

Child Restraint in Virgin Atlantic Airways 1984 - 2010



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Introduction

- Brief review of UK/EU CRS regulations
- History of Virgin Atlantic Airways' CRS programme
- Usage data
- Operational experiences



Evolution of UK Child Restraint Regulations



- **1984** (VAA established)
The only approved restraint was the supplemental loop for infants under 2 years. Use recommended
- **1986**
Air Navigation Order (ANO) requires its use
- **1990**
CAA issues exemption to ANO permitting the optional use of car-type seats for same ages as the loop belt:
 - ▶ 4 'acceptable' UK manufactured seats listed
 - ▶ All FAA approved seats also 'acceptable'
 - ▶ Use dependant on complying with Operational Conditions



Evolution of UK Child Restraint Regulations (cont)



- **1991**

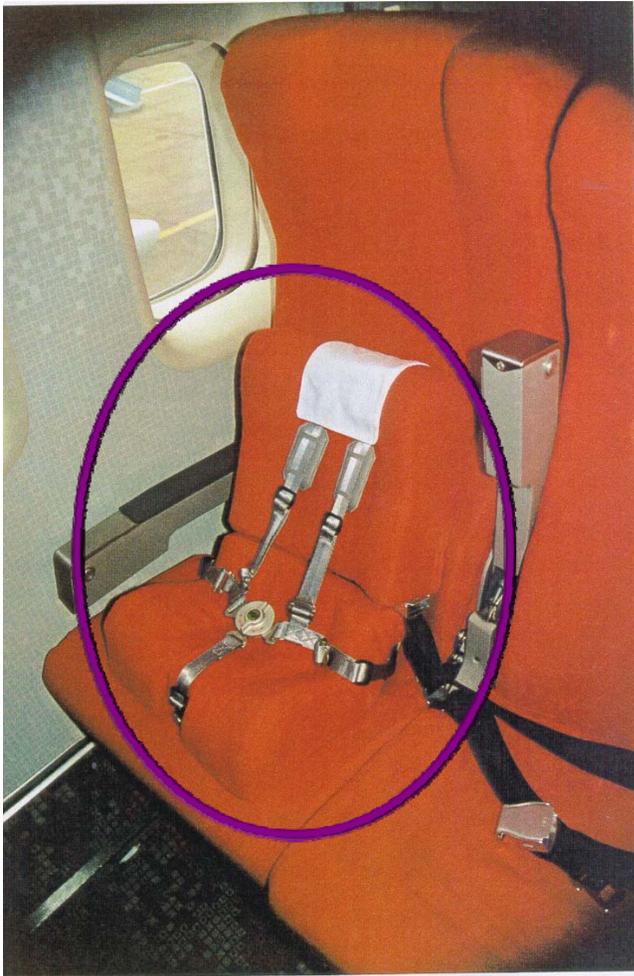
The exemption was amended to permit the use of car-type seats for children 6 months to less than 3 years old (9 to 18kg - approx 20 to 40lbs).

- **1992**

The exemption was amended again to approve optional use of 'CareChair' and other purpose-built aircraft child seats.



1992 to 2008 - The 'CareChair'



1992:

- Virgin Atlantic ordered 30 'CareChairs' - original cost about £250 (US\$400) each.
 - ▶ Fitted on 16 March 1992
 - ▶ 3 to be fitted on each B747s
 - ▶ A330/340 carry 2.



Current EU Child Restraint Regulations on UK Registered Airlines



- **0 to less than 2 years**
 - supplemental loop
 - accepted car-type seat
 - approved infant/child aircraft seat
 - Aft facing if 0 to 6 months
- **2 years to less than 3 years**
 - accepted car-type seat
 - approved infant/child aircraft seat
 - aircraft seat
- **3 years or more**
 - aircraft seat only
 - CARES harness accepted



VAA's current Infant/Child Seat



Age range
from 0 to 3
years.



Fwd or aft
facing in all
classes.



virgin atlantic 

Operation Procedures

- Booked through Reservations i.e. not online
- Fares are 50%-75% of adult fare depending on route/ fare type.
- Cabin crew advised at check-in.
- Cabin crew fit on boarding a/c.
- If not booked, offered at check-in or on boarding.

