June 2013

2013A XML Message Suite

Schema Publication Release Notes

Contents

About the OpenTravel Alliance

OpenTravel provides the preferred open source XML standard for the travel and leisure industry.

The OpenTravel specification is used worldwide by travel industry suppliers, resellers, global distributors and integrators to meet customer and trading partner XML distribution demands.

As a travel industry specific (and membership-based) organization, our schema products are built by and for travel companies. The OpenTravel Specification is made publicly available for download (at no charge) typically twice a year.

By using OpenTravel schema in their message frameworks, implementers benefit from a consistent data exchange through the use of a standard communication method implemented by thousands of companies in the worldwide travel industry.

Our schema products cover numerous travel industry segments, including Air, Car, Hotel, Vacation Rental, Golf, Travel Insurance, Rail, Ground Transportation, Day Tours & Activities, Packaged Tours and Dynamic Packages. They are well suited for reservation systems, branded websites and other such information exchanges between trading partners.

Key Facts…

Company

- Membership funded, not for profit organization
- Founded in 1999
- Valyn Perini, CEO

Specification

- Open source
- Free for all implementers
- OpenTravel 1.0 XML Message Suite

The maturity of OpenTravel products—in combination with our specification adoption rate—provide OpenTravel implementers with an "interoperability" head start that allows them to transact with a broad base of trading partners while decreasing IT integration timeframes and cost.

For more information on OpenTravel membership, please visit our website at http://opentravel.org/Join/Default.aspx

Getting Started with the OpenTravel XML Message Suite

To help you prepare to use your OpenTravel schema product, follow these steps:

1. Read this document: You should review these notes for critical information, including new schema messages and changes to 2013A schema.

2. Refer to the *OpenTravel 2013A Schema Versioning* artifact (included in the publication download) to see the versions of all OpenTravel XML Message Suite schema, including schema messages that were enhanced as a part of this publication.

3. View the OpenTravel 1.0 XML Message Suite Schema Delta guide (included in the publication download) for an overview of differences (delta) in schema message functionality from the 2012B publication to the 2013A publication. For each corresponding 2012B and 2013A schema XSD, there is a link in the XML Message Suite Schema Delta guide to a browser-based file that contains the results of the schema comparison in output delta format.

4. All actioned 2013A specification (schema) comments and (new) OpenTravel 2013A project team work are included in this 2013A Publication.

Key OpenTravel Online Implementer & Member Resources

You can find the answers too many of your questions on the OpenTravel Implementers Forum website:

OpenTravel Implementers Forum

OpenTravel has an extensive discussion Forum to provide an implementation resource for users of its schema, called *the OpenTravel Forum*, which has all the functionality members expect from a full-featured discussion board, with forums for:

- Architecture
- Hospitality
- Transport
- Travel Services
- Tours and Activities
- Implementers Discussion

Members can post a question and get an answer from a moderator. Also included are OpenTravel documentation, mailing list subscription, events and announcements, and feedback boards, as well as the OpenTravel Showcase where companies that provide tools, services or technologies to assist in the implementation of OpenTravel schemas can post about their offerings. Note that priority support is provided to OpenTravel member company participants on the Implementers Forum.

Specification Comments

All implementers are welcome to submit comments to enhance the OpenTravel specification. Comments may be submitted at: http://opentravel.org/Specifications/CommentOnSpec.aspx

There are two types of comments that you can submit:

- Technical—proposes a minor change to one or more elements of an OpenTravel XML schema product, such as an XML message and/or an XML object or object library.

- Artifact—proposes a correction and/or addition to a schema supporting artifact, such as release notes or an OpenTravel Solution Scenario.

OpenTravel Project Teams & Workgroups

All OpenTravel members are welcome to participate in OpenTravel workgroups, which are neutral environments comprised travel industry experts that meet once per month or as needed to:

- Review and action open specification comments

- Review and accept new and enhanced schema from project teams

- Discuss emerging business requirements and how OpenTravel schema can be enhanced to address them

Each workgroup serves the needs of one or more associated travel industry segments that are supported by the OpenTravel Specification:

- Architecture: Underlying constructs (or architecture) of OpenTravel schema products, design patterns, solution scenarios and implementation best practices

- Hospitality: Hotel, Hostel, Vacation Rental and Cruise

- Transport: Air, Rental Car, Ground Transportation and Rail

- Travel Integration: Tours and Activities, Dynamic Packages, Travel Insurance, Golf and other shared services including Travel Itineraries, Loyalty Programs and Customer Profiles

All OpenTravel members are welcome to propose and join any **project team**. Project teams serve as the primary method for introducing major enhancements into OpenTravel schema products as these teams are formed to address a set of business-specific enhancements for the OpenTravel specification—such as merchandising offers. In addition to OpenTravel schema and XML components, project team work produces a variety of artifacts, including use cases, capability maps, process models, business glossary terms and solution scenarios.

New Schema

Common

- The Reviewer Information Project Team created two new OpenTravel 2013A 1.0 XML Schema message pairs. The goal of this project team was to create messaging to allow Reviews to be pushed or pulled from one system to another. Reviews are evaluations that are completed by guests after they use a product or service. The two message pairs are:
    - The OTA_ReviewsRQ/RS message set which is a pull message to request reviews for specified criteria with the ability to filter the response
    - The OTA_ReviewsNotifRQ/RS message set which is a push message used to push reviews for specified criteria.

  Both of these new message pairs were created with the intent to be used by hotels, but written in a generic format so that they can be used by other travel sectors with just minor enhancements.

Enhanced Schema

Air

- OTA_AirPriceRS message has been modified to include information concerning an airline private fare.
- In OTA_AirCommonTypes/SeatMapDetailsType the attributes StartingRow and EndingRow's type has been changed from a Numeric1to3 to a NumericStringLength1to3 to allow for up to 3 digit row numbers to be sent.

Hotel

- The BasicPropertyInfoType was added to OTA_HotelReservation at the ResGlobalInfo level to support reservations that are made for services only with no room booking.
- RoomTypeAllocation in OTA_HotelCommonTypes was modified to include a new element and 2 new attributes to allow for the exchange of room type allocation data including occupancy levels.
- Added a new element RatePlanInclusions of type RatePlanInclusionsType to OTA_HotelRatePlanNotifRQ/RatePlans/RatePlan to provide the ability to indicate whether or not tax is included.
- Added a new attribute MinOccupancy of type xs:positiveInteger to OTA_HotelContentDescription/HotelDescriptiveContentType/FacilityInfoType/GuestRooms/GuestRoom@MinOccupancy to provide the ability to indicate if a minimum occupancy applies to a room type.

- Added an optional attribute RoomStayGroupID of type StringLength1to32 to OTA_HotelAvailRS/RoomStays/RoomStay to pass an ID for a group of rooms which must be booked together.

Car

- The PaymentFormType was updated to include a BillingAccountName and BillingAccountAddress to identify billing contact information associated to a voucher.

- Added a new attribute AssocTerminalList of type ListOfStringLength1to32 to provide the ability to specify a terminal(s) within an airport to identify where a car rental counter is located.

Common

- A new enumeration was added to the PaymentCardCodeType of UP to allow for the indication of payment by China UnionPay.

- The POS (Point of Sale) element was added to the OTA_ProfileCreateRQ and OTA_ProfileMergeRQ messages

- A new attribute was added to the OTA_ProfileReadRS message to specify if the Group Days Apply Value can be used for a Voucher Billing Account.