



AUGUST 6, 2020

IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF COVID-19 MEASURES ON AIRPORT OPERATIONS & CAPACITY

WEBINAR

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INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS ON AIRPORT CAPACITY



OVERVIEW | MOTIVATION FOR STUDY

COVID-19 MEANS SEVERAL NEW CHALLENGES

- › One major aspect: **possibility to keep physical distance**
- › Therefore airports need to know the **passenger volumes and capacities** of each area in order to:

Expand
Queuing Areas

Realign
Staffing /
Allocation

Elaborate Concept
for local Health
Authorities

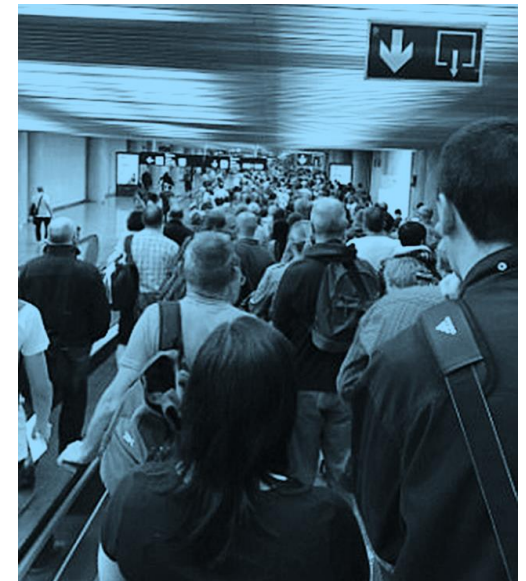
Know about
Saturation
Capacity

Prepare for
Ad-hoc changes

CHALLENGES

- › Uncertainty and very dynamic changes
- › But **laissez-faire / trial and error** in real life can **jeopardy health**
- › → Worst case: uncontrolled congestion → bad reputation

Systematic Assessment required → Use Simulation for “What-if”

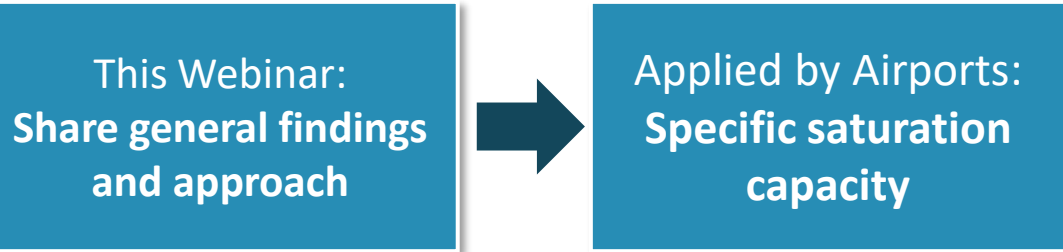


CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDY

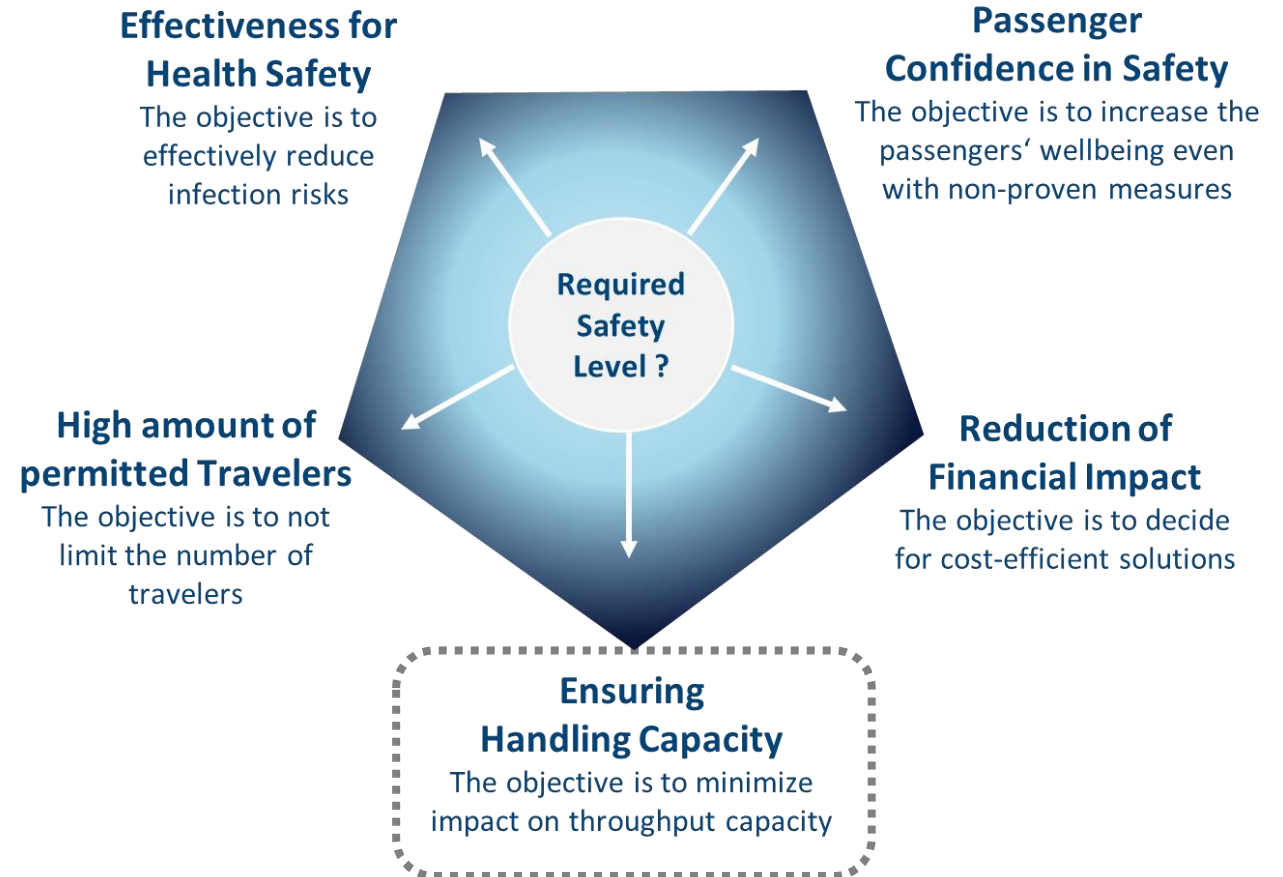
- > Quantify **capacity impact of Covid-19 measures** on airport operations and capacity
- > Consider a **wide spectrum of situations**

METHODOLOGY FOR OPTIMIZATION

- > Understand **influencing parameters**
- > “What-if” to develop **„best practices”**
→ **smooth recovery** and guidelines



Area of Conflicts for Covid-19 Measures



Reduction of Health Risk by...

... more stringent
Processes

Additional Processes

Temperature Check,
Covid-19 Test ?,
Health Certificate Check ? ...

Increased Processing Time

Additional Questions at
Check-In / Immigration, ...

Changed Passenger Flow

Suspension of simplified
Transfer Flows,
Other Allocation...

... keeping
Distance

Social Distancing in Queues and Holding Areas

Enlargement of Queuing
and/or faster Throughput

Limited Availability of Processors

Use of every 2nd Counter/
Lane / Reclaim Belt / Gate
Holdroom only...

Delayed Boarding / Deboarding

Boarding by Zones, Delayed
Deboarding,
Head Start for Luggage...



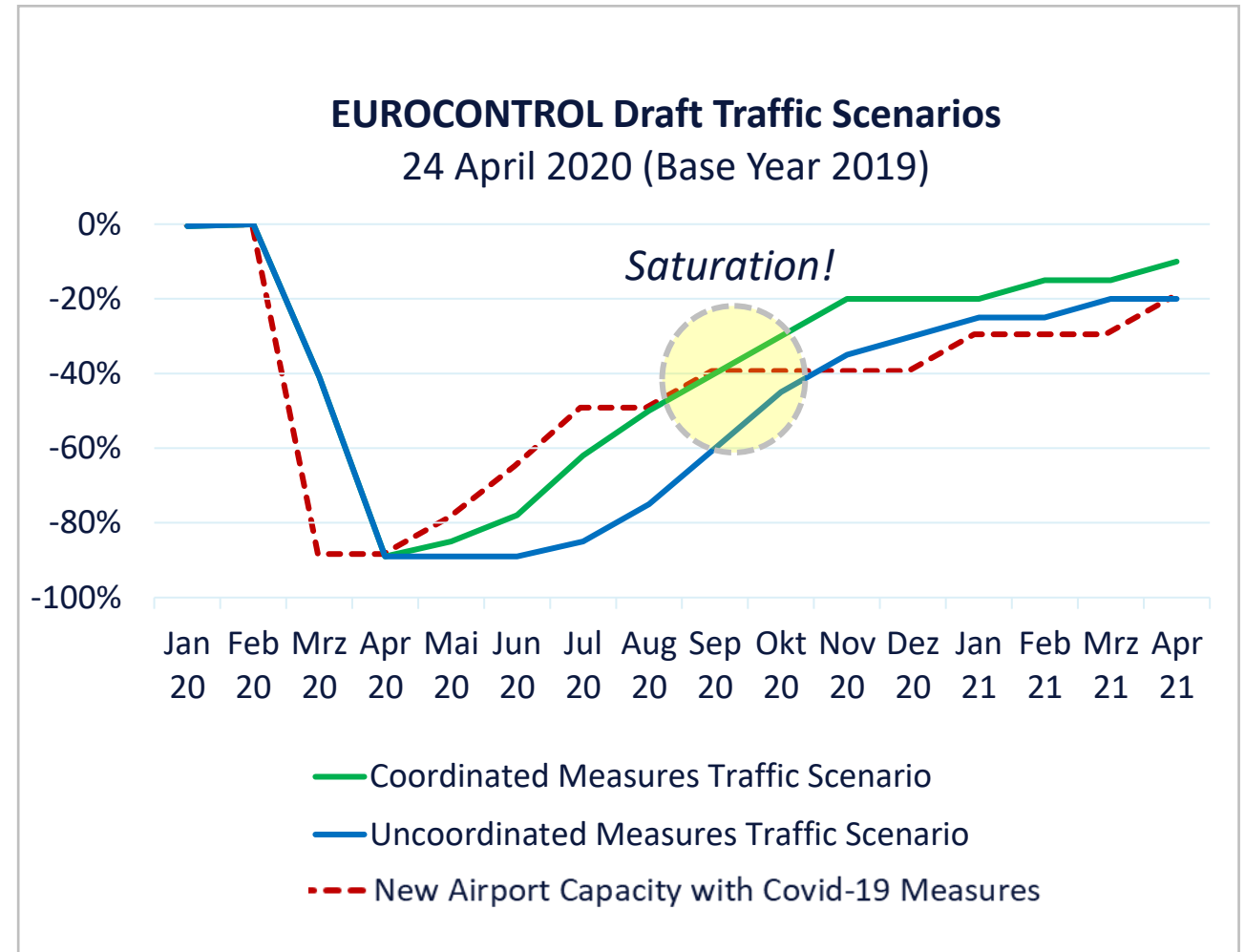
Question: What is the impact on airport capacity?

TWO TRENDS

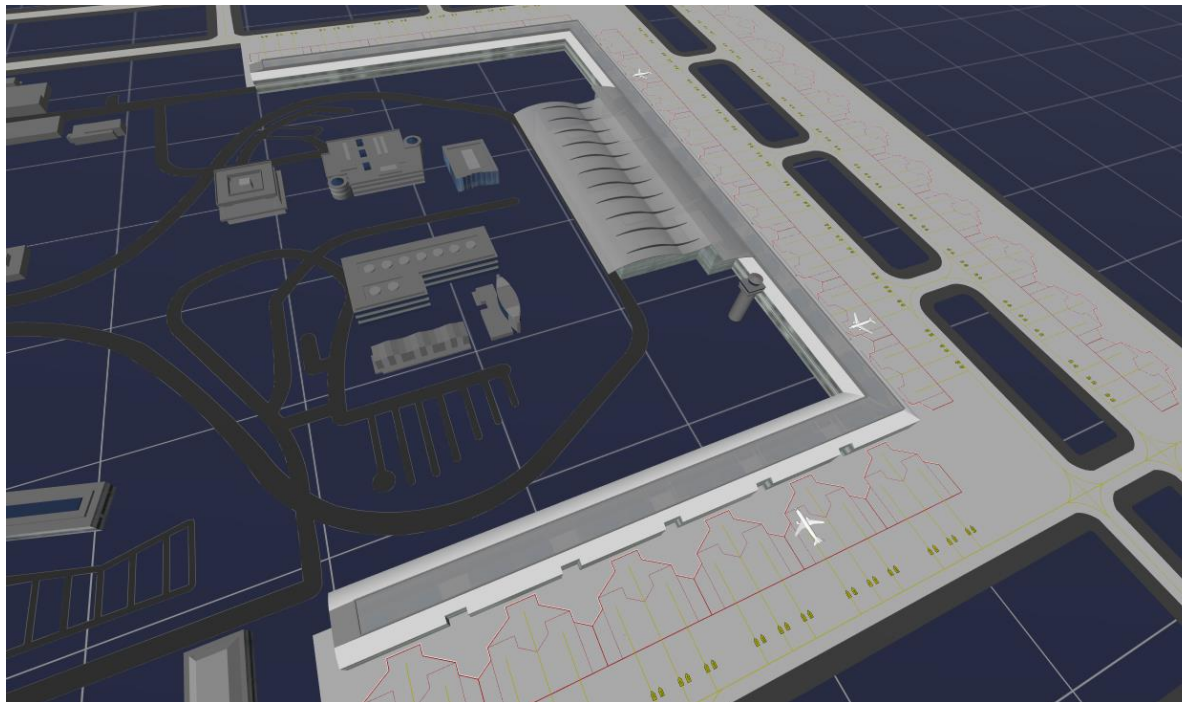
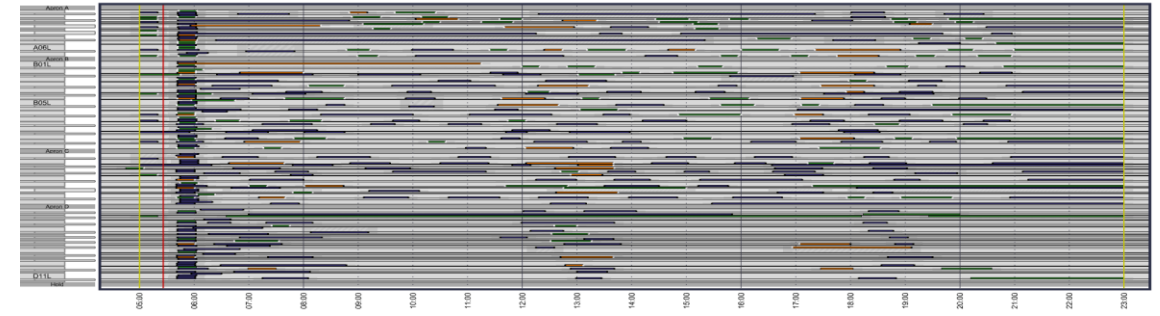
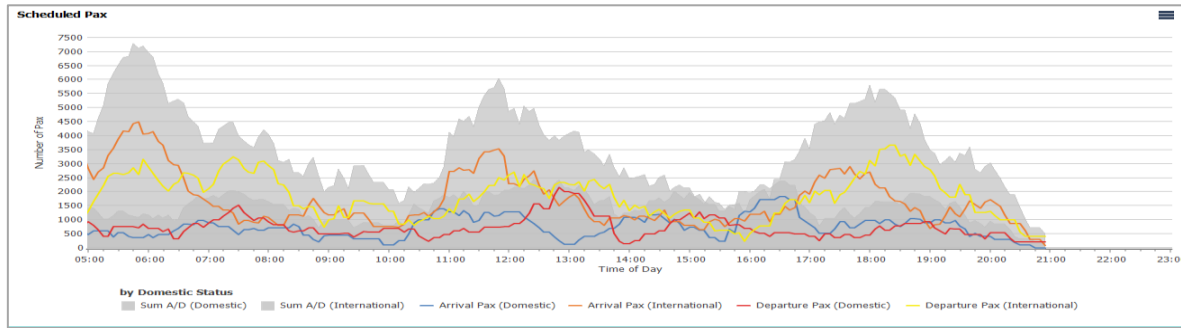
- › Recovering traffic numbers
- › Alleviating health safety measures
 - › stepwise
 - › but likely certain measures will stay

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CAPACITY?

- › Will health safety measures end soon enough when traffic gets closer to Pre-Covid volumes?
- › If not, airport will face a **New Saturation Capacity.**

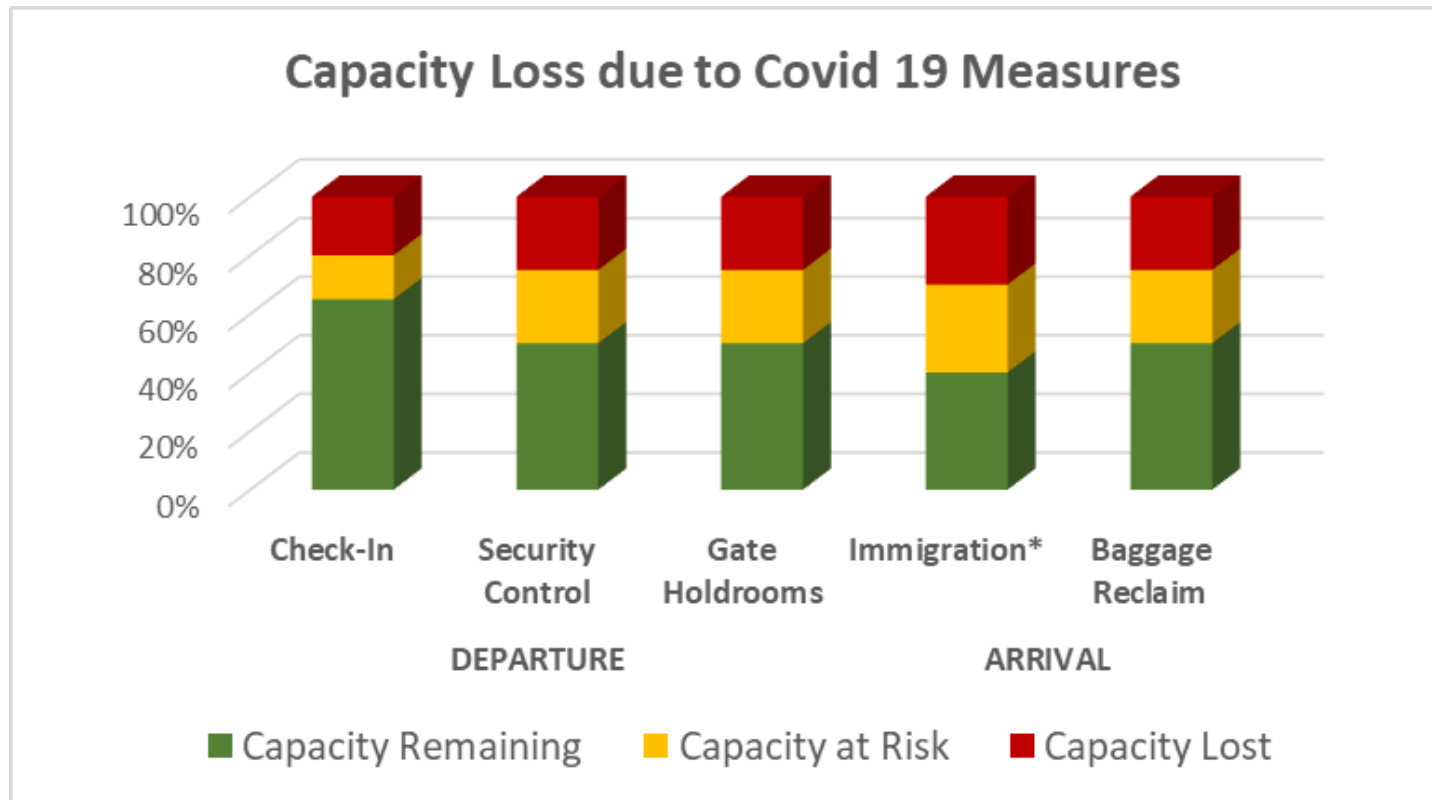


TEST ENVIRONMENT | GENERIC AIRPORT



OVERVIEW | NEW SATURATION CAPACITY

- › **General findings:** saturation capacity: 60-75%
- › Actual saturation capacity is airport specific | Consideration of layout and local situation



* Relates to NonSchengen Traffic only

Fix - Capacity Lost:
Very likely that Covid-19 measures reduce capacity with hardly any chance for solving with reasonable time /effort

Flexible - Capacity at Risk:
Reduction very much depending on layout / process specifics;
Solving generally possible but costly

Capacity Remaining:
Either with 'do-nothing' or easy measures sustainable capacity

DETAILED RESULTS PER TERMINAL AREA

COVID-19 ANALYSIS ON AIRPORT CAPACITY



HEALTH CHECK

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS



HEALTH CHECK | PROBLEMS OF HEALTH CHECK

TESTING IS GETTING MORE IMPORTANT – HEALTH CHECKS AT AIRPORT – BUT...

