November 2015

2015B 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

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 message changes to 2015B schema.

2. Refer to the *OpenTravel 2015B 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. All actioned 2015B specification (schema) comments are included in this 2015B Publication.

Key OpenTravel Online Implementer & Member Resources

You can find the answers to 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.

Enhanced Schema

Common

- Two enumerations CancelDeadlineDate and PaymentDeadlineDate were added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests/HotelReadRequest/SelectionCriteria/DataType to indicate the cancel or payment deadline dates.
- An optional element LoyaltyAccountReadRequest was added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests to allow for the retrieval of a loyalty account.
- An optional element UniqueID of type UniqueID_Type was added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests/ LoyaltyAccountReadRequest to allow for the unique ID of the loyalty system to be sent.
- An optional element CustLoyalty was added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests/ LoyaltyAccountReadRequest to allow for customer loyalty information to be used for the loyalty account retrieval.
- An optional attribute @ProgramID was added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests/LoyaltyAccountReadRequest/CustLoyalty to allow for identification of the company owner of the loyalty program.
- An optional attribute @MembershipID was added to OTA_ReadRQ/ReadRequests/LoyaltyAccountReadRequest/CustLoyalty to allow for retrieval using the unique identifier of the member in the program.
- Made the OTA_ProfileReadRS/UniqueID element optional to accommodate systems that do not have a unique external ID.

Loyalty

- Made the OTA_LoyaltyAccountRS/AccountInfo element optional so a system can choose which info it would like to return.
- Changed the annotation on OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRQ to indicate that this message can be used for both certificate and points redemption.
- An optional attribute @RedemptionStatus was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRQ to indicate the status of the points redemption represented by the message.
- An optional attribute @RedemptionQuantity was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRQ/RedemptionInfo/RedemptionDetail to indicate the quantity of points needed for the redemption.
- An optional attribute @RedemptionQuantityType with enumerations of Total and Change was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRQ/RedemptionInfo/RedemptionDetail to indicate the type of redemption quantity.
- An optional attribute @RedemptionConfirmationID was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRQ/RedemptionInfo/RedemptionDetail to be able to communicate the confirmation number for the existing redemption.

- Changed the annotation on OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRS to indicate that this message can be used for both certificate and points redemption.

- An optional element RedemptionInfo was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRS with an optional attribute @RedemptionConfimationID to allow for the loyalty system to return a redemption confirmation number to be used in subsequent modifications or cancellation of the points redemption.

- An optional attribute @PointBalance was added to OTA_LoyaltyCertificateRedemptionRS/RedemptionInfo to specify the adjusted point balance for a loyalty account.

Hotel

- An optional attribute @AutoEnrollmentIndicator was added to OTA_HotelRatePlan to indicate that booking the rate plan will result in auto enrollment in loyalty program.

- An optional attribute @AccrualIndicator of type xs:boolean was added to OTA_HotelRatePlan/HotelRatePlanType to indicate whether or not the rate plan is eligible for loyalty points accrual.