Tipping

This topic comes up quite often so we wanted to take this opportunity to address it directly.

"When the company books me a limo, is there a tip included in the fare?"

Unfortunately, the answer isn't always the same.

As we all are aware, the concept of gratuity is treated very differently around the world, what is very common and expected in the states is considered offensive in many other areas. In areas where a tip is customary, it is typical for the company to include a tip when booking ground transportation. However in areas where tipping is not customary it will not be. If you are unsure about the custom where you are operating search reputable travel sites or wikipedia for guidance.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gratuity

So, do I have to tip the van driver?

No, you should never feel obligated to tip. Furthermore, depending on where you are you shouldn't even consider it. However, if you are domestic you can assume that the company has included a tip. It is not uncommon for crewmembers to give an extra dollar or so to the drivers, but it is, of course, never required or expected.

What if I am paying for the transportation with my company card?

In some situations, you may find yourself where you or your captain are using your company card to pay for transportation, so another question is can we, or should we, use the company card to tip. While hopefully this comes up rarely, as in the vast majority of stations the company should book transportation, if you find yourself in this situation you can add a reasonable tip to the fare. What is reasonable is subjective, so use your best judgement based on where you are and what you tip. We hope this week's update was able to answer a small, yet persistent question, that commonly comes up. For further questions please contact your Hotel and Travel Committee at hotels@iap2750.org.