Reliable PCR Test ?

→ takes too long, costly



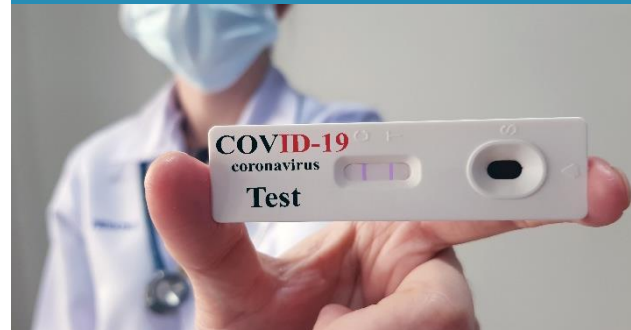
Temperature screening?

→ Does not detect persons



Fast antibody tests?

→ not accurate



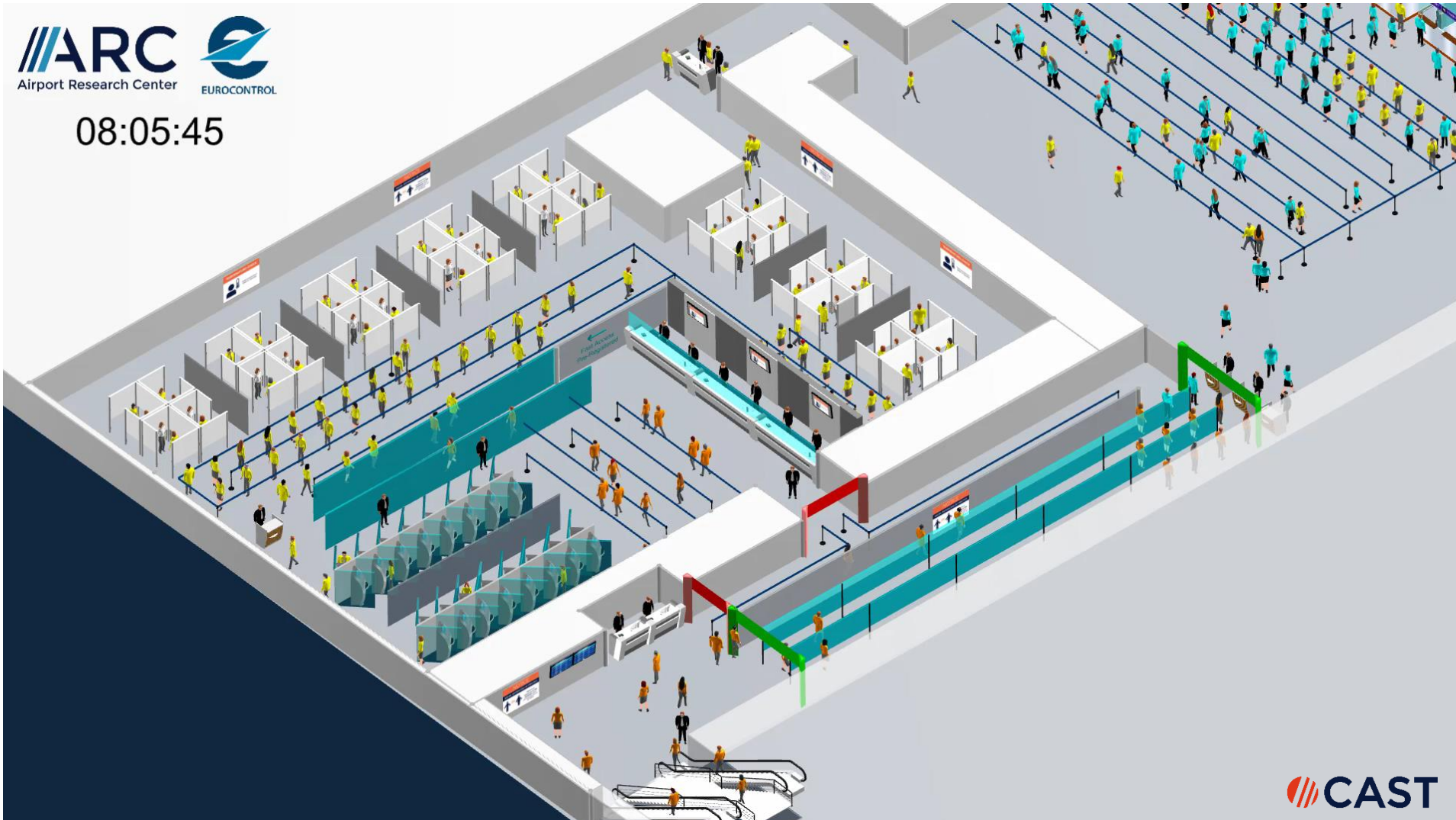
Health Certificate / Health Passport?

→ no standard yet



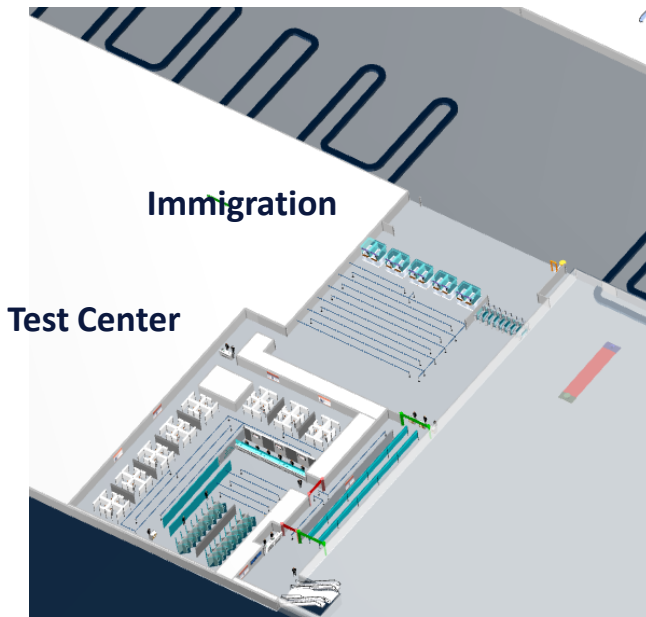
→ VERY DYNAMIC SITUATION

HEALTH CHECK | SCENARIO: COVID TEST ON ARRIVAL

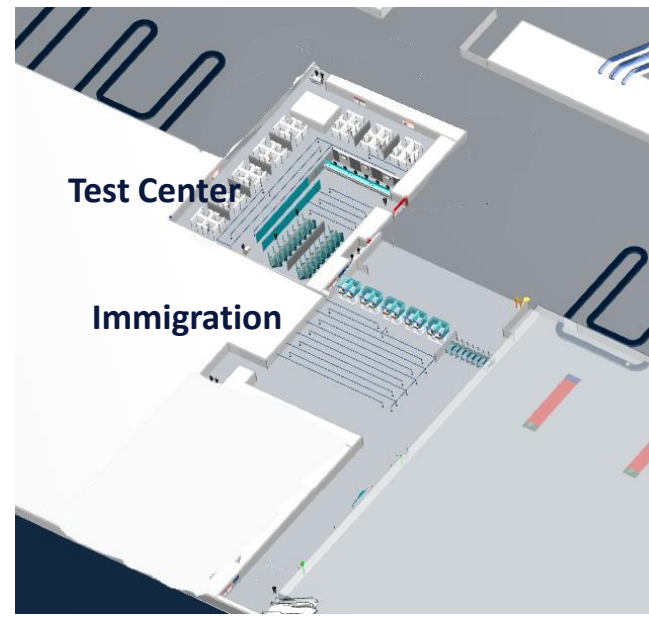


HEALTH CHECK | TEST PRE- OR POST IMMIGRATION

LOCATION OF TEST UNIT - PRE- OR POST IMMIGRATION?



Test Center **Pre-Immigration**



Test Center **Post-Immigration**

Scenario	desired Waiting Time	Number of Test Booths
Test Pre-Immigration	15 min	32
Test Post-Immigration		23

- › Immigration control “flattens” the demand → in example: **30% less test units**
- › No unnecessary immigration for Schengen from Risk Areas

CHECK-IN

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS



CHECK-IN | CHECK-IN ASSESSMENT

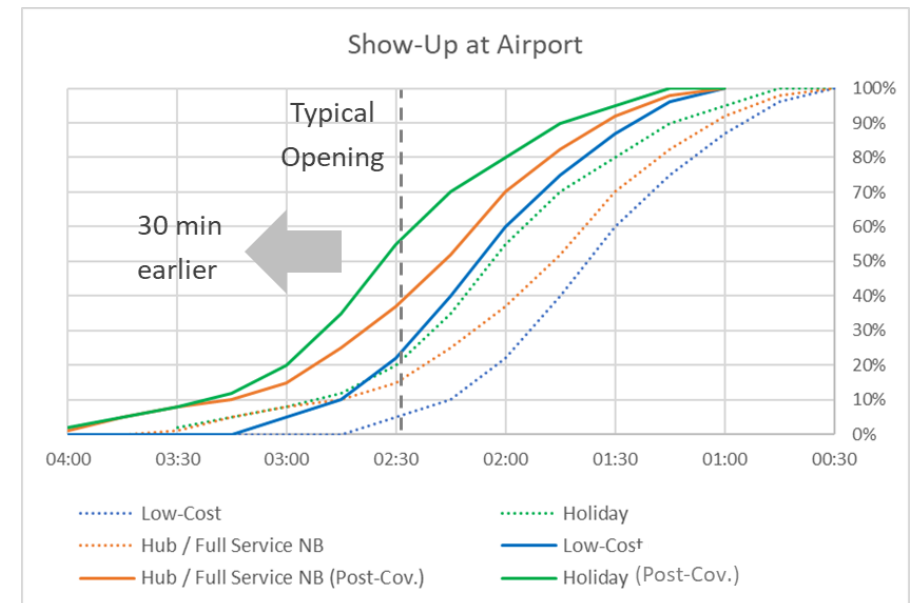
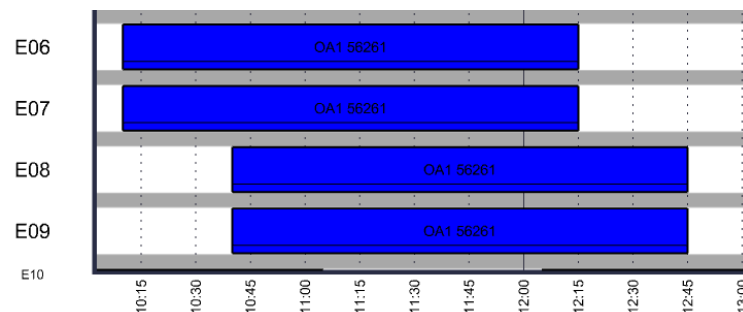
COVID 19 IMPACT

- › Social Distance in queues
- › Mandatory health questions at check-in
- › More passengers check-in bags
- › Earlier show-up



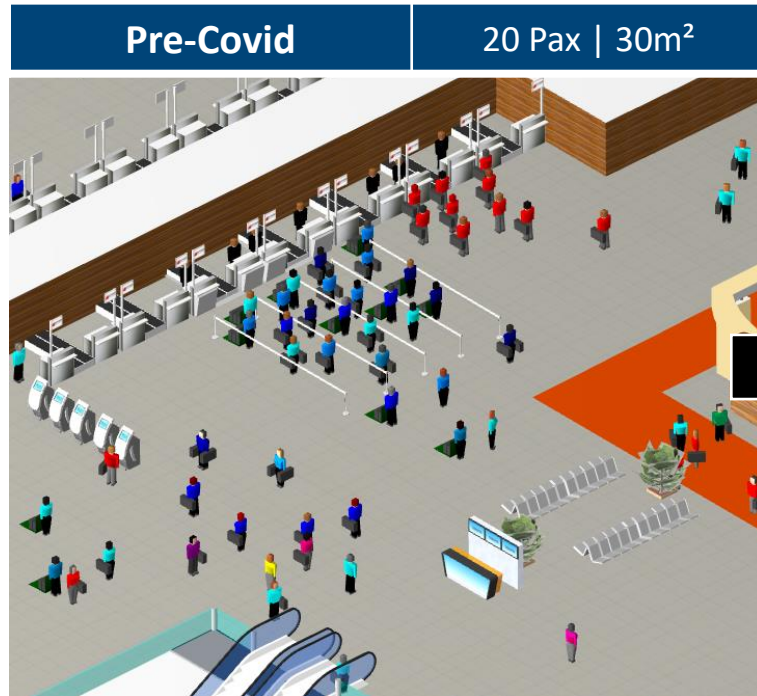
MITIGATION MEASURES

- › Include health questions in online check-in
- › Adjust opening times for 2 of 4 counters



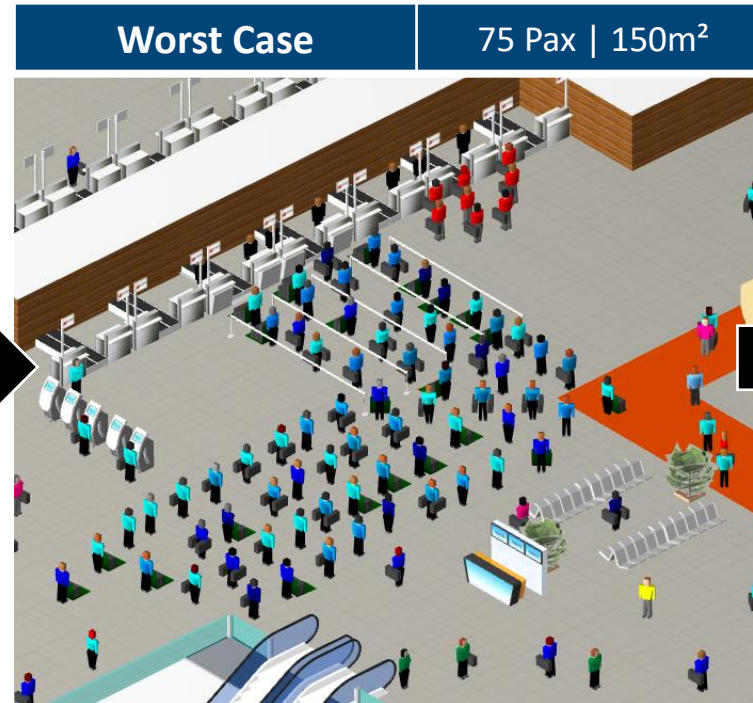
CHECK-IN | EXAMPLE FULL SERVICE CARRIER

VISUALIZATION



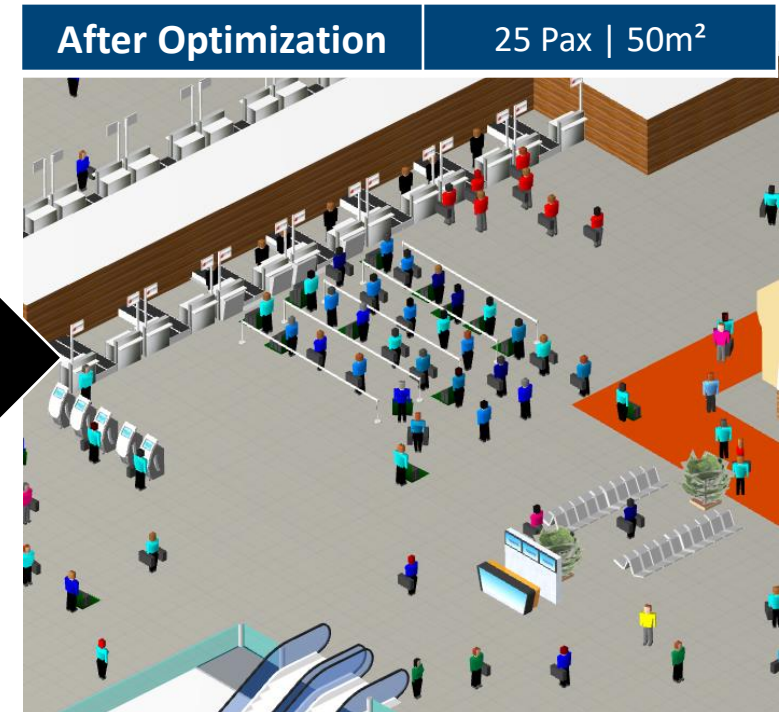
Scenario Pre-Covid:

Capacity adequate to demand
Short queues



Worst Case / Do Nothing:

Social distance
Early arrival of pax
More bags checked-in
Health questions to all pax

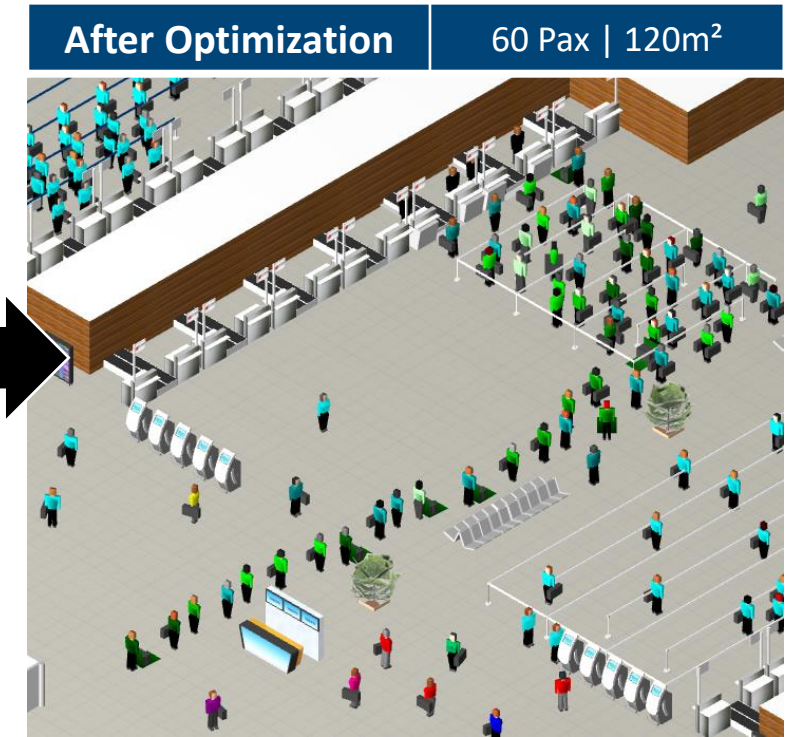
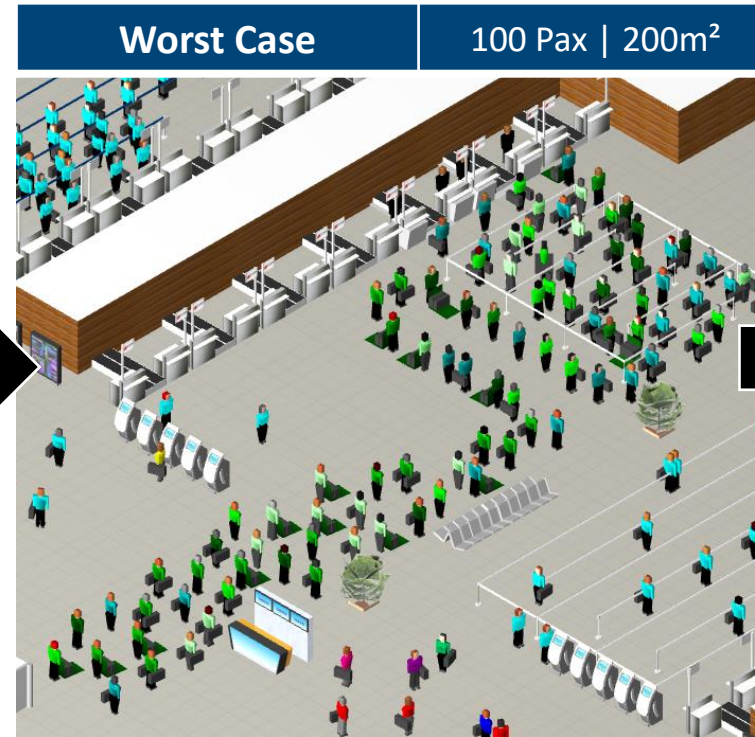
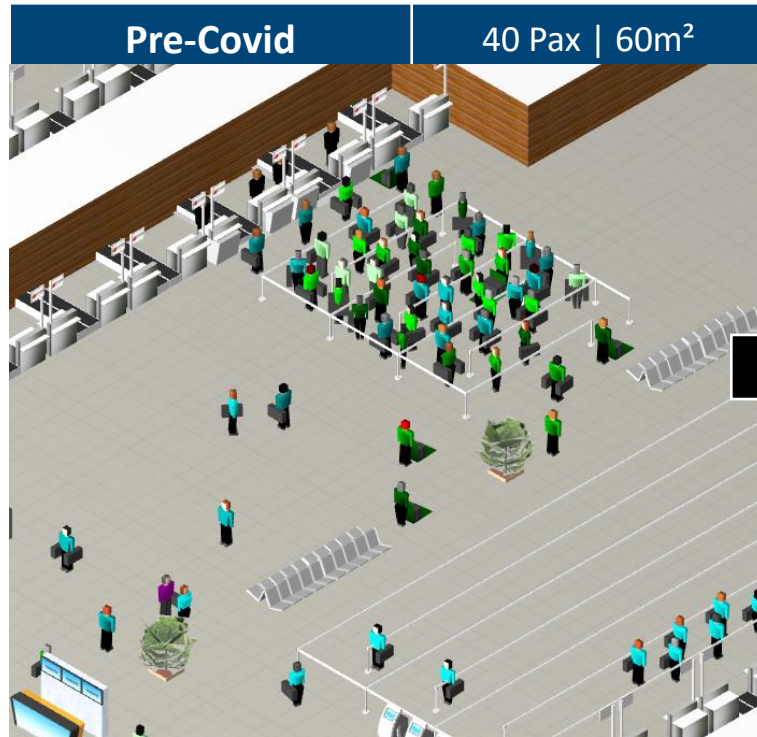


