

AUGUST 2018



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## Enabling the Future With OpenTravel Monthly News

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### Summer Update on OpenTravel News

Summer is coming to a close, and it has been a busy few months for **OpenTravel**, which has been active in several travel industry events.

OpenTravel showed its presence in Houston, Texas June 18–21 at **HITEC** (Hospitality Industry Technology Exposition and Conference), the world's largest hospitality technology show, hosted by **HFTP®** (Hospitality Financial and Technology Professionals).

During the conference, OpenTravel hosted a Tech Talk workshop on the 2.0 Object Model release. Tech Talk speakers presented successful use cases enabled by the 2.0 Object Model. Attendees represented developers, technology consultants and business executives seeking more advanced software tools to power their company and client APIs and distribution partnerships.



Additionally, OpenTravel participated in a panel discussion on the "Digital Journey" of passengers — specifically, changes during the past several years and how the travel industry will continue to evolve in the future to address challenges. Particular points of interest were: customer discontent of ownership with the travel provider, the need for more unified standards to facilitate the omni-channel experience, and the impact of IoT and AI on the customer journey. At the forefront of these discussions, OpenTravel's focus on standards for use by all verticals in the travel industry will propel the development of solutions to address these new concerns.

Also in June, OpenTravel participated in an IATA (International Air Transport Association) NDC (New Distribution Capability) Hackathon, during which the Hotel 2.0 messaging was used by participants including one of the winning Hackathon teams.

The momentum for 2.0 has steadily grown during 2018, and it is becoming more widely adopted by major travel industry players. There are exciting developments ahead, thanks to participation and new initiatives run by OpenTravel members.

# OpenTravel in the Know: A New Topic in Education Every Month

## **OpenTravel membership is growing!**

As OpenTravel welcomes new members, a portion of each newsletter will be dedicated to general education on the basic functionality of OpenTravel.

OpenTravel is dependent upon the involvement of our members, so our goal is to ensure our lovely readers are fully "in the know" and get the most out of the OpenTravel experience.



## **This Month's Education Topic: A Review on OpenTravel Specification Releases**

Traditionally, there are two specification releases per year: Release A and B, which come out in June and November, respectively. This has been the case with 1.0 for quite some time and, in general, will continue to be the case moving forward as updates are made for 1.0 schema maintenance.

With the 2.0 Object Model, updates will most likely be made more often than simply twice per year. Since the 2.0 Object Model is in active development with frequent new additions, the goal is to release new functionality for use by members as soon as a significant development update has been made.

### **How are members involved?**

First, if you would like to be involved with the actual development phase by participating in new or current project teams, email OpenTravel Specifications Director Sandy Angel at [sandy.angel@opentravel.org](mailto:sandy.angel@opentravel.org).

Once an update is complete, the review cycle begins. First, the release is made available to all members for a time period of one week. Once that level of review is complete, the release is made available to the public for a one-week review period. With each review process, any requested changes are reviewed by the associated project team and implemented if deemed appropriate.

When the review phase is finally and officially complete, the status of any new or modified libraries is changed to "final state," which indicates that it will no longer be modified and ensures that any company using those libraries is kept current with the final version.

Quite a bit of work goes into the completion of releases, and the travel industry's best and brightest are involved!

## **2.0 Hospitality Advancement**

In May, OpenTravel released the 2.0 Object Model Publication for Hospitality — which primarily focuses on key functionality for booking a hotel including checking availability, creating offers and orders, and booking reservations.

Instrumental in this release: For the first time, OpenTravel *included the resources needed for RESTful implementation* in addition to releasing the services.

Resources will be included in all future 2.0 releases, creating an even easier adoption path for all those utilizing OpenTravel messaging.

Next up in hospitality is the 2.0 Model for Hotel Descriptive Content, which will include details such as hotel size, room count, rating, recreational activities, etc. Through the efforts of this current project team, the 2.0 Model will include a robust and complete set of details for hotel content.

If you would like to be involved, email OpenTravel Specifications Director Sandy Angel at [sandy.angel@opentravel.org](mailto:sandy.angel@opentravel.org).



**Welcome to OpenTravel's Newest Member!**

**Blox, Inc.**

