

# Work Group Updates



**BEYOND  
THE TRAVEL  
TRANSACTION**



**2008 ADVISORY FORUM  
APRIL 14-16  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

# Architecture Work Group Update

David Morley, Marriott International



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# Agenda

- Looking Back
  - Collaboration Wiki
  - Implementation Guide
    - Security Reference Guide
- Looking Forward
  - Reliable Messaging
    - Type X Message Guidance
  - Conversation Management
  - PCI Survey
  - OpenTravel 2.0
    - Namespaces, Tool Support, Internationalization, DataDictionary, TPA\_Extensions



# Wiki

- The Wiki was piloted by Architecture in early 2007.
- Brought online in 2007 just before the last advisory forum.
- Since then has seen considerable success as a collaboration tool for the various working groups.
- Official repository for much of the OpenTravel work product
  - Implementation Guide
  - Project Team Documentation



# Implementation Guide

- Pulled together the reference guides from previous years into an integrated document.
  - HTTP, SOAP, WSDL
- Added a new Security Reference Guide
  - Based upon WS-Security
    - Illustrated Subset (Username-Token-Profile)
- Free to Members
  - Collection of insights and an agreed best practice from across the member community.
  - Available from the Wiki
    - [http://wiki.opentravel.org/index.php/Members:OpenTravel\\_Implementation\\_Guide](http://wiki.opentravel.org/index.php/Members:OpenTravel_Implementation_Guide)



# Reliable Messaging

- Reviewed and studied various options
  - WS-RM, WS-Reliability, IATA Type-X, Member owned Proprietary Standards.
  - Type-X offers the most stable solution at this time.
    - Now an open standard
  - Other options still being investigated.
- A survey of current practices is due in Q2 2008.
  - Responses will be anonymous but sorted by travel sector.
- Working on a Type-X Reference Guide
  - We are working with IATA to demonstrate an OpenTravel Air message over Type-X.
  - To be added to the Implementation Guide



# Conversation Management

- Investigating and assessing various options
  - OASIS WS-\*
- Looking for a simple solution
- A Reference Guide based on existing OpenTravel Message Payload
  - OTA\_PayloadStdAttributesGroup
- Survey due in Q2 2008 to assess current industry practices and member requirements.



# PCI Study

- Understanding the effects of PCI Compliance on the OpenTravel Messages.
  - Do we need change? If so what?
- Not currently intended to produce any immediate recommendations but build an awareness of the issues within the Architecture Group.



# OpenTravel 2.0

- Tool Support
  - Tools are mature and useful, but still have issues.
  - Identify the biggest difficulties they have with our specification and address them
    - Without impacting the instances.
- DataDictionary
  - Going beyond the message set, to support customers who want to create their own messages.
    - Publish a reference set of messages (similar to what we have now)
  - Schema Review
    - Deconstruct existing messages into components then rebuild them using a harmonized set of types.
  - Service Frameworks
    - Entity vs. Activity
    - SOAP and REST are not mutually exclusive philosophies
  - Interoperability with other specifications



# OpenTravel 2.0

- Namespaces
  - Data Segregation
    - Industry Sector
  - Version Management
    - Major and/or Minor version Releases
  - Identify Industry practices
- TPA\_Extensions
  - Create a single TPA\_Extension area in each message rather than scatter them across the messages in an ad-hoc fashion.
  - Retrofitted to OpenTravel 1.X
- Internationalization
  - Multi-lingual responses
    - Elements instead of attributes (repeatability of the node)
  - Reference Code samples
  - Currency Conversions
  - Different Business Models



# Hospitality Work Group Projects

2007A, 2007B and 2008A



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# Intro to HWG

- Chairs
  - Lew Harasymiw, SynXis
  - Sandy Angel, Marriott International
- Hotels and Cruise lines
- Scheduled meetings
  - Face to face meetings
  - Regular monthly calls
  - Project team break-out calls
  - Comment calls



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# Overview

- 2007A
  - Promotional Offers Project
- 2007B
  - Rate Plan Enhancements Project
- 2008A
  - Content Distribution
  - Post Event Report
- 2008B