Optimization Potential:

allowing online check-in again
asking health questions online
adapt check-in opening

CHECK-IN | EXAMPLE HOLIDAY CARRIER

VISUALIZATION



Scenario Pre-Covid:

Longer waiting time already in baseline
Queue space used to full extent

Worst Case / Do Nothing:

Social distance
More early arrival of pax
More bags checked-in
Health questions to all pax

Optimization Potential:

Earlier opening
Queues still problematic
Overflow area needed

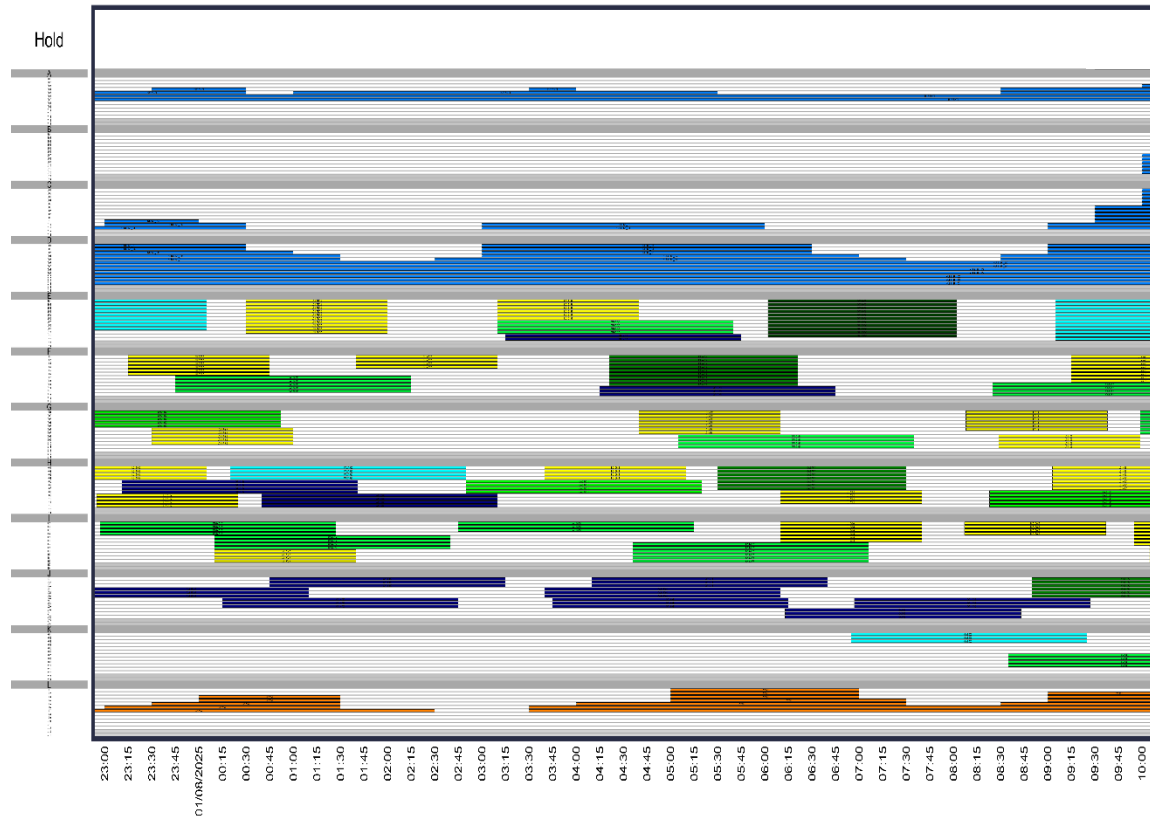
CHECK-IN | SPACE PROVISION FOR LONG QUEUES

KEEPING COUNTERS FREE TO ASSIGN MORE SPACE



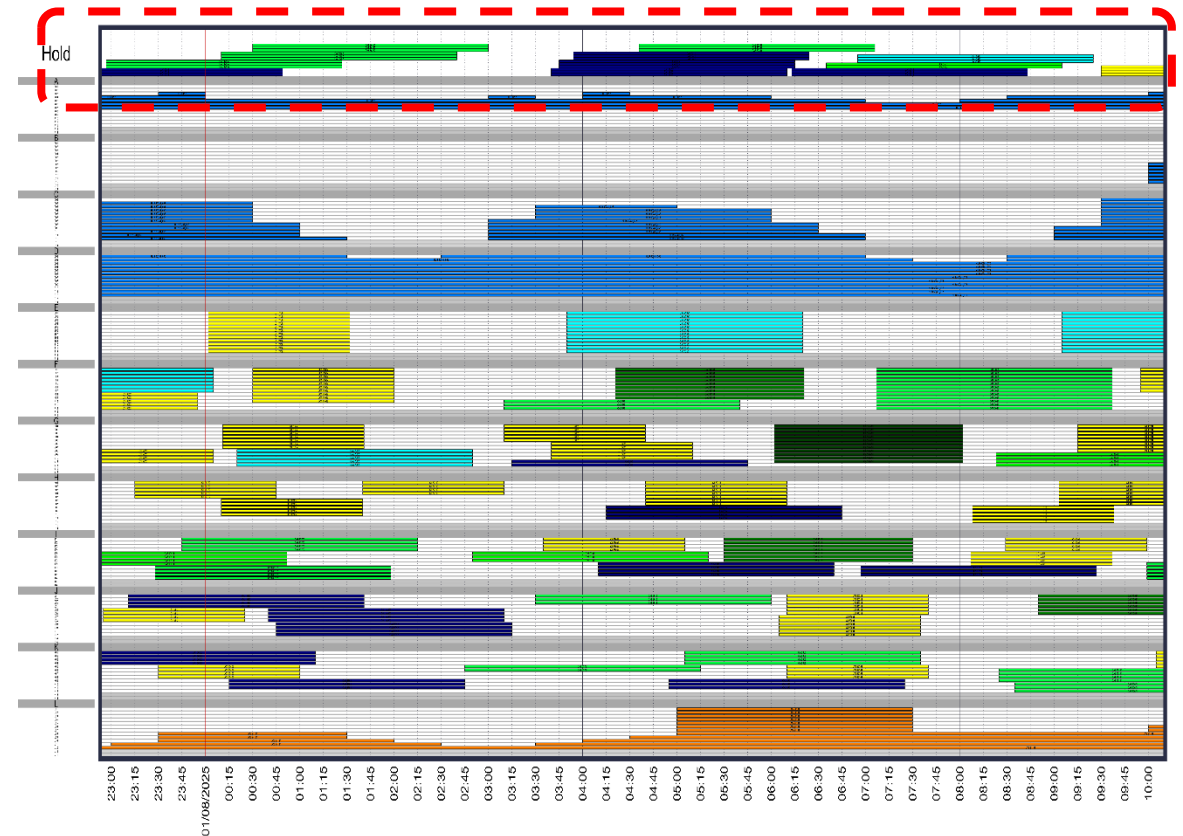
CHECK-IN | IMPACT OF QUEUE SPACE ON ALLOCATION

ALLOCATION OF REDUCED FLIGHT SCHEDULE



50% Reduction:

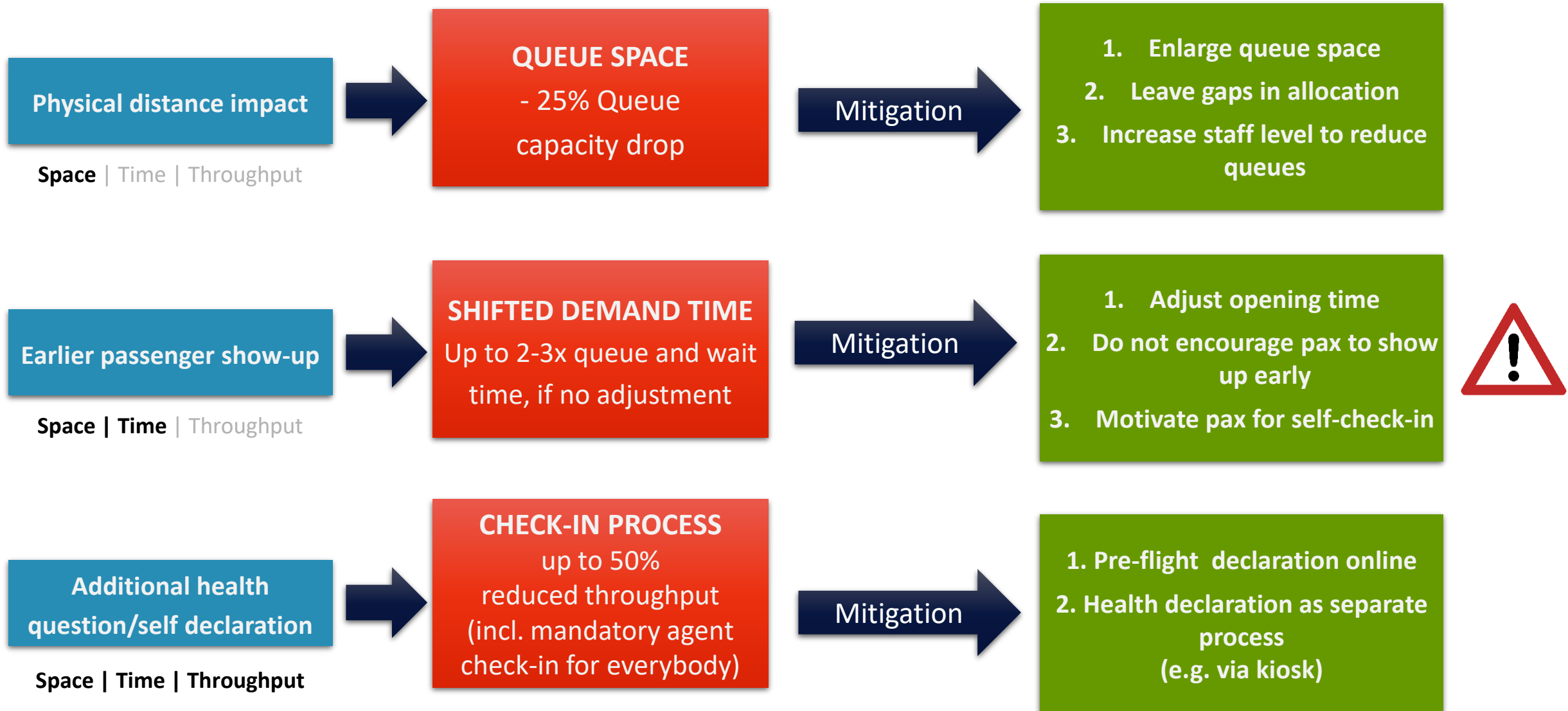
Allocation possible without using main carriers' rows



75% Reduction:

Allocation not possible without using main carriers' rows
Could be done when breaking with historic allocation rules

CHECK-IN | IMPACT AND MITIGATION

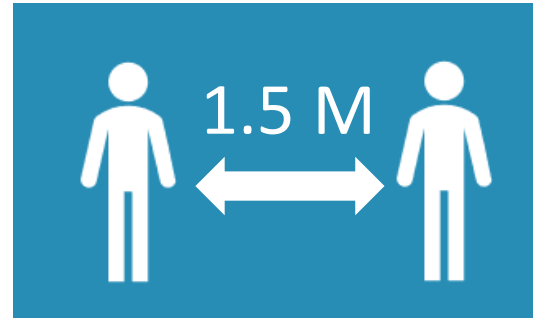
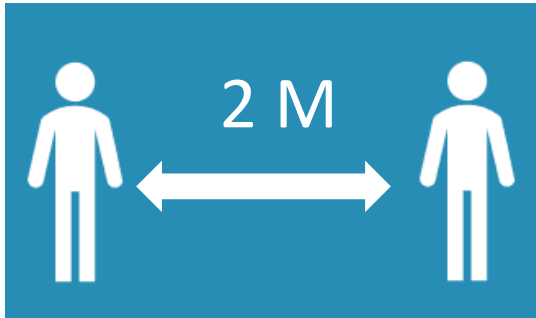


SECURITY CONTROL

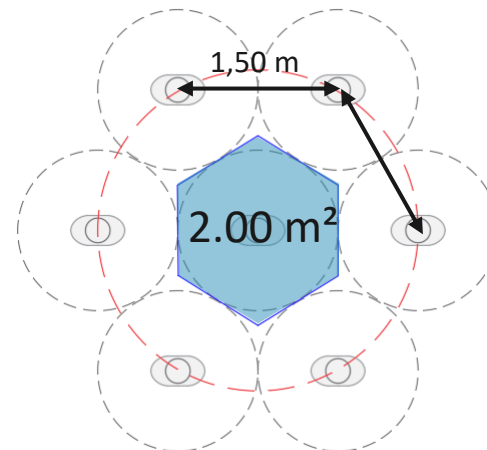
COVID-19 SCENARIO SIMULATIONS



DIFFERENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES

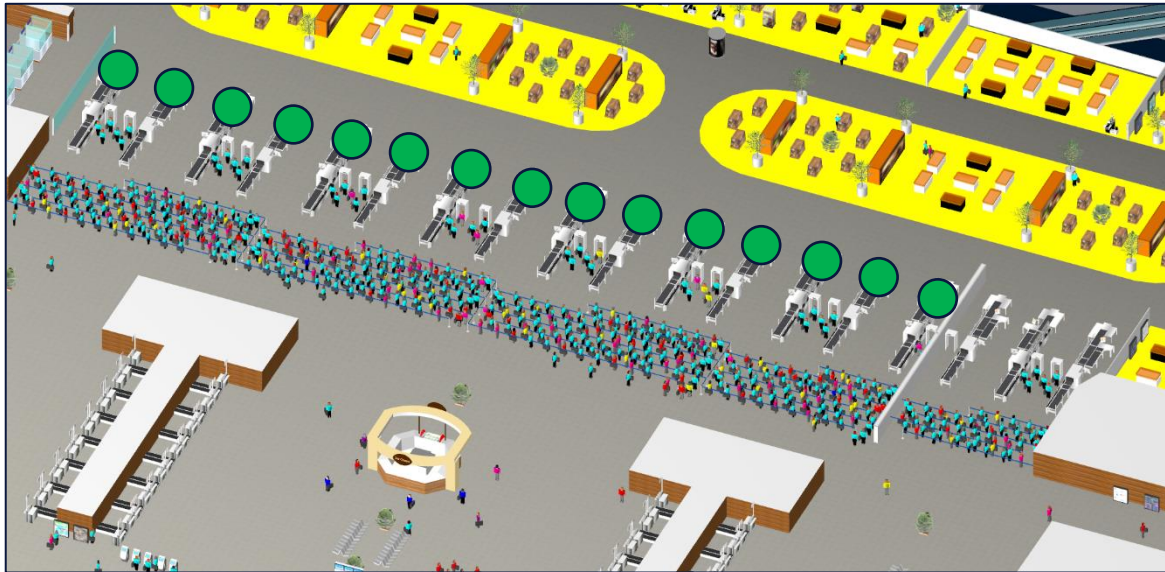


Physical Distance 1.5m
→ Space-Demand 2.00 m²



SECURITY CHECKPOINT | ANALYSIS OF LAYOUT (SPACE)