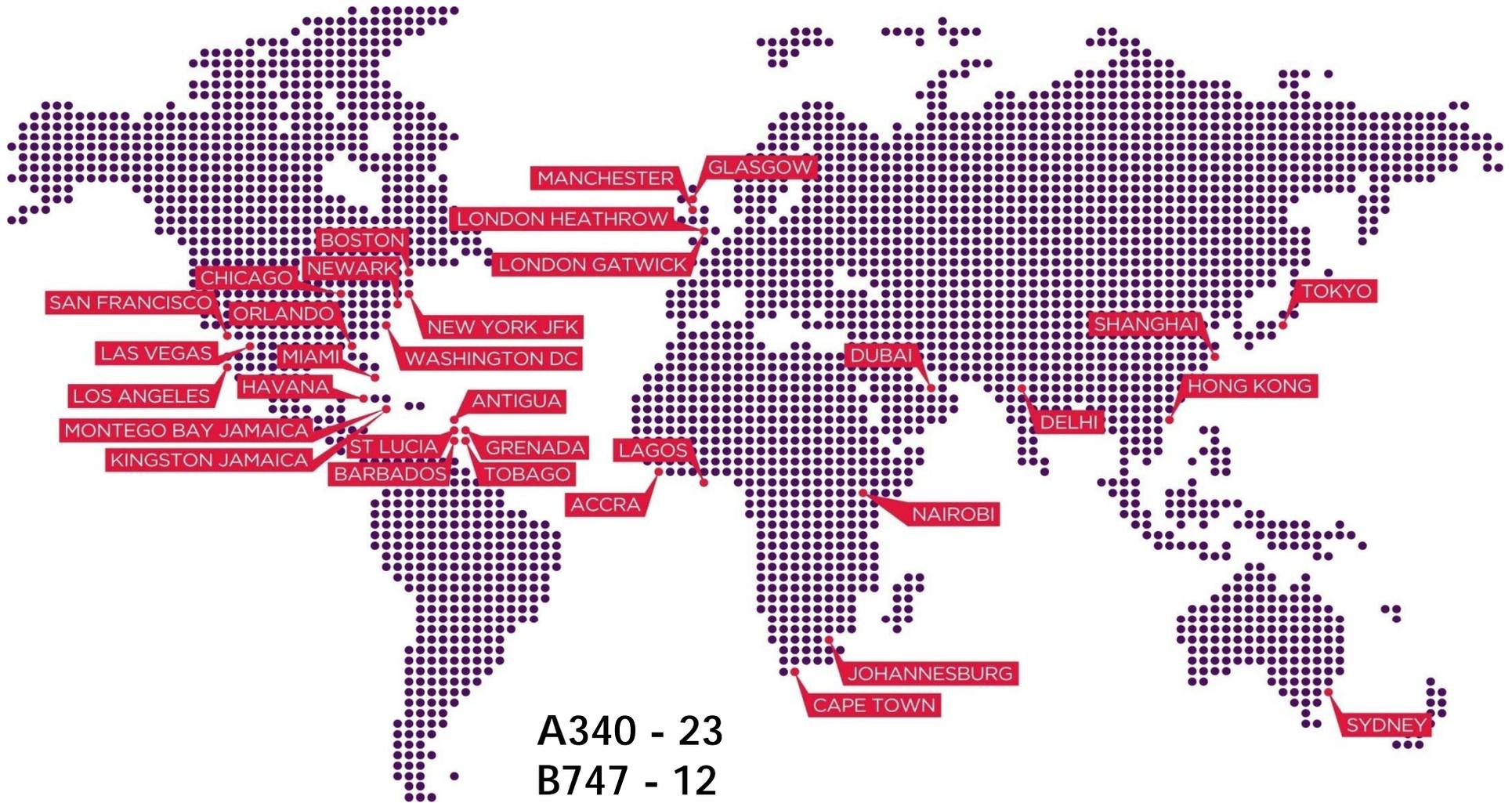


Engineering Logistics

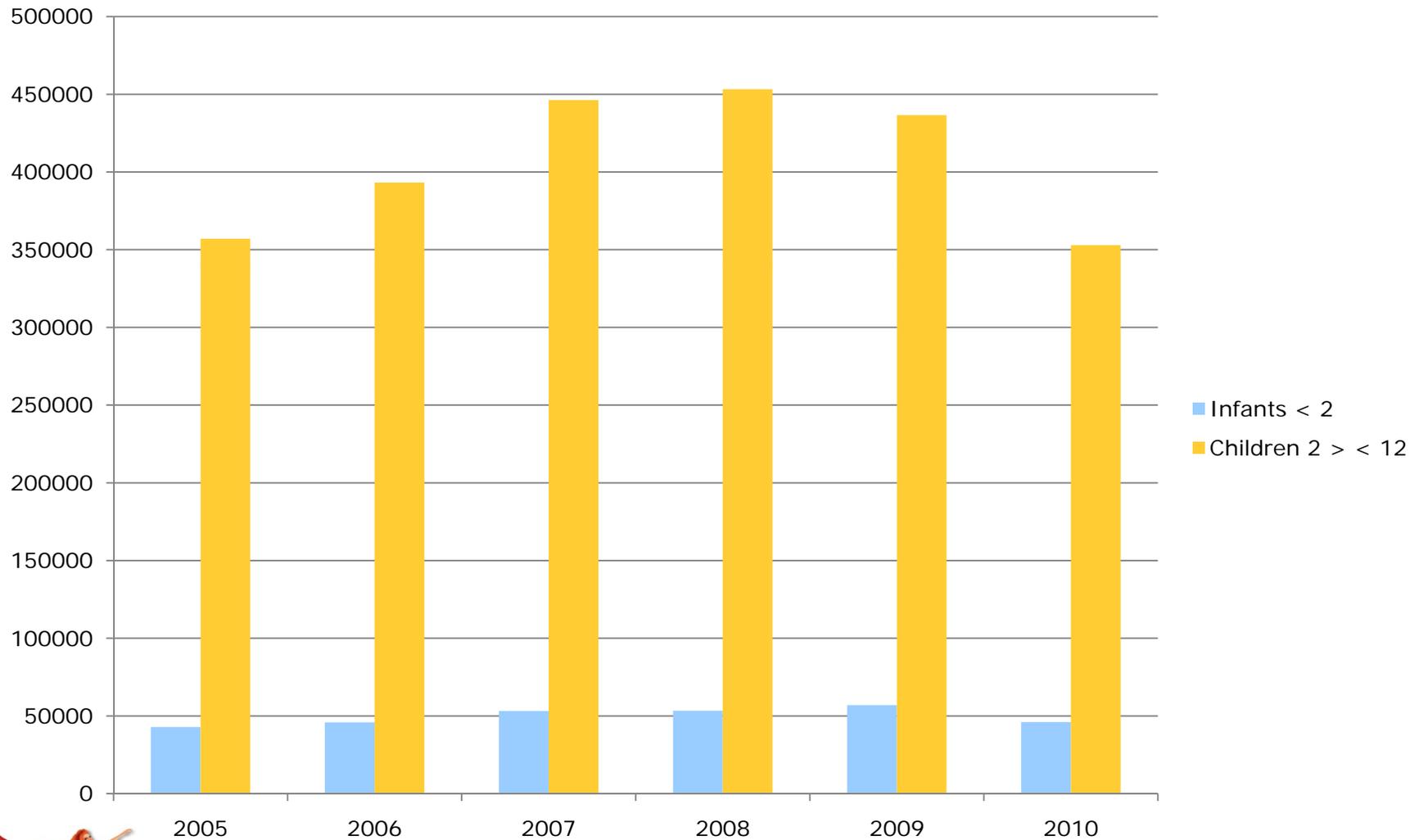
- Airworthiness checked daily.
- Deep cleaned every 8 weeks unless reported soiled in shorter timeframe by the cabin crew in the Cabin Defects Log.
- Infant/Child Seat requires re-certification each time any of the 3 types of aircraft seats are changed.