# 2007A Project

- Promotional Offers Project
  - Added an offers structure in the OTA\_HotelRatePlanNotifRQ to allow for the communication of promotional offer data
  - Sponsor: Klaus Blass AxisData



# Overview

- 2007A
  - Promotional Offers Project
- 2007B
  - Rate Plan Enhancements Project
- 2008A
  - Content Distribution
  - Post Event Report
- 2008B



# 2007B Project

- Rate Plan Enhancements Project
  - Resulted in a new message set:
  - OTA\_RatePlanRQ/RS
  - Allows systems to query each other for existing rate plan information and added support for derived rates
  - Sponsor: Lew Harasymiw SynXis



# Overview

- 2007A
  - Promotional Offers Project
- 2007B
  - Rate Plan Enhancements Project
- 2008A
  - Content Distribution
  - Post Event Report
- 2008B



# 2008A Projects

- Content Distribution
  - Study to provide more description information and control of content within existing OpenTravel messages and potential future messages
  - Sponsors
    - Bonnie Lowell Starwood
    - Cheryl Davidson Pegasus



# 2008A Projects

- Post Event Report Project
  - Requirements Definition of post event reports with a focus on mapping the requirements to existing OpenTravel structures
  - New schema development is anticipated for 2008B
  - Sponsor
    - EJ Siwek CIC/APEX



# Overview

- 2007A
  - Promotional Offers Project
- 2007B
  - Rate Plan Enhancements Project
- 2008A
  - Content Distribution
  - Post Event Report
- 2008B



# 2008B Projects

- Potential Projects
  - Content Distribution Study Continuation
  - Onward Distribution Schemas
  - Post Event Report Schemas
  - Cruise Group Booking Requirements
  - Others?
- Meeting on Thursday 8:30 AM



# Thank You!

- A big **THANK YOU** to all the people who contributed to each of these projects. Your time and your dedication are greatly appreciated!



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# Transport Work Group Update

Vicki BiasBurrell Continental Chair

David Rosenberg Avis Budget Co-chair



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# Transport- Air Sector

2007A – 2008A  
Overview



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# 2007A- 2008A

- Maintenance period
- Comments Resolved
  - 2007A- 120
  - 2007B- 87
  - 2008A- 54 to date



# Transport- Car Sector

2007A – 2008A  
Overview



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# 2007A

- Specification Review
  - Reorganize
  - Streamline
  - Refactor for reuse
- Resolved 89 Comments



# 2007B

- Developed Rule Details Notification Message
- Developed Rate Details Notification Message



# 2008A

- Maintenance period
- Face to face meeting following the Advisory Forum



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# Travel Integration Work Group

2007B/2008A Projects:

Tour Messages

BackOffice Messages

2008B Project:

Vacation Message



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# Tour Messages

- Tour Information Notif
- Tour Search
- Tour Availability

Participants: Adventure Central, Adventure Engine,  
Peak 15 Systems, TTI and Viator



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# Back Office Messages

- Project Study (2007B)
- Schema Development (2008A)

Participants: Air Canada, Amadeus, ARC, Continental Airlines,  
Dovel Technologies, Open Jaw, Sabre, and Worldspan



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# Vacation Message

- Project for 2008B.

Sponsor: US Airways Vacations



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# New Project Roundtables



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# Objectives

- Meet like-minded companies for collaboration
- Determine messaging goals
- Define a possible project
- Identify participants here and potential participants who aren't here
- Create a project proposal
- Set up timetable for calls
- Get the work done!

