

Implementing TOPAS and TORIX

Tour Operator Product Availability Standard Tour Operator Reservations in XML

DATE:

Wednesday
8 December
2004

VENUE:

Association of
British Travel
Agents

68-71 Newman St
London
W1P 4AH

Nearest
Underground:
Goodge Street
Tottenham Ct Rd
Oxford Circus

TOPAS and TORIX are two new standards that have been launched this year by the Travel Technology Initiative. Each is designed to improve the efficiency of particular travel industry electronic distribution processes that rely on data interchange. However, the benefits can only be realised if the standards are adopted. The more they are used by the industry, the greater the benefit for all. Thus, TTI's Winter Forum is concerned with implementing TOPAS and TORIX. The objective of the Forum is to be sufficiently technical that it will provide delegates with the confidence to embark on a project utilising either of the standards. The Forum will, therefore, deal with the mechanics of implementing each standard as well as business questions such as cost and timing.

As will be seen in the programme over the page, the Forum has been organised into two

sessions, one for each standard. Each session will begin with a presentation setting the scene: explaining the background to the development of the standard, its objectives and the benefits that are expected to be achieved. The presentations will also provide an introduction to implementation.

Following each presentation, there will be a panel session that will give you the opportunity to ask specific questions about implementation. As will be seen overleaf, the panellists are representatives of both commercial travel companies and technology providers, both of whom share in the responsibility for successful roll-out. The panellists are experts in their own fields and should be able to address all of the questions that will be asked. However, should questions require further consideration, TTI will undertake to respond after the event, ensuring that every delegate gets maximum value from the Forum.

If your organisation is considering adopting either of these standards, now or sometime in the future, then you simply must attend TTI's Winter Forum 2004.

THE SPONSORS

TTI wishes to extend its warm thanks to the following sponsors whose generous support has made it possible to organise this Forum:

Anite



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- 10:45 Registration and Coffee**
- 11:15 Presentation - Introducing TOPAS**
Chris Smith, Development Manager - First Choice Business Systems, First Choice Mainstream Holidays
- 11:45 TOPAS Implementation Panel Session**
Simon Powell, Chief Executive Comtec Europe Ltd

Peter Healey, Chief Executive The Vertical Group

Chris Smith, Development Manager First Choice Business Systems First Choice Holidays PLC

Neil Smith, Senior Applications Consultant MyTravel UK Limited

Photos Georgas, Manager - Technical Architecture TUI UK
- 12:45 Buffet Lunch**

- 13:45 Presentation - Introducing TORIX**
Neil Smith, Senior Applications Consultant MyTravel UK Limited
- 14:15 TORIX Implementation Panel Session**
Steve Dobson, Director of Technical Development Anite Travel Systems

Tom Steele, Technical Director Bluesky Travel Systems

Chris Smith, Development Manager First Choice Business Systems First Choice Holidays PLC

Neil Smith, Senior Applications Consultant MyTravel UK Limited

Monica Howat, Senior Data Architect TUI UK
- 15:15 Close followed by refreshments**

Moderator: Paul Richer, Genesys

(It may be necessary, for reasons beyond our control, to alter the content or timing of the programme.)

ABOUT THE STANDARDS

TOPAS - Tour Operator Product Availability Standard - has been devised to pass product availability from tour operators to the data scanning organisations that provide travel agents with product search systems.

Traditionally, the data scanning organisations have used Viewdata to conduct thousands of availability searches on tour operator reservation systems. They have then collated this scanned data and made it available to travel agents via quick to search database systems.

TOPAS makes the cumbersome process of Viewdata scanning redundant. Instead, tour operators are now automatically building availability files in the TOPAS format that are passed to the data scanning organisations. A single standard means that this data can be handled by all parties with maximum efficiency and lowest cost.

TORIX - Tour Operator Reservations in XML. Many predict that the creation of this new standard heralds the death of Viewdata. It is designed to overcome that ancient technology's severe limitations, providing a standard set of messages for passing descriptive and booking data.

TORIX will allow tour operators to trade electronically via 3rd parties in an efficient manner which has simply not been possible with Viewdata, whether these 3rd parties are high street travel agents or online intermediaries.

It will offer travel agents a more sophisticated way of booking tour operator products. Whereas Viewdata has always been limited by its screen display, TORIX will allow tour operators to provide travel agency systems with comprehensive product information and sophisticated bookability.

REGISTRATION

To register, please return the coupon below *(by 1 December, please)* with your cheque (if non-TTI member) to:
Travel Technology Initiative, c/o Rowden Farm, Brentor, Tavistock, PL19 0NG, United Kingdom
Telephone enquiries and fax: 0870 904 1521 email bookings: admin@tti.org

I would like delegate(s) to attend and enclose a cheque made payable to Travel Technology Initiative.

- TTI members - 2 free delegates per executive member, 1 free delegate per associate/academic member/trade body
- Additional TTI member delegates and Unicorn licence holders £50 + VAT (£58.75)
- ABTA/AITO/BITOA/CIMTIG/ETOA/IFITT/OTA/TUA members £75 + VAT (£88.13).
Please Indicate organisation & membership no. (if applicable)
- Others £195 + VAT (£229.13). *Conference fees paid by non-TTI members will be credited against annual membership.*

NamePosition

CompanyTelephone

EmailFax

Address

Names of other delegates (source: Genesys)