiway widening/increase radius of curves



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## Miscellaneous cont.

- Issues
  - Cost of additional check-in counters
  - Cost of double headed aerobridges
  - Cost of additional runway strength
  - Cost of additional runway width 45/60?
  - Cost of additional CIQ facilitation
  - Fire Service will have to be upgraded from Cat 9 to Cat 10
  - Noise should not be a problem based on published information
    - maybe a reduction due to reduced frequency



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There are some advantages to the airport with the introduction of A380 operations

- reduce frequency and consequently less pressure on slots
- increase of charges of 39% per aircraft based on passenger charges
- increase of charges of 39% based on MTOW compared with 747 400 operations



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Airport Choices



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1. Adapt operations to accommodate A380 if possible with minimum expenditure eg:

- controlled taxiway operations
- downgrade adjacent bays in terminal



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## 2. Re-configure airport to accommodate A380 eg:

- reconstruct taxiways and runways to achieve separation
- re-space aerobridges
- introduce double headed aerobridges
- This is an expensive option and the recovery of costs will be difficult



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## 3. Do nothing

- do not accept A380 operations until they are commercially viable or are funded by an operator who wants to use the airport.
- possibly accept only diverted aircraft when no other port available and accepting the conditions as is at the airport.