Route Map - 2010

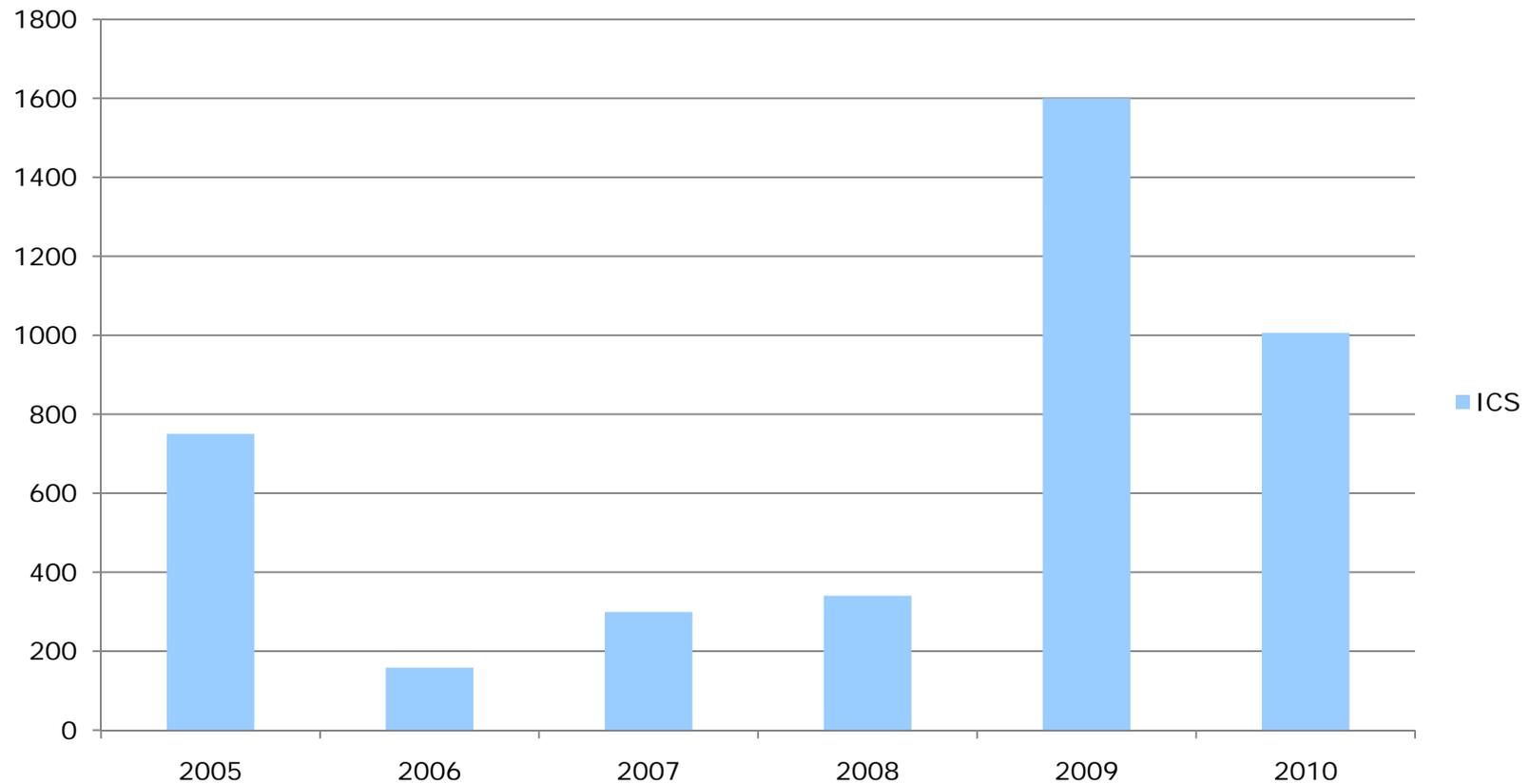


Infants and children – Jan 2005 to Oct 2010



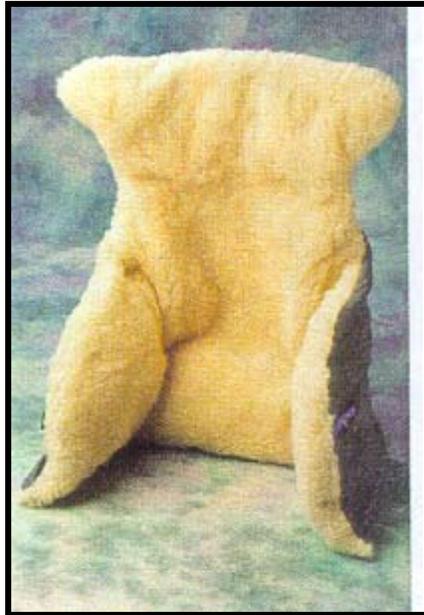
Infant/Child Seats – Jan 2005 to Oct 2010

ICS



Child Restraint Systems on VAA

- Loop belt restraint for infants under two years old
- Burnett Body Support or Travel Chair for disabled children



CAReS restraint harness

- Provided by the parent/guardian



Child Restraint Systems on VAA (cont)



- A340-600s are fitted with 'Infant Cradles' which are certified for use during turbulence.





Thank you!