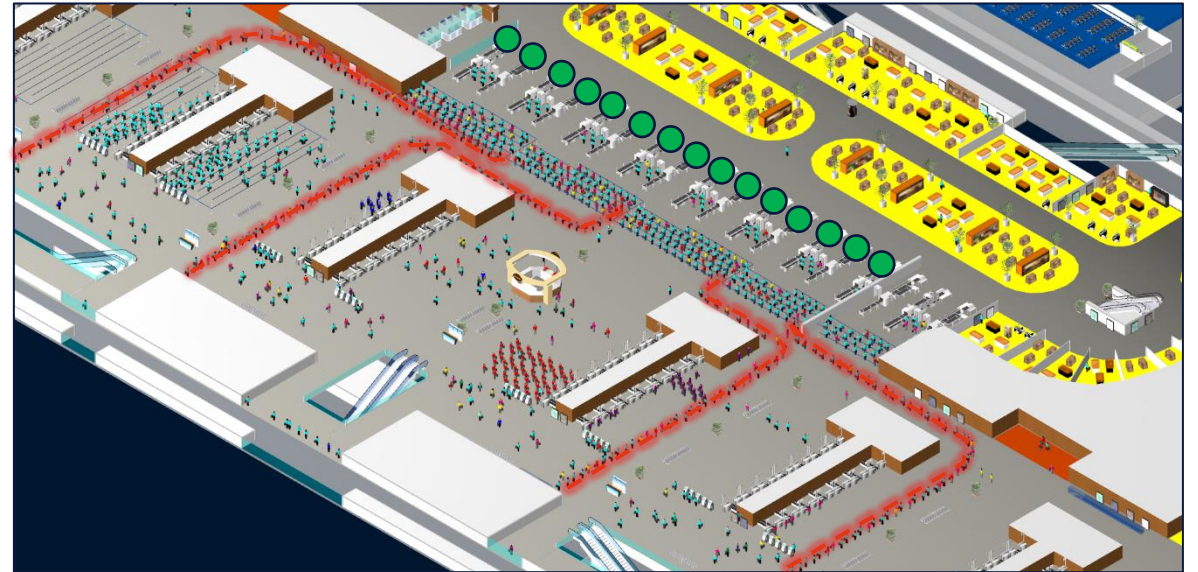
Pre Covid-19



450 PAX in Queue | Waiting Time: 10 min

→ Queue systems sufficient

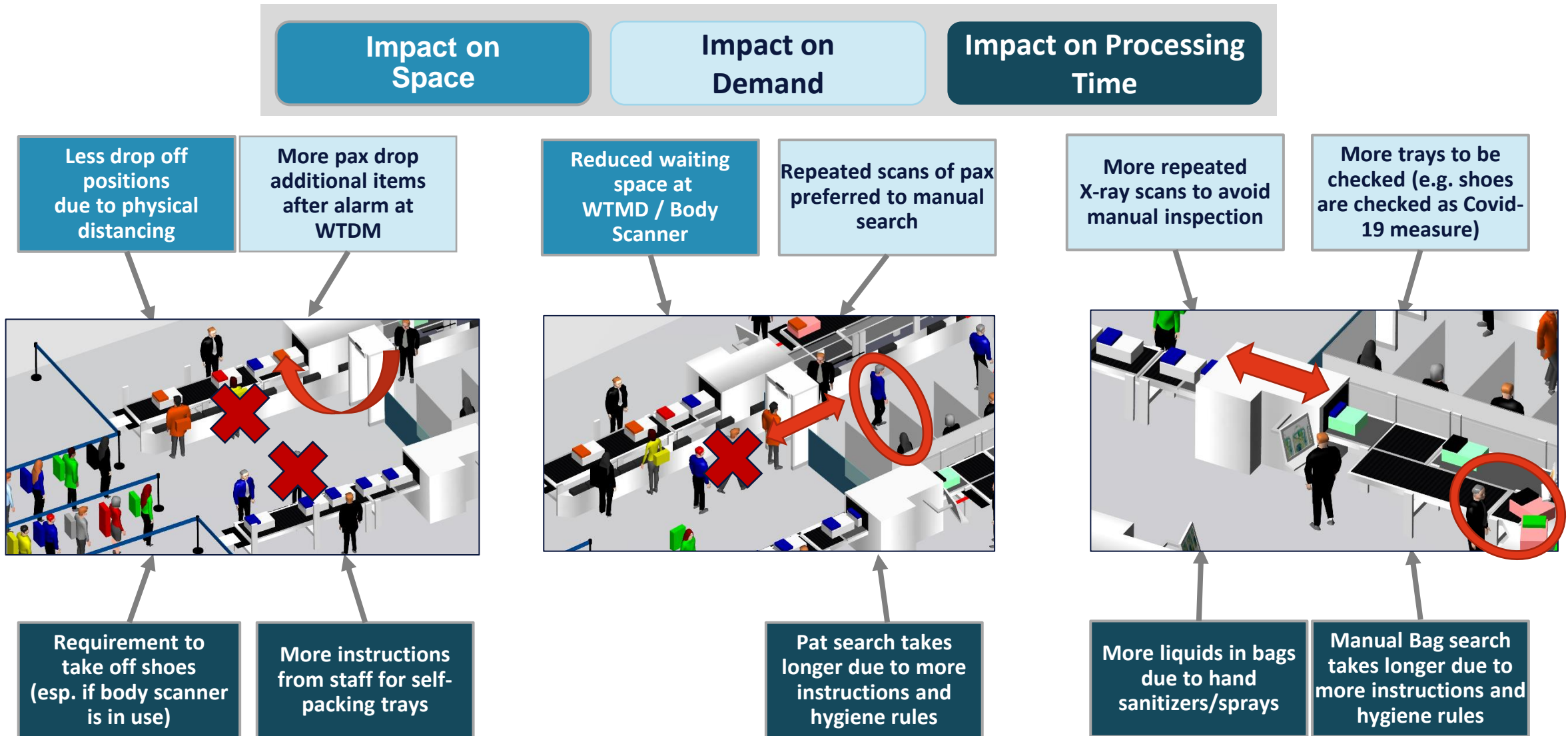
Post Covid-19
(1.5m social distance)



450 PAX in Queue | Waiting Time: 10 min

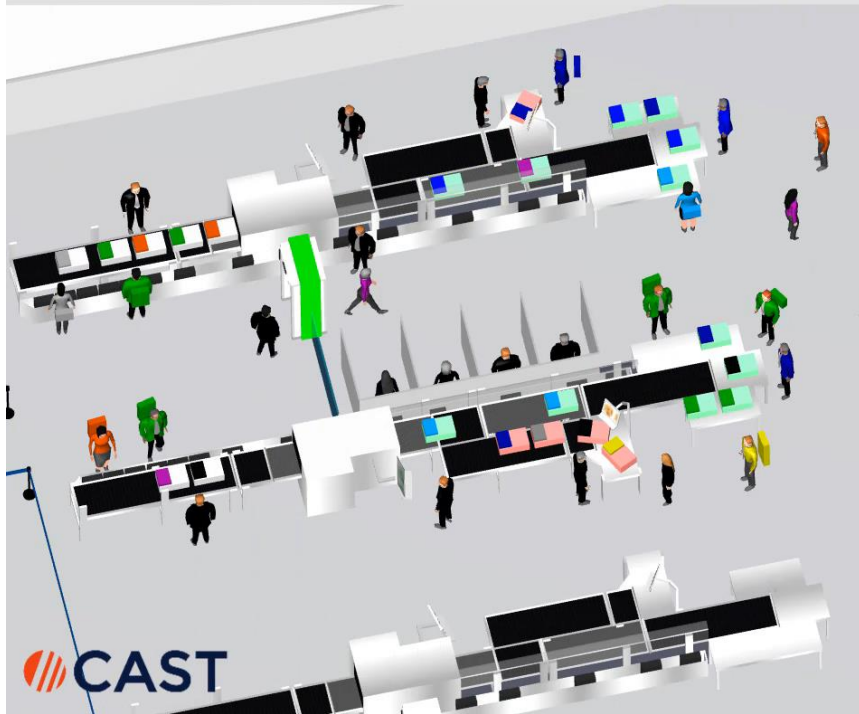
→ Queue systems not sufficient

SECURITY CONTROL | IMPACT ON THROUGHPUT



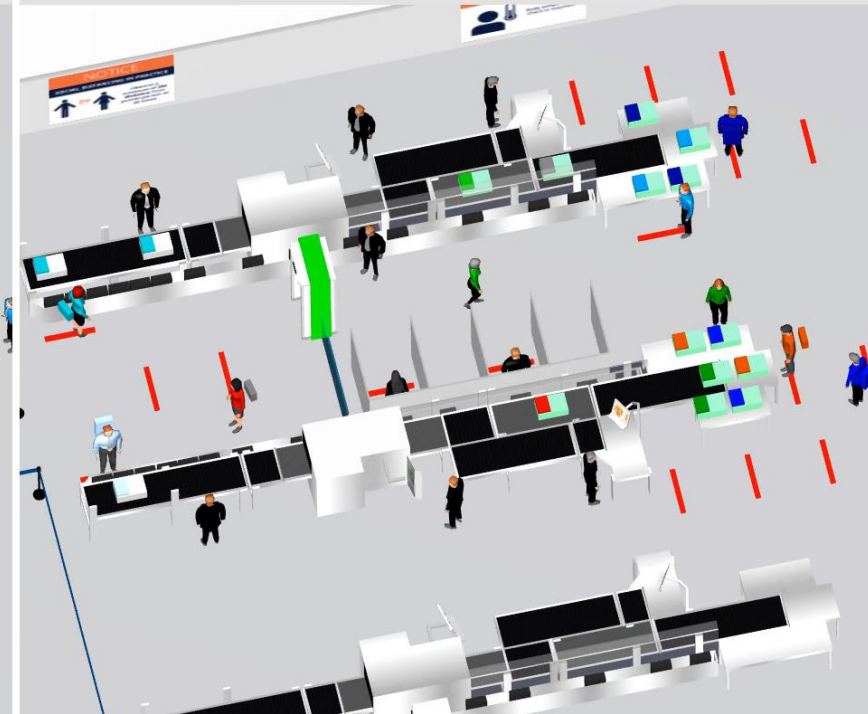
Before COVID-19

Throughput (1 Lane): 170 Pax/h
- Front Section: 5 Pax
- Rear Section: 13 Pax



During COVID-19

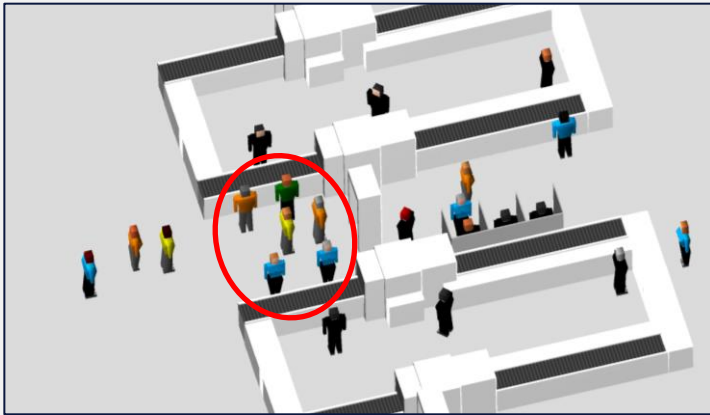
Throughput (1 Lane): 88 Pax/h
- Front Section: 3 Pax
- Rear Section: 6 Pax



Video-Link: <https://youtu.be/KXLt5ysOr3A>

Scenario		Throughput	Throughput Reduction	Comment
Baseline		185 PAX/h	-0%	-
Increased Divesting Time		160 PAX/h	-15%	More instructions, stowage of loose items lead to increase
Increased Divesting Time	1 Drop off position	90 PAX/h	-50%	Major capacity drop
	Limited Number of Pax in pickup zone	155 PAX/h	-15%	Higher impact expected with more performant lanes
	Drop more items beforehand	125 PAX/h	-30%	Reduction strongly depends on trays and divesting time increase
	Repeated pax scans with dropping additional items	150 PAX/h	-20%	Impact assumed to be higher if body scanners in use
	Repeated X-Ray scans of trays	155 PAX/h	-15%	Low impact on sample security setup

2 Divest Positions, shared WTMD



- Reducing drop off positions (2 → 1)
- Dropping more items (belt, shoes) to reduce pat down search

2 Divest positions, shared Body Scanner



- Reducing drop off positions (2 → 1)
- Repeated pax scans at body scanner to avoid pat down search

3 Divest Positions, dedicated WTMD



- Reducing Drop off positions
- Repeated X-Ray tray scans
- Dropping more items to reduce pat down search
- Longer manual checks

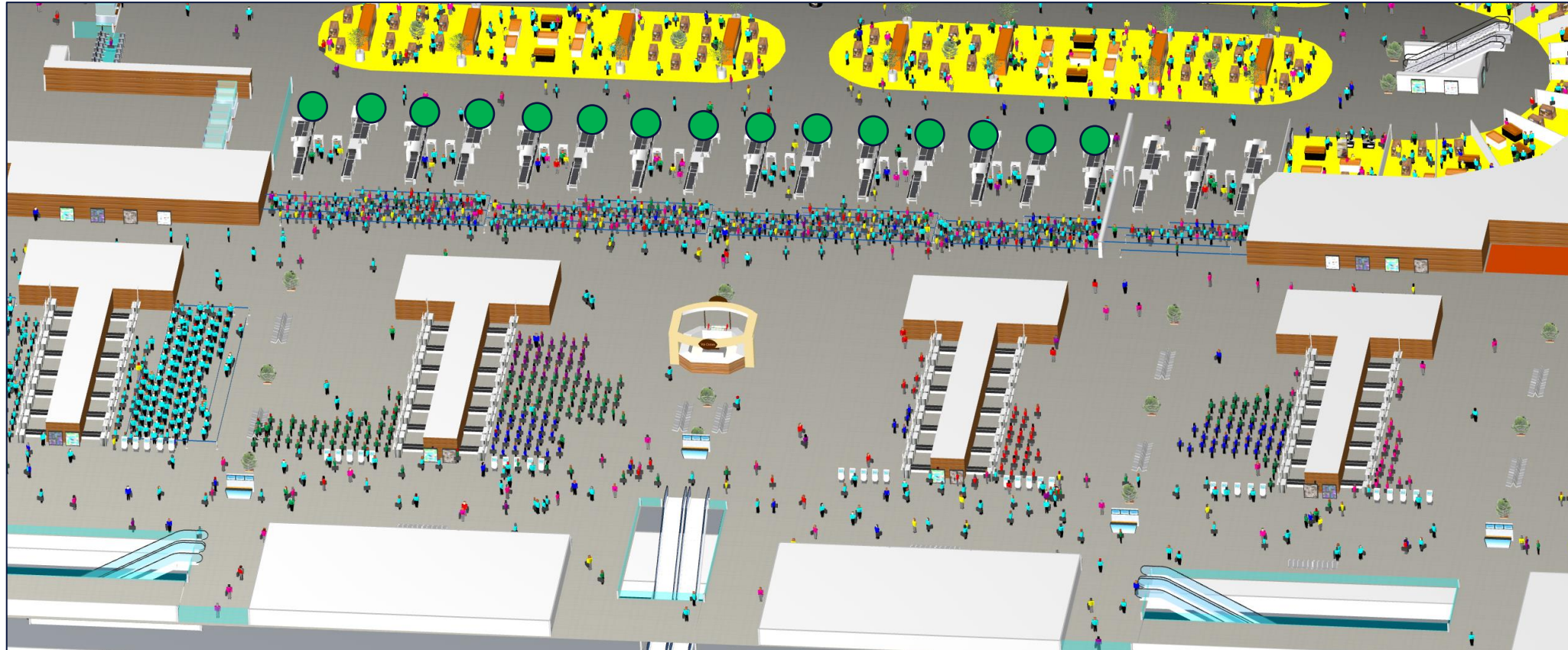
3 Divest Positions, dedicated Body Scanners



- Reducing Drop off positions
- Repeated X-Ray tray scans
- Longer manual checks

SECURITY CHECKPOINT | BASELINE 'PRE-COVID'

Baseline Situation (Pre-COVID)



- Open Lanes - 15
- Closed Lanes

Traffic Volume: 100%

Open Lanes: 100%

Security Throughput: 180 PAX/h (100%)

Regular Social Distance: 1m² / PAX

Waiting Time: 10 min

Queue Space: sufficient

SECURITY CHECKPOINT | COVID-19 IMPACT 'DO NOTHING'

COVID Situation „Do Nothing“ with 50% Traffic



- Open Lanes – 8
- Closed Lanes

Traffic Volume: 50%

Open Lanes: 50%

Security Throughput: 135 PAX/h (75%)

Increased Social Distance: 2m² / PAX

Waiting Time: 45 min

Pax in Queue: 750 Pax

SECURITY CHECKPOINT | COVID-19 IMPACT 'OPTIMIZATION'

COVID Situation „Optimized“ with 50% Traffic



- Open Lanes - 10
- Closed Lanes

Traffic Volume: 50% x 1.4 Open Lanes: 70%

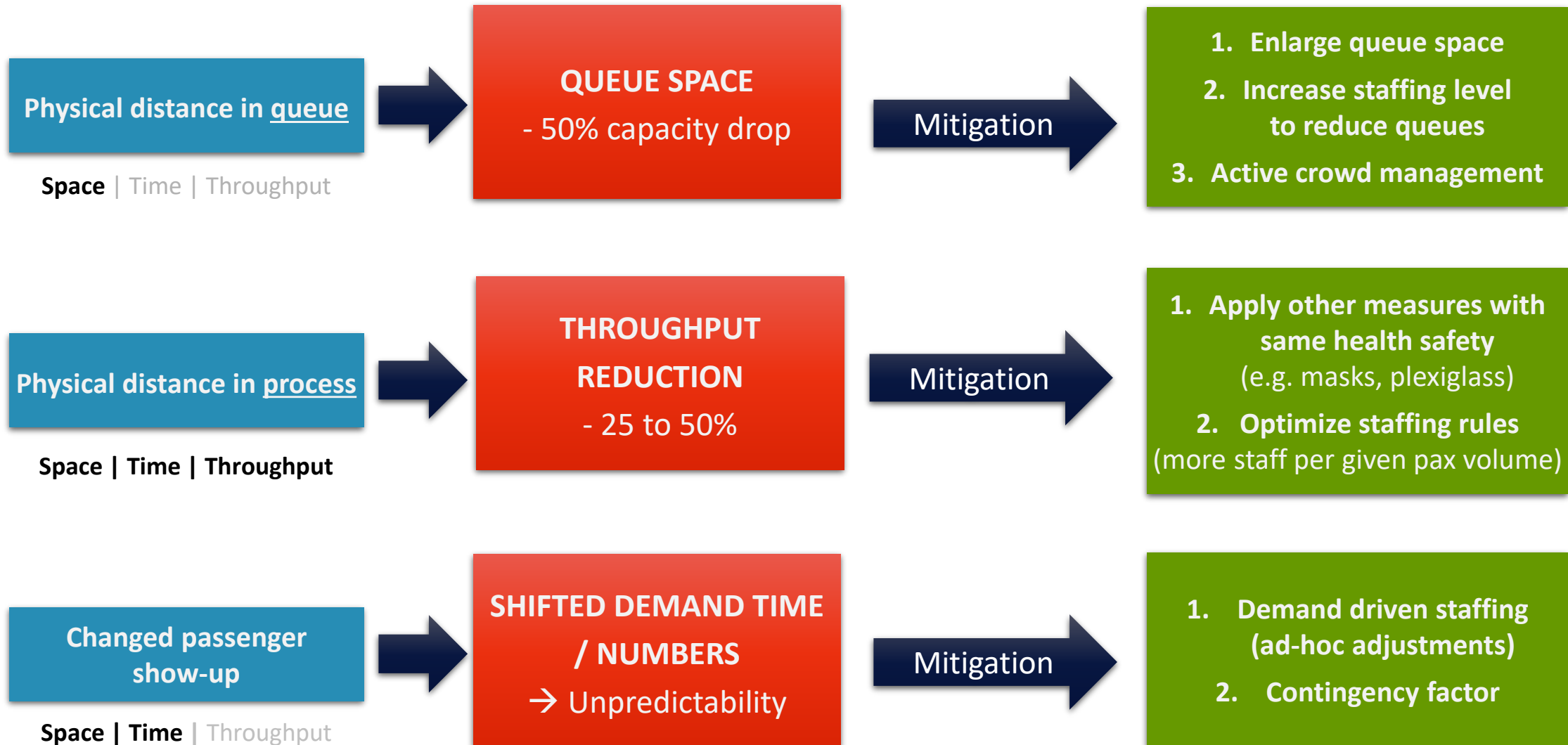
Reduced Throughput: 135 PAX/h (75%)

Increased Social Distance: 2m² / PAX

→ Update of Staffing factor required

		Traffic Volume compared to Pre-Covid			
		50%	75%	100%	
Security Throughput Compared to Pre-Covid	Traffic				
	35% 60 Pax/h	x3	x3	-	
	50% 90 Pax/h	x2	x2	-	
	65% 117 Pax/h	x1.6	x1.5	-	
	75% 135 Pax/h	x1.4	x1.5	-	
	100% 180 PAX/h	x1	x0.9	x1	