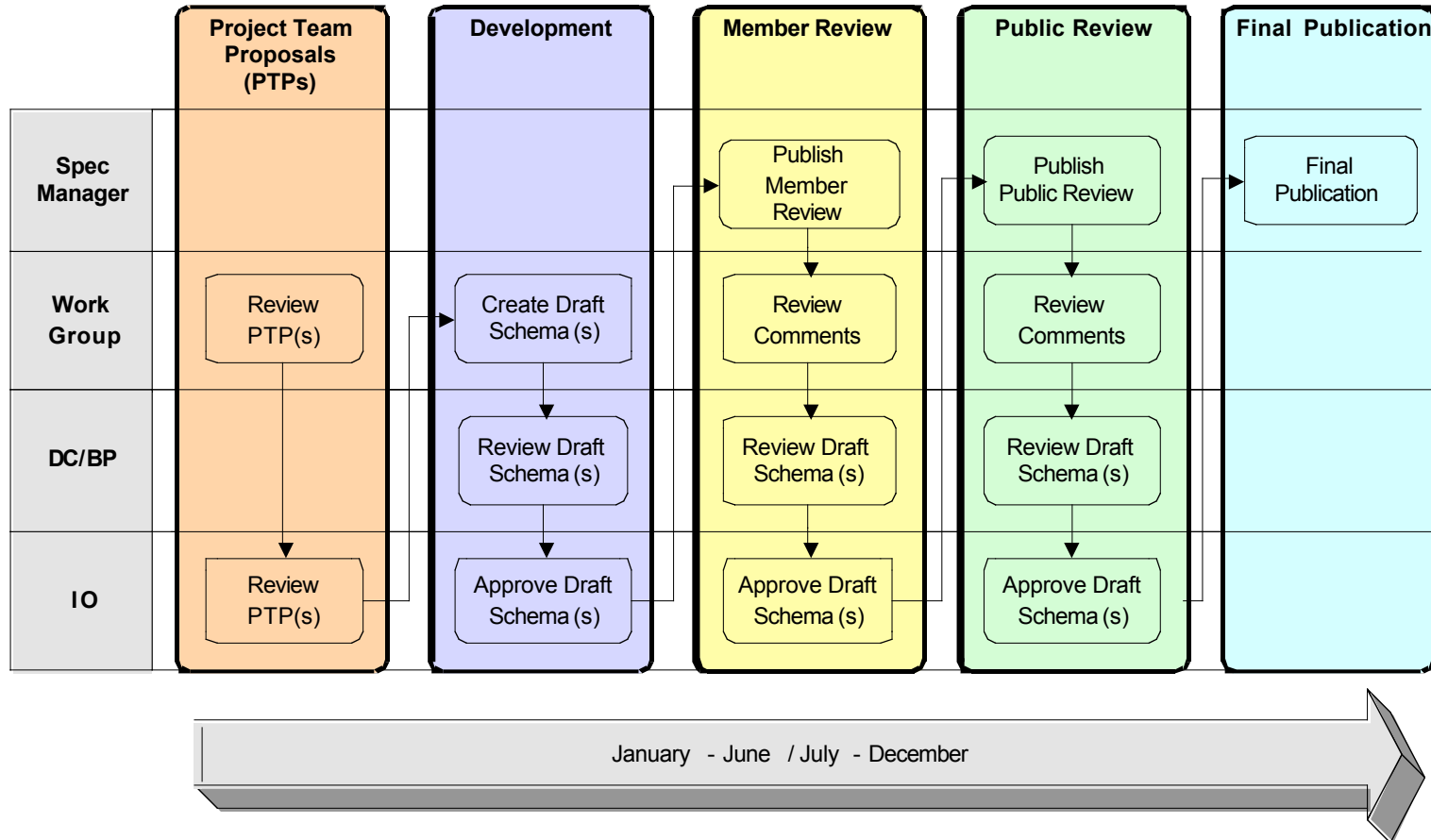


# Process

- Tables set up for discussions
- Pick your topic
- Bring your messaging needs to the table
- Find common ground
- Project proposal forms and 2008B calendars at each table
- An OpenTravel member or staff at each table to help facilitate



# OpenTravel Release Process



# Project Team Proposals

- Members suggest projects and find other members who need the same work
- Project team members create the PTP (with assistance from spec managers)
- PTP is a 3-4 page document outlining the business problem and describing the work to be done to solve that problem
- Project can be a study, business requirements definition or actual schema development
- Work groups and IO approve project and work begins



# Project Topics

- Packaging/Tours
- Content Distribution
- Mobile
- Timeshare
- Vacation Home/Villa/Apartment Rental
- Payment
- Mid- and Back-Office
- Cruise
- APEX Post-Event Reporting



# Follow Up

- Sign up sheet at each table
- Staff will review notes from each discussion
- Will reach out via email to participants
- Determine if there is enough interest to create a project team and start work!



# Project Topics

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