SECURITY | IMPACT AND MITIGATION



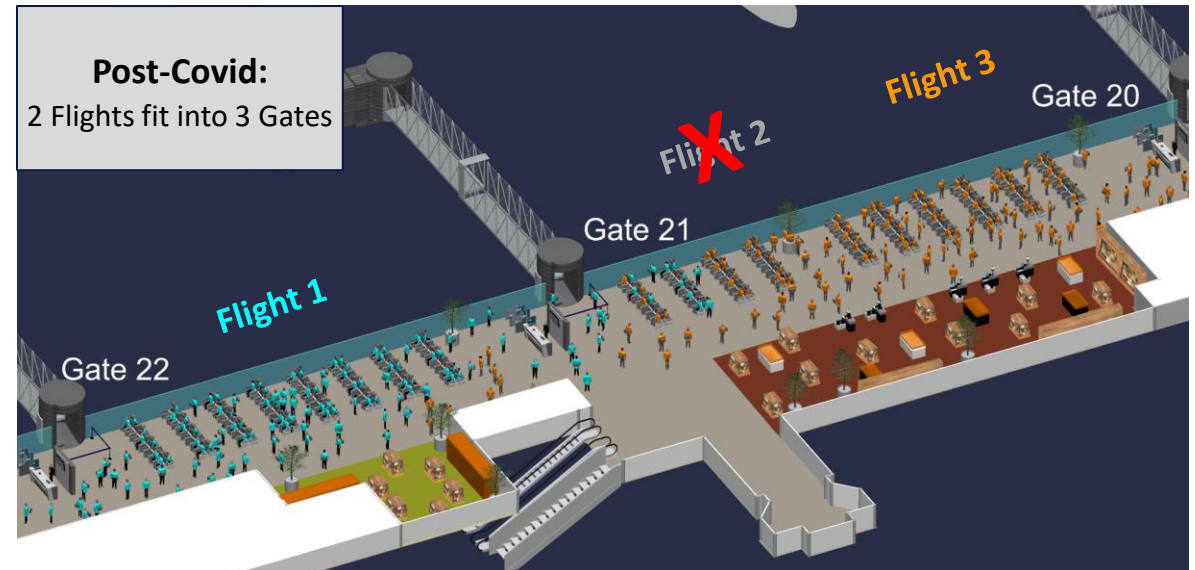
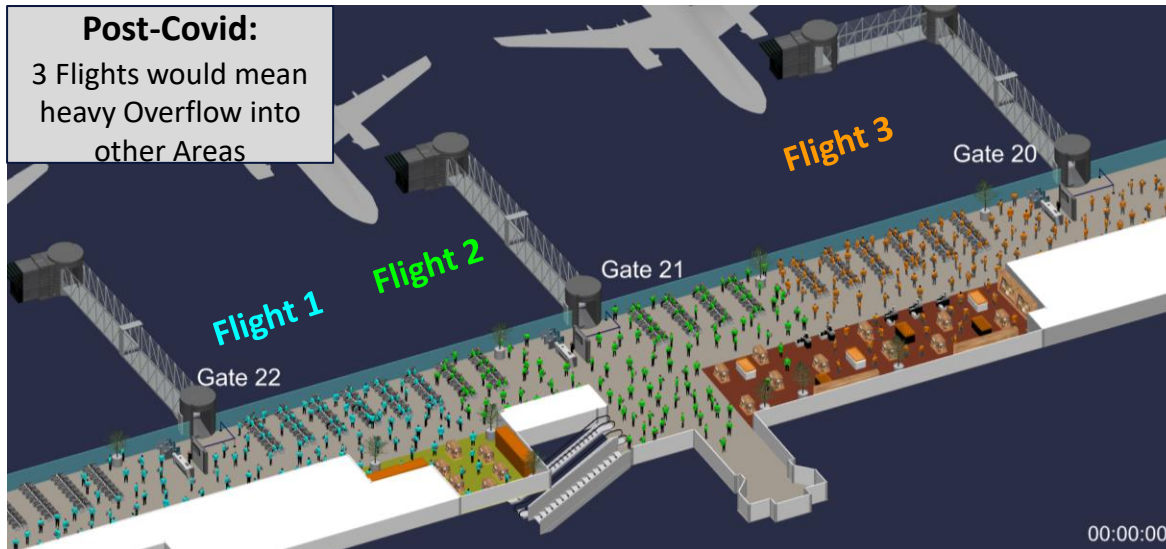
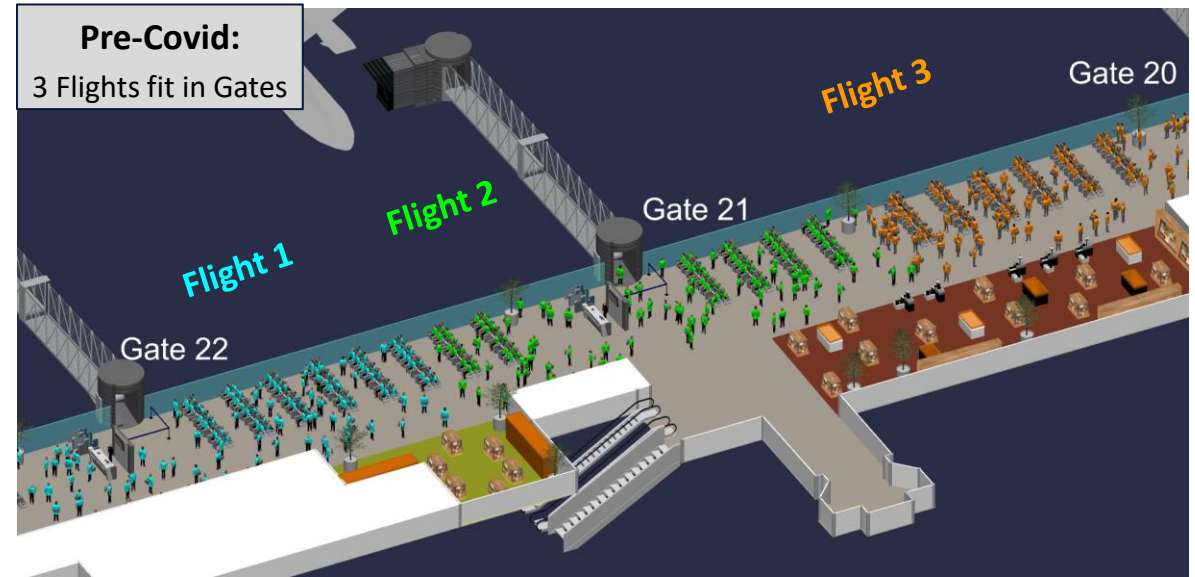
BOARDING GATE ROOMS

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS



BOARDING GATES | PHYSICAL DISTANCE

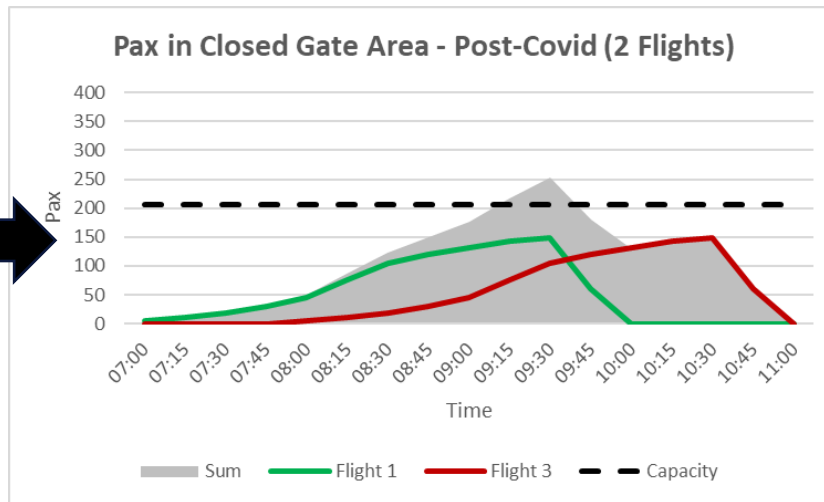
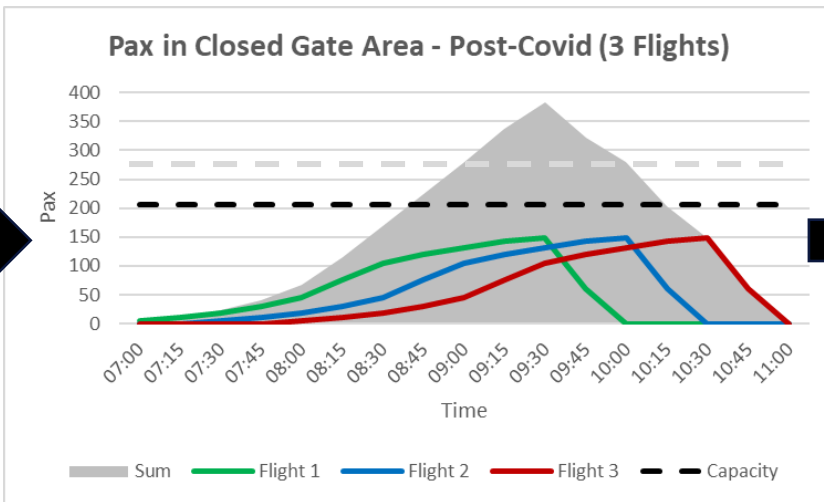
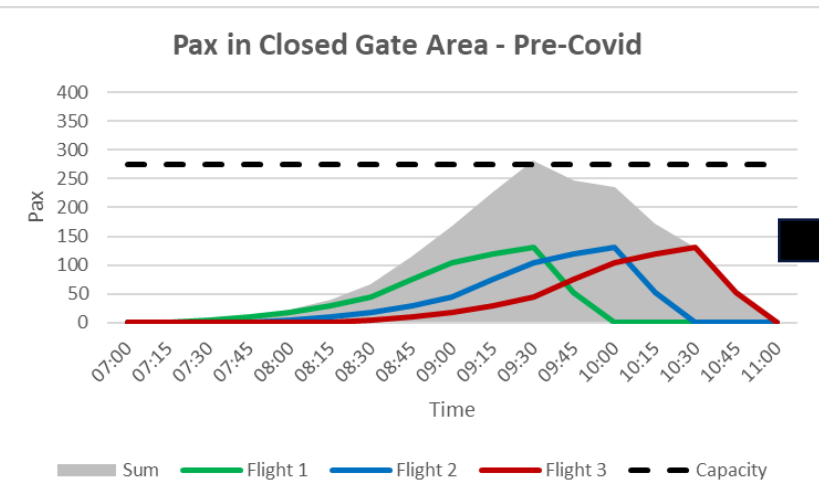
- > Pre-Covid: suitable space provision
- > Post-Covid: Physical distancing:
 - Gate **capacity reduced to 50-75%**
 - **Heavy overflow** into other areas
- > Optimization: Allocation should leave gaps



BOARDING GATES | ALLOCATION

ALLOCATION

- › Pre-Covid, 3 flights allocated to gate area without constraints
- › Post-Covid, 2 factors accumulate and cause problems:
 - › **Reduced capacity** due to physical distancing
 - › **Earlier show-up**, e.g. because of anticipated longer waiting times, which actually do not occur
- › Mitigation: Move one flight (to other gate or changed STD)

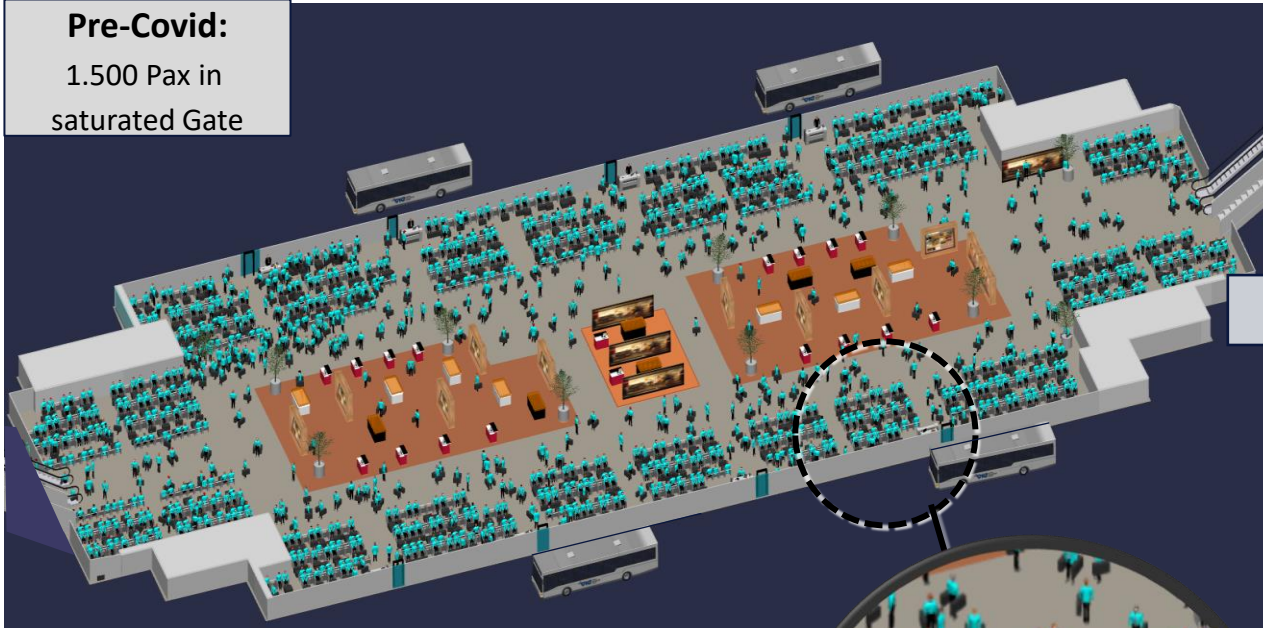


BOARDING GATE | SATURATION CAPACITY (BUS GATE)

EXAMPLE: PHYSICAL DISTANCING IN BUS GATE

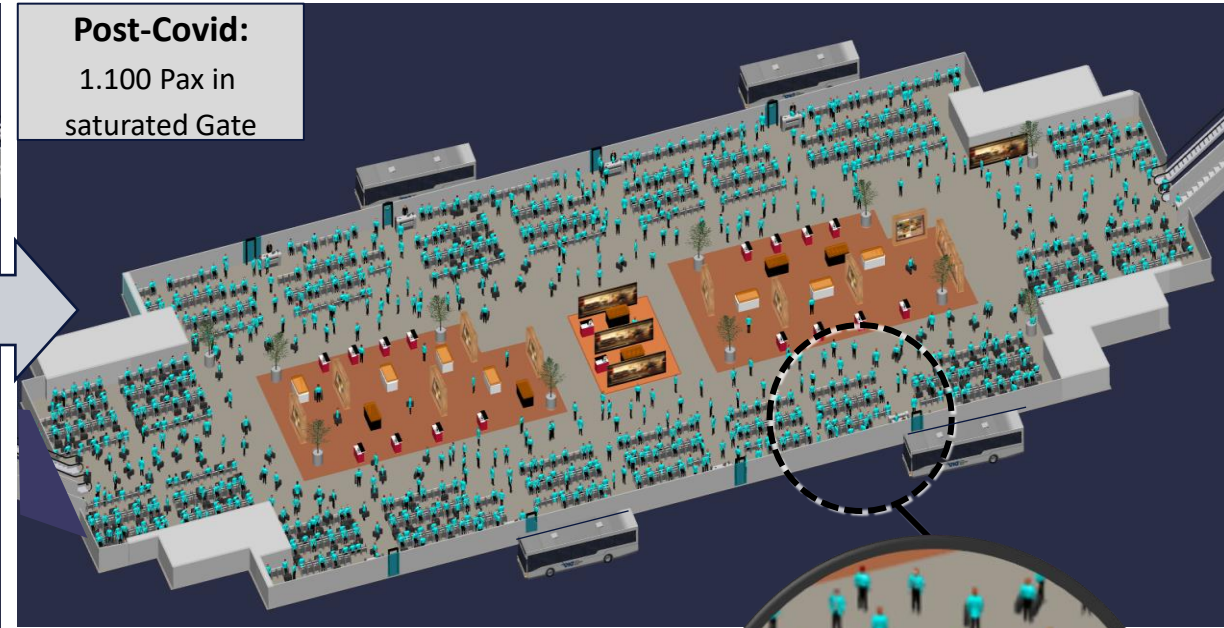
Pre-Covid:

1.500 Pax in saturated Gate



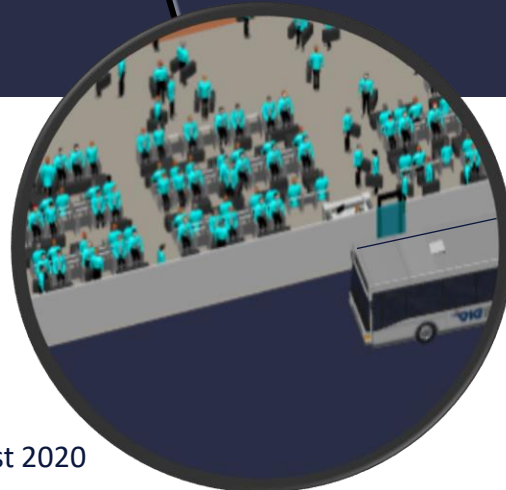
Post-Covid:

1.100 Pax in saturated Gate



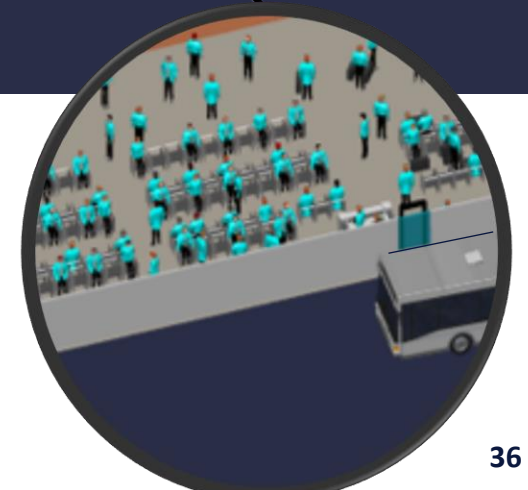
Pre-Covid

- „100%“ traffic
- Regular IATA level of service



Post-Covid

- **75% traffic (Saturation)**
- Physical Distance



Gate Layout	Covid-19 Impact	Recommendation
<p>Open gate concept adjacent gates in line of sight</p>	<p>Low Pax intuitively spread to nearby gates (occupy 1.3-1.5 times the previous area)</p>	<p>Allocation of every other gate, as long as possible.</p>
<p>Generally open gate concept but gates not in line of sight</p>	<p>Medium Pax cannot simply use other areas, as they don't see when boarding starts</p>	<p>Avoidance of simultaneous allocation in same zone as long as possible. Improved passenger information.</p>
<p>Closed gate concept access for allocated flight only</p>	<p>High After entering, no overflow into other area possible anymore</p>	<p>Avoid closed gates when not necessary.</p>
<p>Dual gate concept with Schengen and Non-Schengen gates at different levels serving one stand</p>	<p>Low – Medium With 'equal' Schengen and NonSchengen flights, every second gate would not be in use automatically. Problem occurs, when mainly Schengen flights remain.</p>	<p>Alternating allocation of Schengen and NonSchengen flights.</p>
<p>Main central dwell area late announcement of actual gate</p>	<p>Low – Medium Central area may get overcrowded, in particular with closed/limited restaurants.</p>	<p>Early announcement of actual gate to distribute passengers.</p>

AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND AND DE/BOARDING

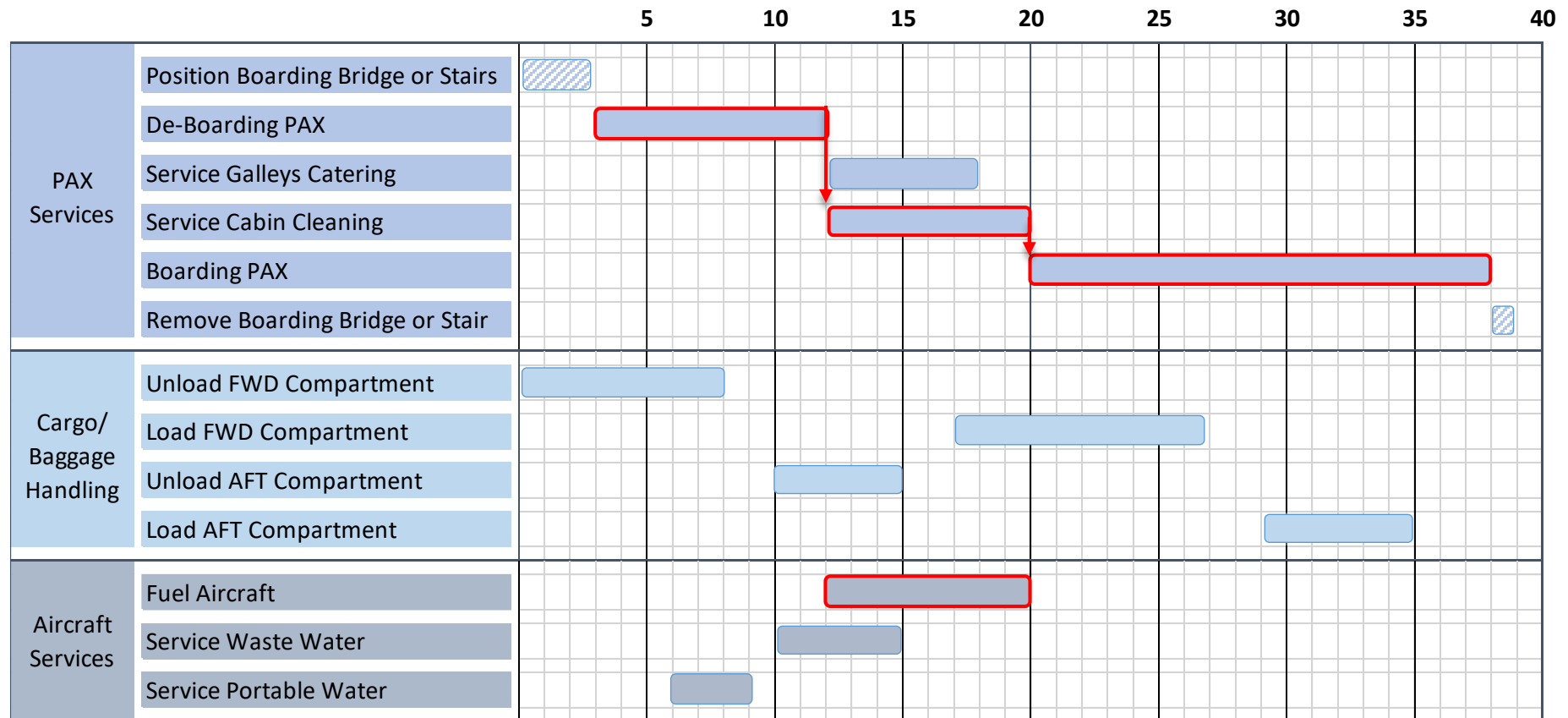
COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS



AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND | GROUND HANDLING SCHEME

BASELINE – PRE-COVID

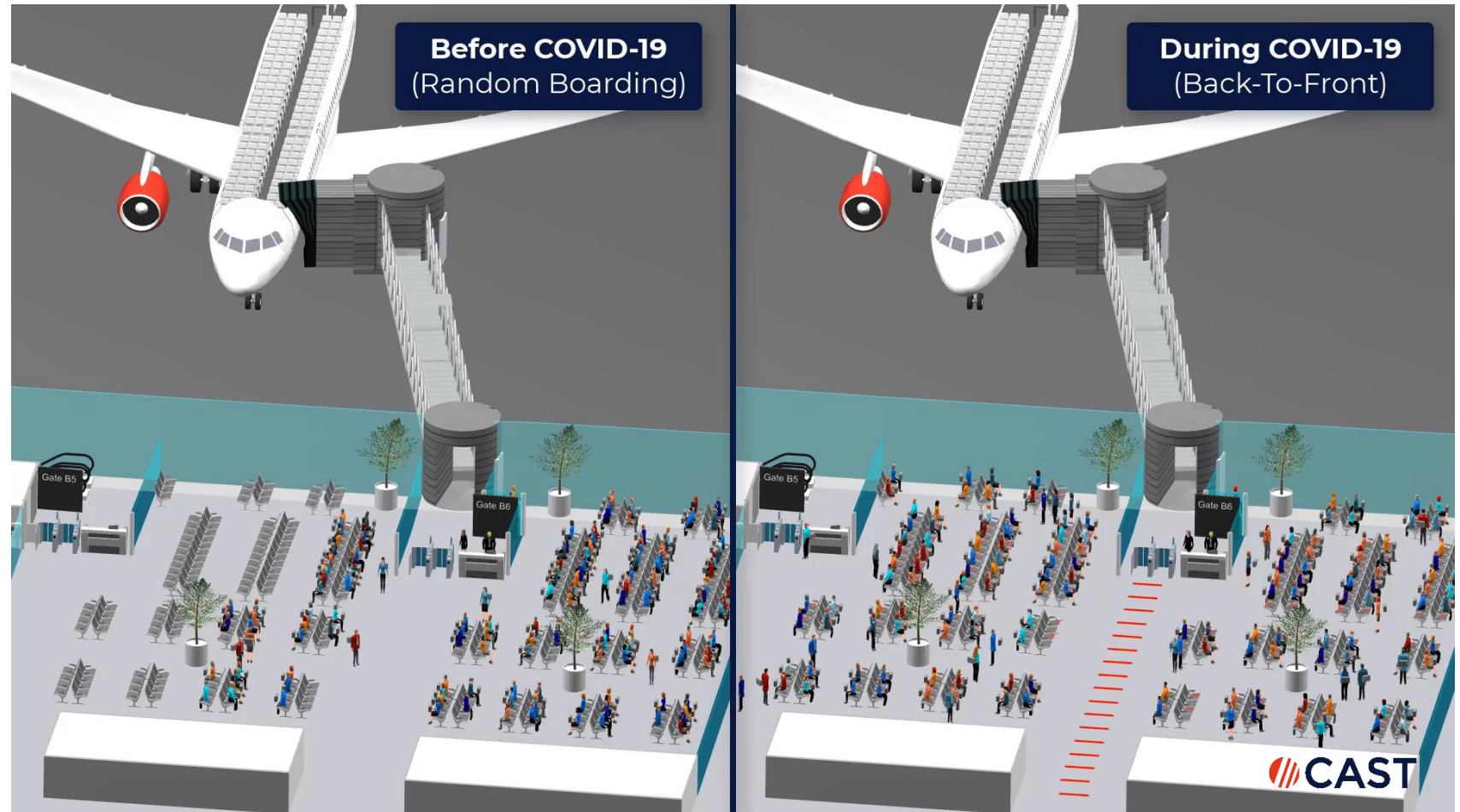
- › Example: Typical European flight, hybrid carrier, narrow body aircraft
- › Main focus of **critical path is within aircraft cabin**



AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND | BOARDING VIDEO

POTENTIAL BOARDING ISSUES

- > **Health check**, additional travel document check
 - lower throughput rate
- > **Back-to-front** boarding
 - less person contacts
 - less chances of taking a seat simultaneously
- > **Social distance** in cabin
 - increased time for storing hand luggage



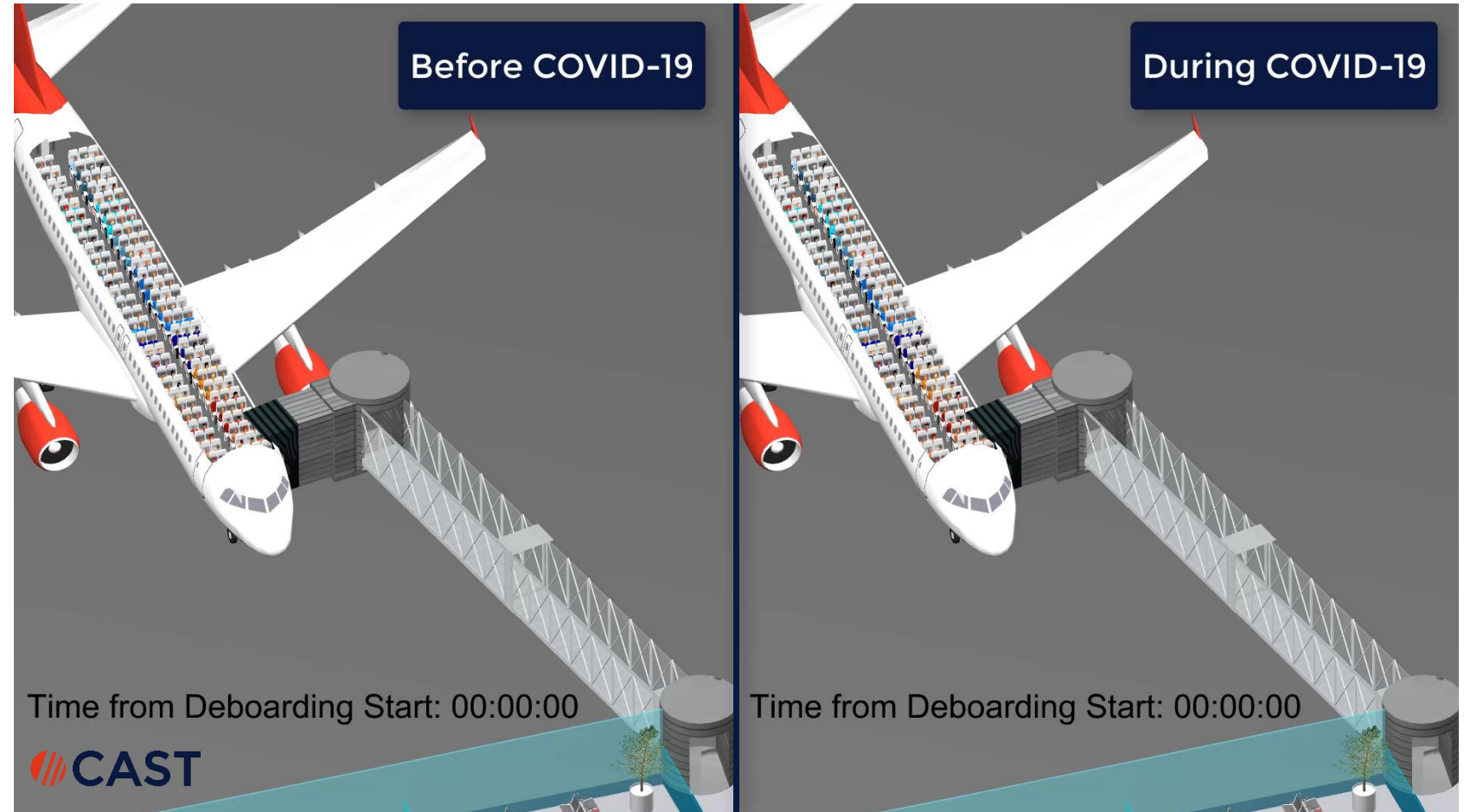
Video-Link: <https://youtu.be/V1sGkoymmj4>

Based on LF, luggage boarding principle the increase differs.
As a conservative approach 10 min increase could happen.

AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND | DEBOARDING

POTENTIAL DEBOARDING DELAY

- › Passengers **stay seated longer** to keep social distance.
- › But **no general change** in deboarding principle

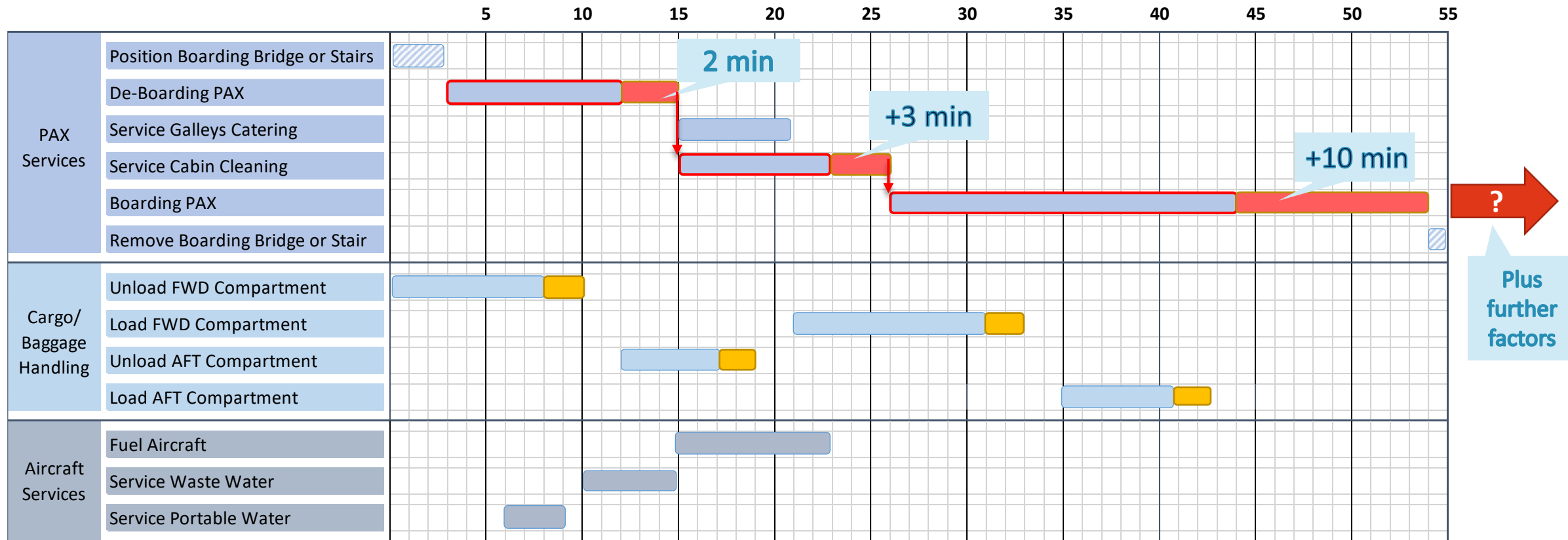


Video-Link: https://youtu.be/-yJs0Y_SltA

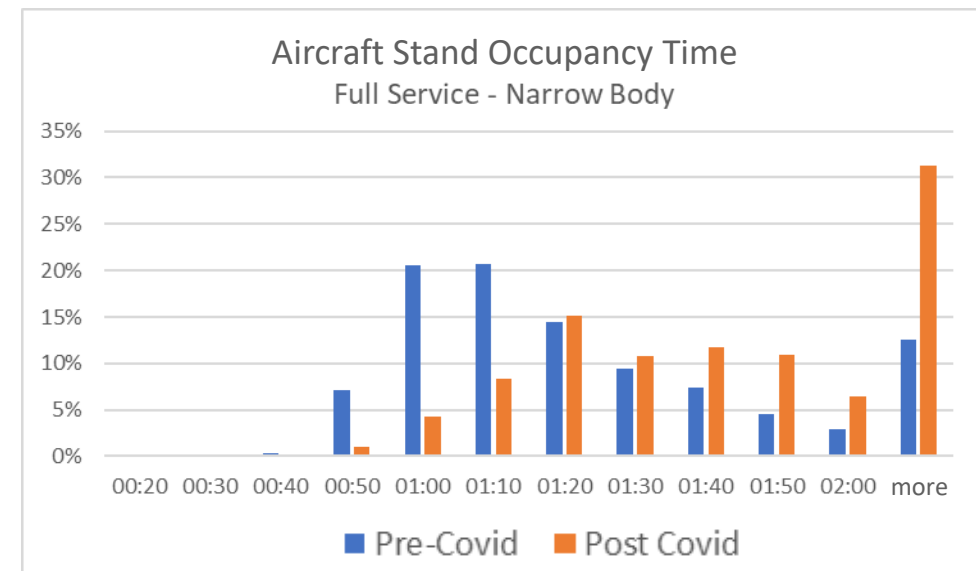
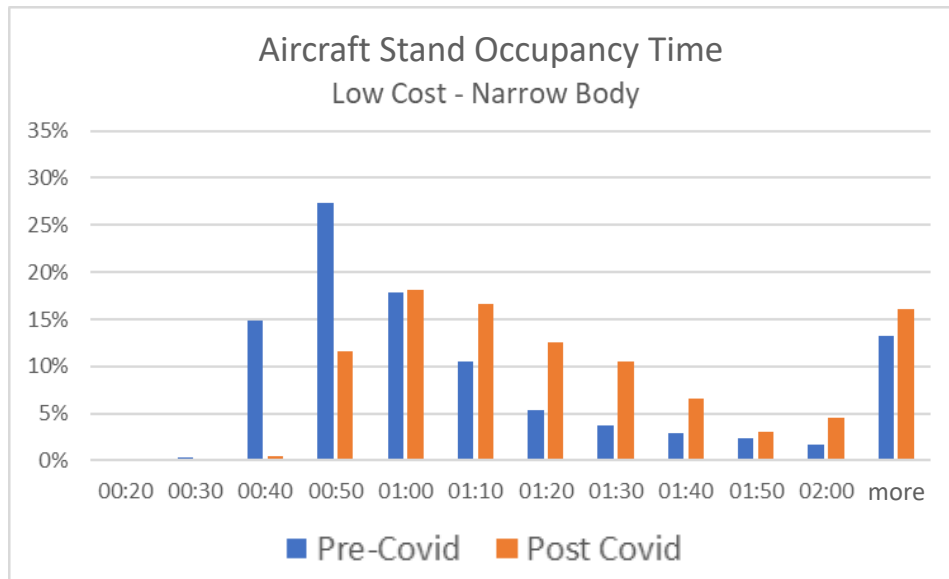
Deboarding process might be prolonged around 0 to 3 minutes.

AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND | IMPACT OF COVID-19

- › Typical European flight, hybrid carrier, narrow body aircraft
- › Example: aircraft turnaround **increases by around 15 minutes (from 40 to 55 minutes)**
- › Baggage loading/unloading can be longer as long as hand luggage is restricted.



STAND OCCUPANCY TIME ANALYSIS FOR NARROW BODY



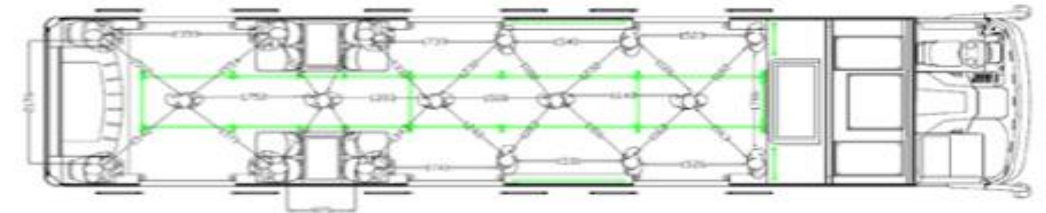
- Only a limited number affected by increased turn around (e.g. 50-75% of turnarounds > 50 min anyway)
- Longer stand occupancy time observed in reality has **other additional reasons**, e.g.
 - Less flights per aircraft per day
 - Early arrival due to empty airspace

Data Source: Analysis of past schedules of a major European hub

AIRCRAFT TURNAROUND | BUS HANDLING

CAPACITY OF BUS

- › Strict physical distancing: just **25 pax/bus**
150 pax: 6 busses instead of 2 !
- › Operationally unfeasible - trade-off: e.g. 50 pax/bus



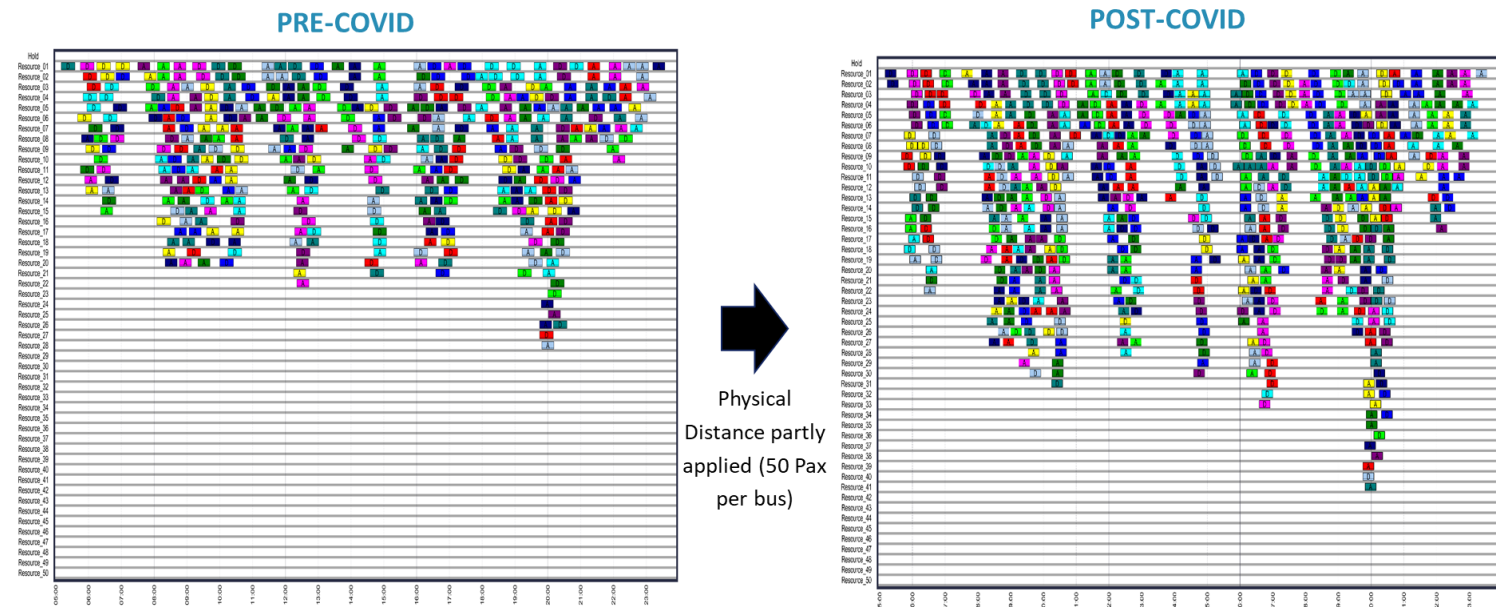
cobus-industries.de

BUS REQUIREMENTS

- › + 50% more buses for same traffic
- › → unlikely that airports invest now

SATURATION CAPACITY

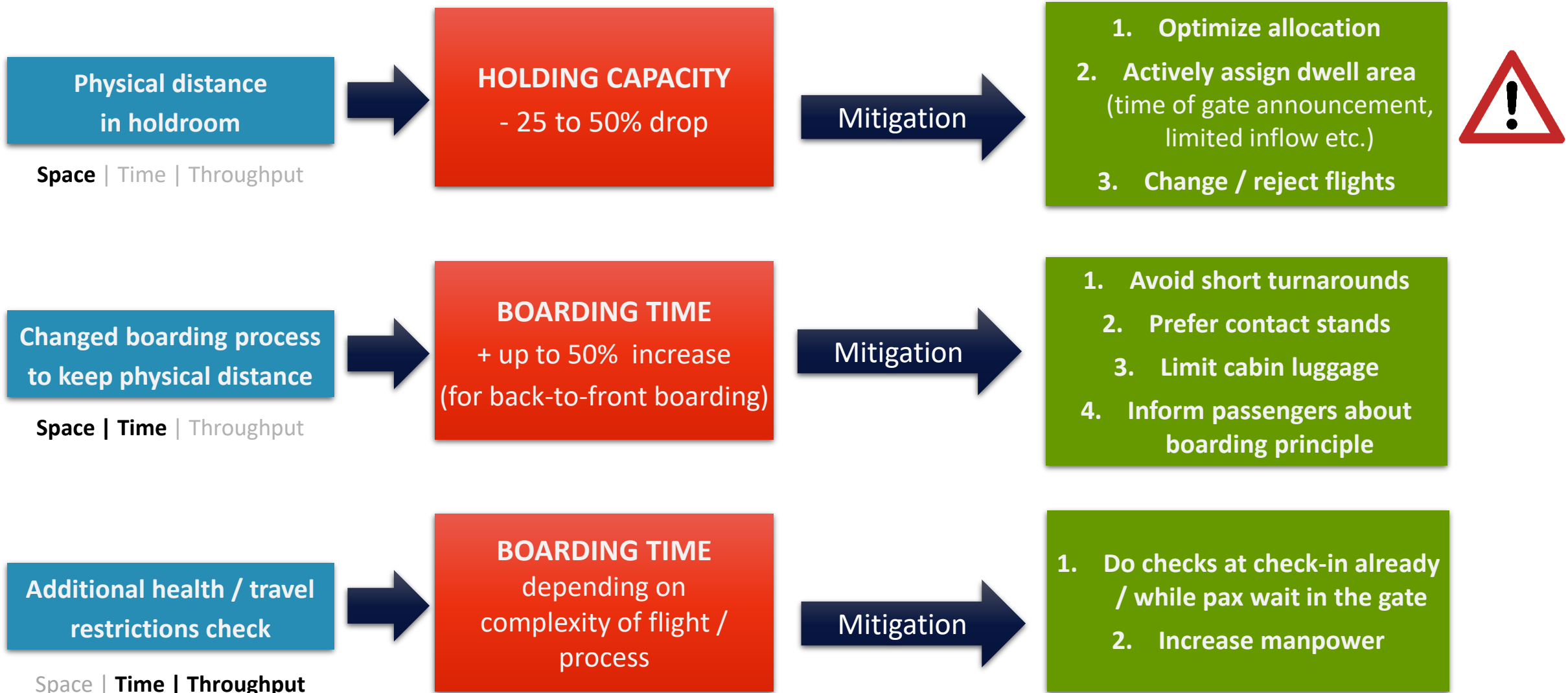
- › 70% of bus gate flights still manageable with existing buses



• Maximum of 28 buses needed

• Maximum of 41 buses needed → +47%

BOARDING GATES | IMPACT AND MITIGATION



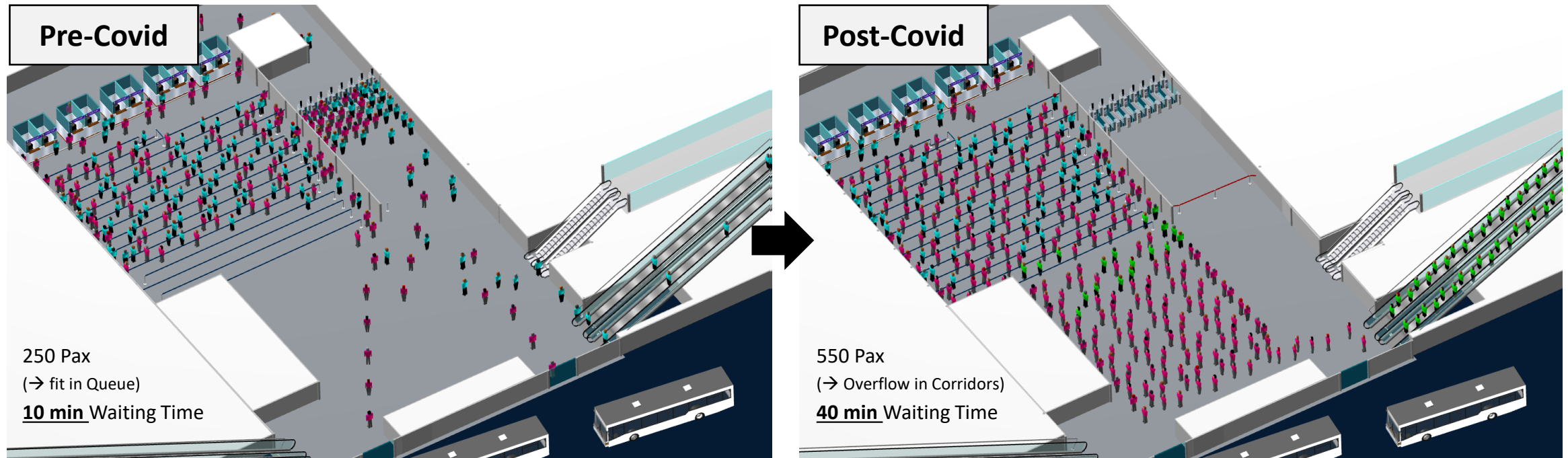
IMMIGRATION

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS

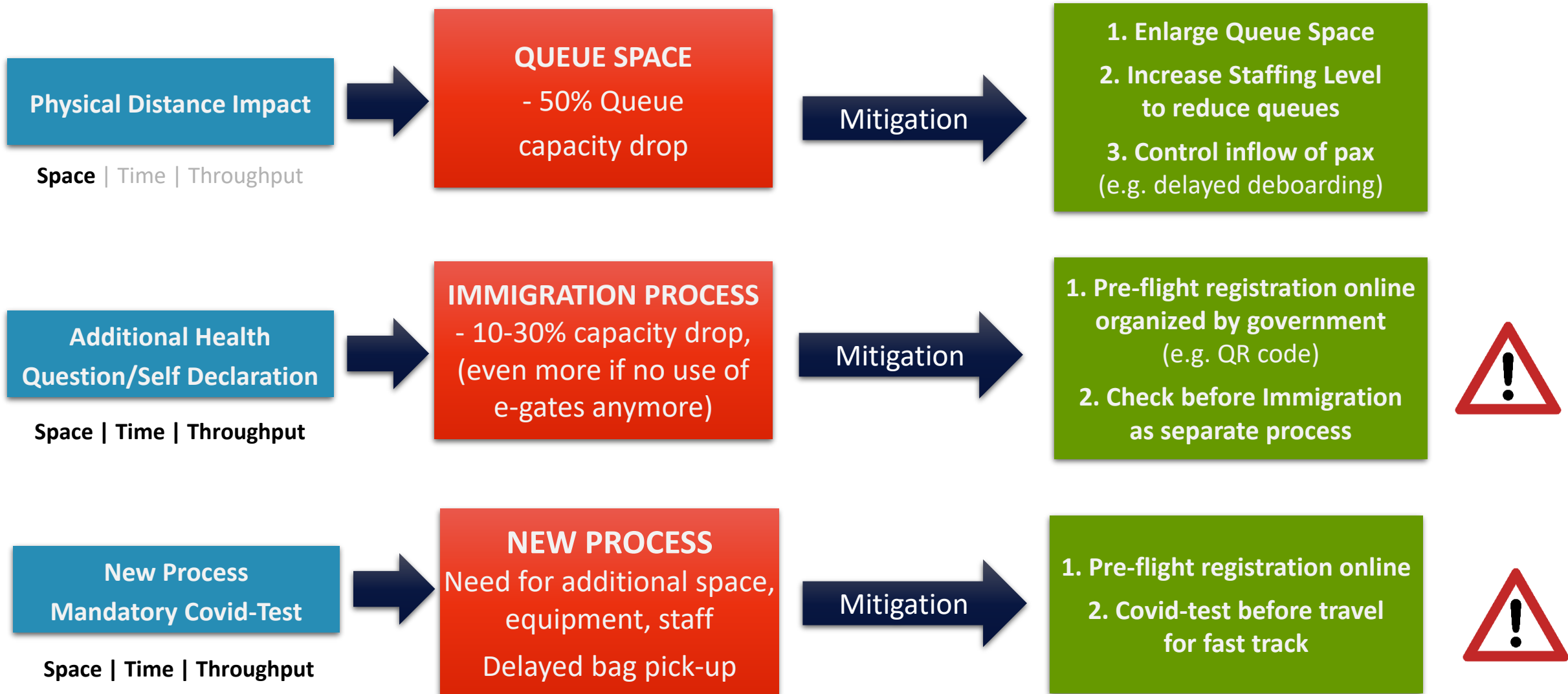


MANDATORY IMMIGRATION AT AGENT - NO SELF-SERVICE

- › Physical distance in queues requires more space
- › Any manual checks (health certificate / questions) not possible e-gates.
- › Thus, **all passengers** need to use **manned counters**.
- › → Saturation capacity of **50-75%** of NonSchengen flights



IMMIGRATION | IMPACT AND MITIGATION



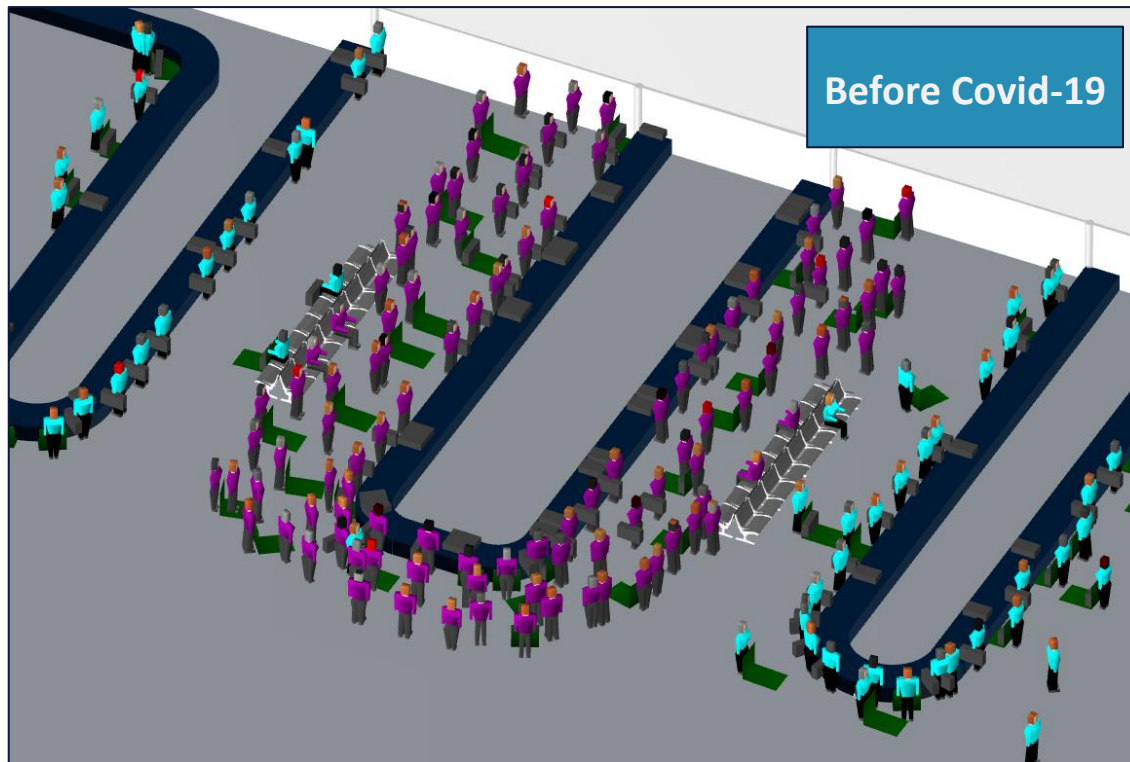
BAGGAGE RECLAIM

COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS

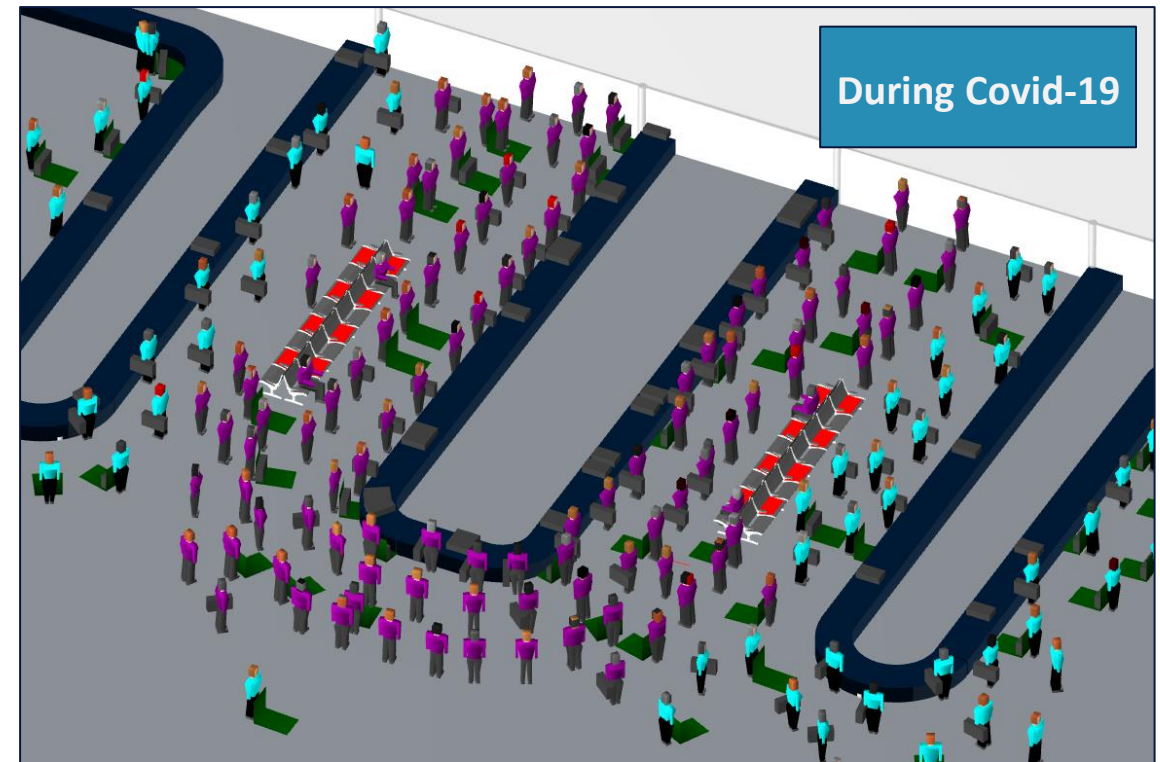


BAGGAGE RECLAIM | BELT WAITING SPACE (II)

- › Enlargement of required waiting space around belts for the same passenger number.
- › **Waiting areas overlap** for simultaneous allocations at neighboring belts.



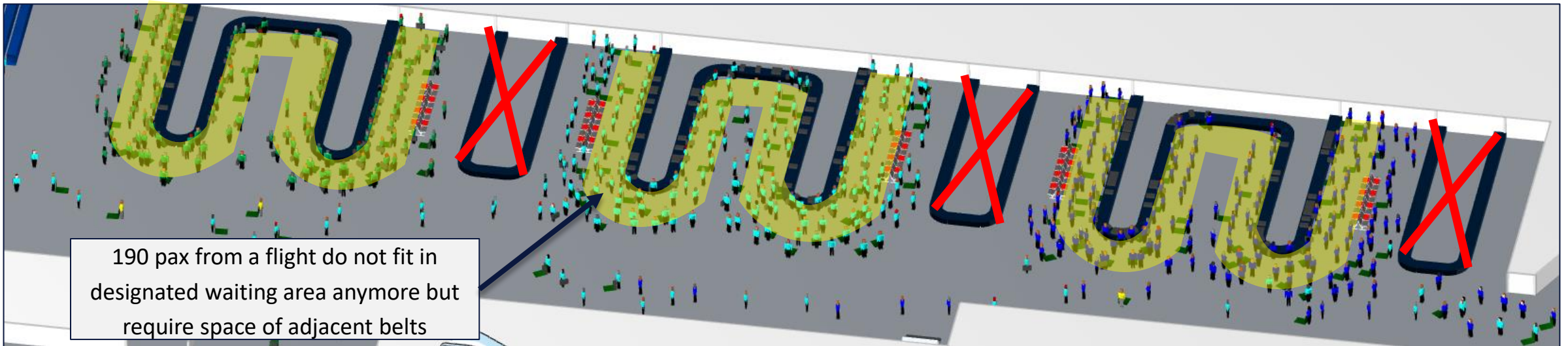
100 PAX wait in area ~3.5 m around belt



100 PAX waiting in area ~5 m around belt

GOOD PRACTICE

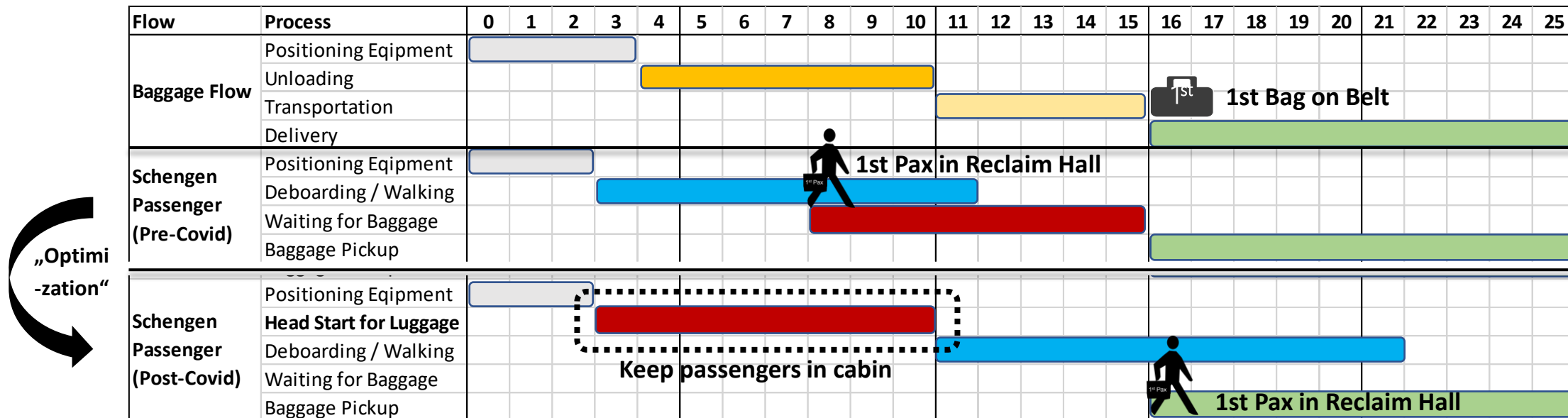
- › If traffic allows, allocate **large belts to narrow body** flights.
- › **Leave gaps** between simultaneous arrivals.
- › Let **groups** use overflow areas; **only one selected person** shall pick-up **at the belt**.



BAGGAGE RECLAIM | HEAD START FOR LUGGAGE

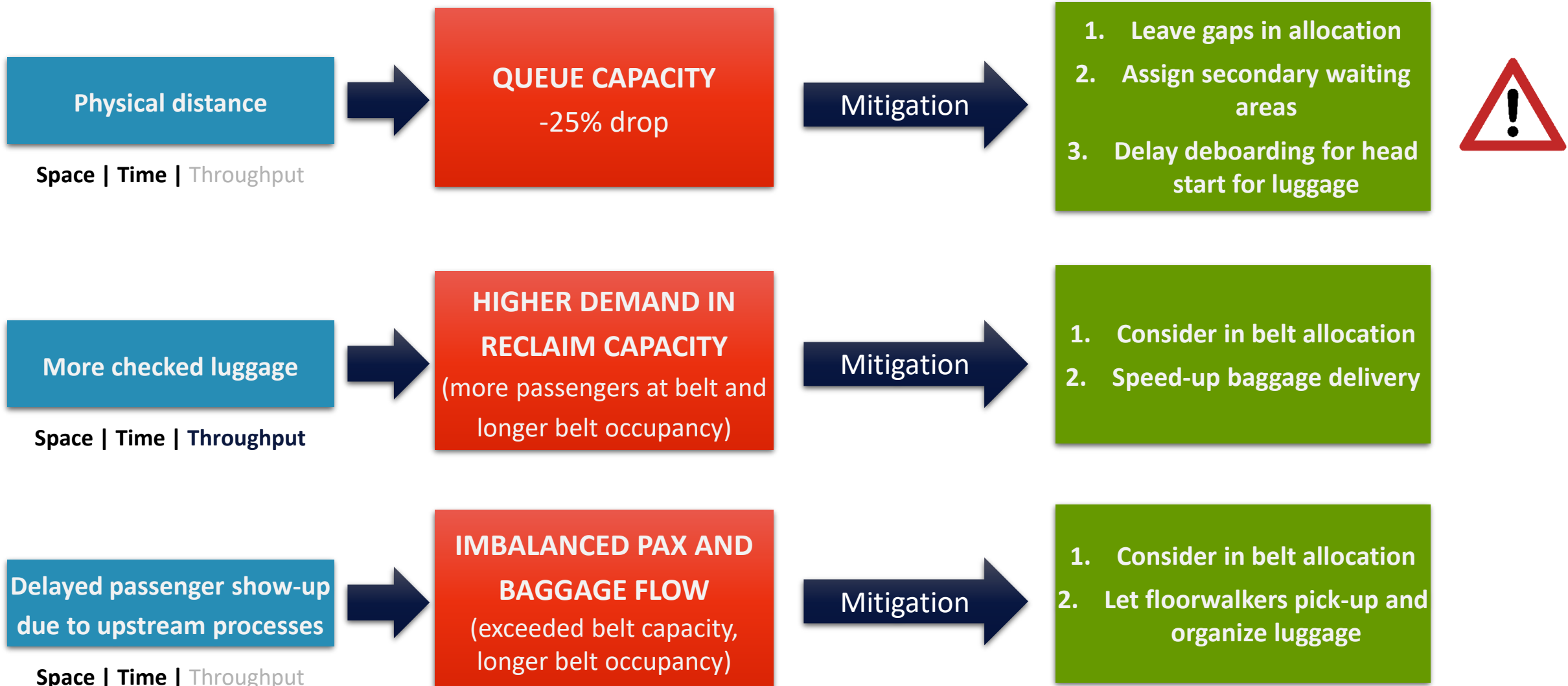
PASSENGER SHOW-UP VS BAGGAGE DELIVERY

- › Inside the baggage hall, pickup shall be ,come and go‘
- › → **Flights might be delayed**, if baggage hall gets overcrowded.



Post-Covid: Optimized Arrival Flow of Passengers and Bags

BAGGAGE RECLAIM | IMPACT AND MITIGATION



TRANSFER

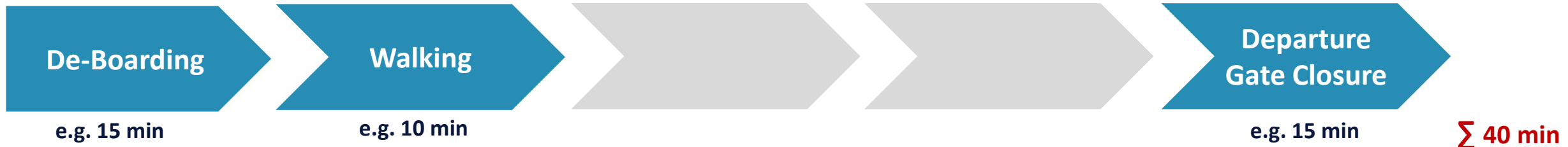
COVID-19 IMPACT ANALYSIS



TRANSFER | CHANGED PASSENGER FLOW („WHAT-IF“)

SCHENGEN → SCHENGEN

> Pre-Covid



> Post Covid: Potential Health Check (separate checkpoint)



> Post Covid: Potential Health Check at Immigration (→ mixing with other passengers)



INCREASED CONNECTION TIME REQUIREMENTS

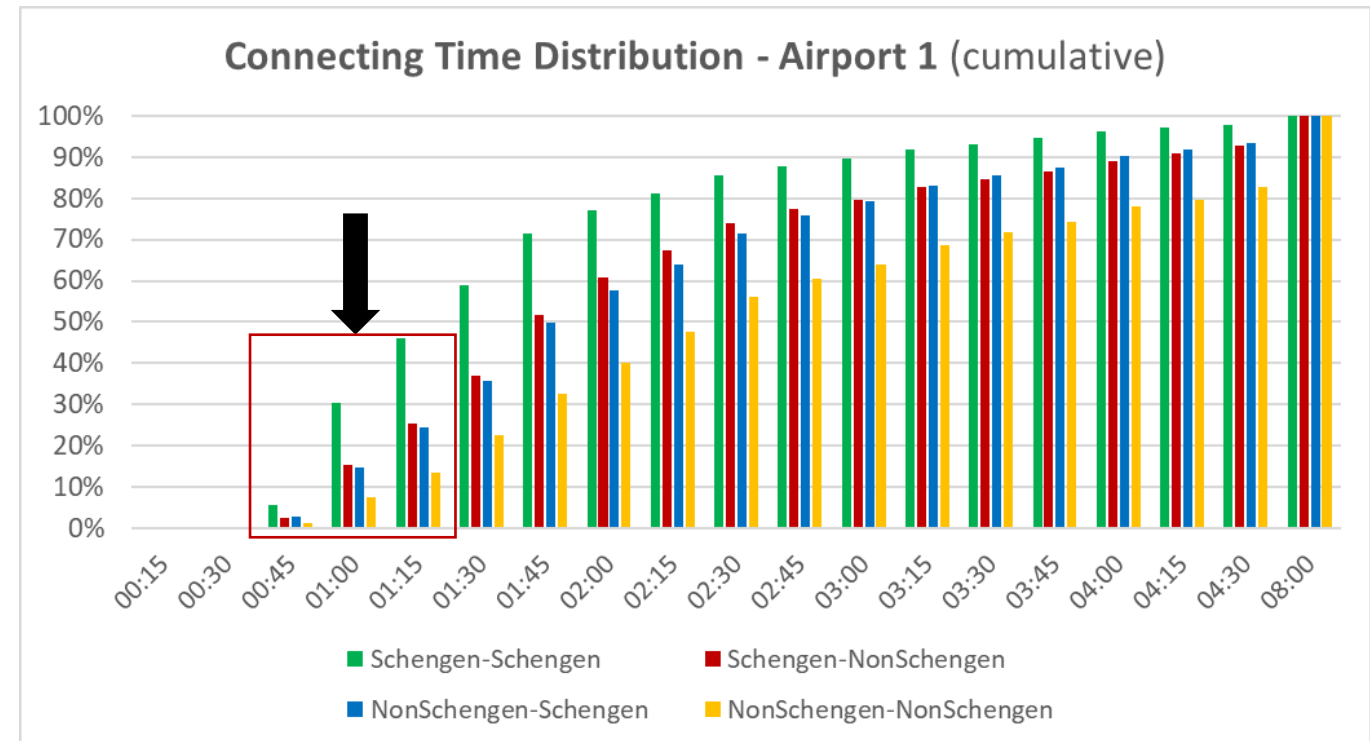
- › IF additional transfer processes are necessary → **MCT of 45 min** could turn into **60-75 min**.

ANALYSIS OF EXAMPLE HUB AIRPORT

- › **30-45%** transfer pax affected (< 1h15 connection time)

MITIGATION OPTIONS

- › Avoidance of unnecessary mixing with unclean passengers.
- › Efficient transfer checkpoints/fast track
- › Allocation to reduce walking time
- › Check at final destination ?



Example: Actual data from major European airport pre-covid

SUMMARY

TIME AND SPACE IMPACT ON ENTIRE PASSENGER JOURNEY

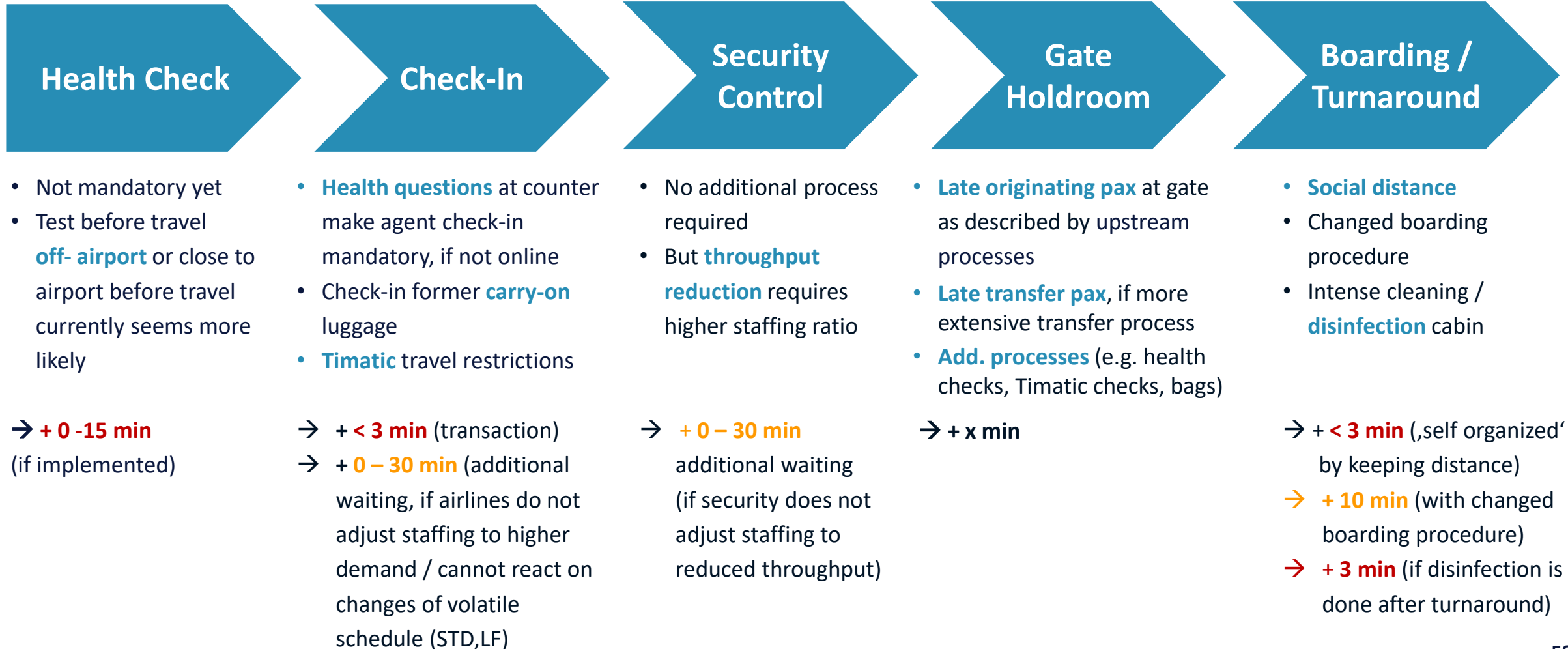


OVERALL IMPACT ON PASSENGERS' JOURNEY | TIME

WHERE DOES COVID 19 ADD TIME?

→ + Σ 0 to 10 min ...and more

Mandatory delay
Risk factor for delay



OVERALL IMPACT ON PASSENGERS' JOURNEY | SPACE

WHERE DOES COVID-19 REQUIRE MORE SPACE?

Mandatory space requirement
Risk factor for additional space requirement



Space req. depends on:

- Kind of check
- # flights or pax to check
- Process time
- Desired LoS

→ ,size“ tbd
 (if implemented)

- Physical distance in queues
- Earlier show-up of pax
- Higher demand at counters
- Adjustment of staffing or higher efficiency?

- +50% queuing space (with 1.5m SD)
- + 50% if staffing does not react adequately
- + XX Extra hold space early pax

- Physical distance in queues
- Lowered throughput
- Adjustment of staffing?

- +100% queuing space (with 1.5m SD and throughput reduction)
- + 100-200% queuing space if staffing does not react adequately

- No use of every other seat
- Social distance when standing / walking
- Space loss due to allocation constraints

→ + 35 -50% dwell area

- Social distance in boarding queue

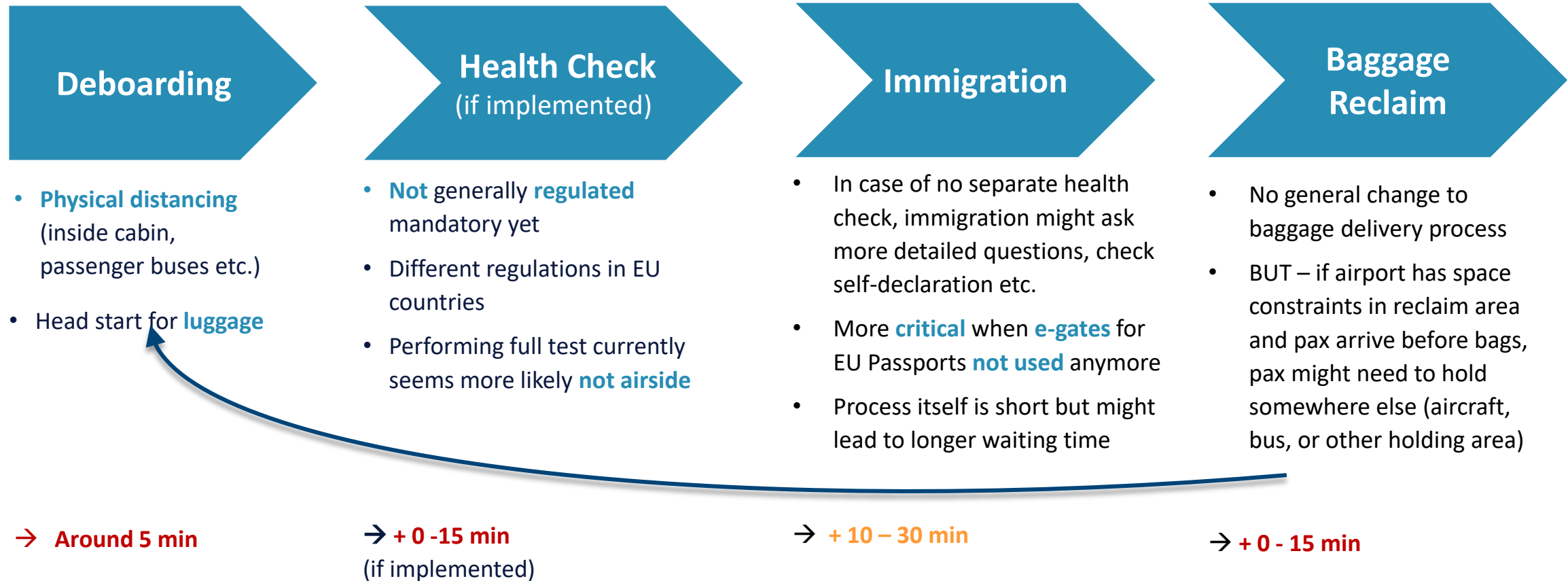
→ + 0-100% (depending how passengers are called to counter)

OVERALL IMPACT ON PASSENGERS' JOURNEY | TIME

WHERE DOES COVID 19 ADD TIME?

→ + Σ 5 to 20 min ...and more
Excluding health check

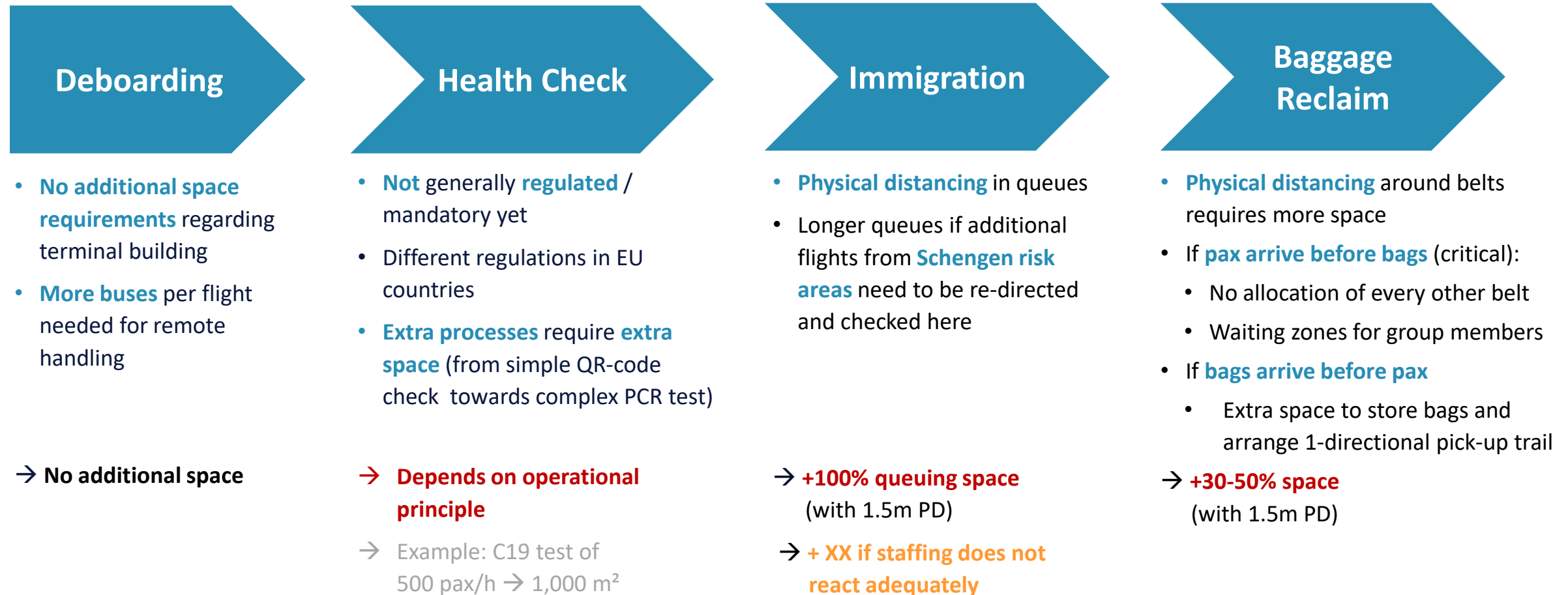
Mandatory delay
Risk factor for delay



OVERALL IMPACT ON PASSENGERS' JOURNEY | SPACE

WHERE DOES COVID 19 ADD SPACE?

Mandatory space requirement
Risk factor for additional space requirement



THANK YOU!

UTA KOHSE, MANAGING PARTNER
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