Project Team /Schema Proposal Document

OTA_VehResNotifRQ/RS

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1. Proposed Project Team / Schema Name

Project Name: OTA_VehResNotifRQ/RS

Request Schema Name	Response Schema Name
OTA_VehResNotifRQ	OTA_VehResNotifRS

2. Description

2.1 Purpose

There is a common need to be able to bulk transfer entire reservations between computer systems. Existing OpenTravel messages support requesting new reservations and retrieving existing reservation information in a client/server style pull operation. However, the current messages do not support transferring bulk reservation information in a notification style push operation.

The proposed message pair is intended to support notifying a system of changes made to reservations on another system so the two systems can be kept in sync with each other.

2.2 Scope

The new messages are targeted only at transferring bulk vehicle reservations. While similar messages may be useful to other verticals, this proposal only addresses the vehicle vertical.

The most common use is the transfer of reservations from a reservation collection system to a rental counter level system. In this scenario, a central reservation system collects reservations from OpenTravel partners, GDS systems, and various web sites and delivers them to the counter system. The counter system needs to be notified of new reservations, changes to reservations, and the cancellation of reservations.

Another common scenario is the situation where a small or medium sized car rental company contracts with another company to get a feed of confirmed reservations. In this scenario, the rental company needs to be informed at the corporate level about reservations and changes to them. A notification based system can automatically transfer the reservation information in near real time.

Yet another scenario is a case where a large company needs to transfer reservations internally between different systems. Common situations include sending information on future reservations to a fleet planning system, or completed reservation information to an accounting system.

As with other OpenTravel notification messages, one or more reservations can be included in a single OTA_VehResNotifRQ message. In addition, like other OpenTravel notification messages, the OTA_VehResNotifRS message is a very thin message intended to act as an acknowledgement that the request message has been received and processed.

The maximum number of reservations in a request is not constrained by the proposal, as it is envisioned that a maximum number of reservations will be agreed upon in a bilateral agreement between the OpenTravel partners.

When more than one reservation is sent in a single request message, there is no way to indicate failure details associated with a specific reservation. Therefore a request message is treated as a single transaction so either all of the reservations are processed or none of the reservations are processed. This simplifies any retransmission logic needed to guarantee that reservations can be reliably transferred from one system to another.

The request message is primarily based on the contents of the OTA_VehResRetRS message. That message returns reservation information in a pull type query, so the proposed push message should be as consistent as possible with OTA_VehResRetRS.

Since this message pair is intended to transfer entire reservations, all of the information passed in an OTA_VehResRQ message should be available to be transferred. The current VehicleReservationType complex type includes most, but not all the necessary information.

Four additional elements not present in the current VehicleReservationType definition need to be included with each reservation in a message. These are the SpecialReqPref, ArrivalDetails, WrittenConfirmation, and Remark elements defined in the VehicleReservationRQAdditionalInfoType complex type. These elements should be added to the VehicleSegmentAdditionalInfoType.

However, if this is not appropriate for some reason, these elements can simply be included directly in the OTA_VehResNotifRQ message.

When transferring reservations an additional consideration needs to be made. Each reservation has some associated booking information. This information is typically used to track sales and to get commissions paid correctly. When a reservation is requested with OTA_VehResRQ this information is passed in the POS element of the request.

When transferring reservations it is desirable for all the booking information to be transferred with the reservation. However, in addition to the current OpenTravel information, there is a need to pass address information associated with the booking information. Typically this comes directly from a GDS, a commission clearing house like NPC, or from simple lookups of agency information published by IATA.

This proposal is intended to be a complete project with only one phase. Support for creating, modifying, and cancelling reservations will be support from the beginning.

2.2.1 Request

The OTA_VehResNotifRQ message is a push notification message used to transfer one or more reservations in a single message. Each reservation sent in this message includes booking source information, reservation details, and an action type indicator to define how the reservation information is to be used.

2.2.2 Response

The OTA_VehResNotifRS message acts as an acknowledgement of the receipt of an OTA_VehResNotifRQ message. The presence of a Success element in this message indicates that all reservations in the request message where successfully transferred. The presence of an Error element indicates that none of the reservations have been transferred.

3. Re-Use

Anticipated Functional Components	RQ	RS	Re-Use and Source of other OTA Constructs
Identifying the source of the request	X		OTA_CommonTypes/POS_Type
Processing information	X		OTA_CommonTypes/ActionType
Booking source information	X		OTA_CommonTypes/SourceType
Booking source address information	X		OTA_CommonTypes/AddressType
Reservation detail information	X		OTA_VehCommonTypes/VehicleReservationType
Special request text	X		OTA_VehCommonTypes/VehicleSpecialReqPrefType
Arrival details	X		OTA_VehCommonTypes/VehicleArrivalDetailsType
Written confirmation instructions	X		OTA_VehCommonTypes/WrittenConflnstType
Remarks text	X		OTA_CommonTypes/ParagraphType
TPA extensions	X		OTA_CommonTypes/TPA_Extensions
Acknowledgement message		X	OTA_CommonTypes/MessageAcknowledgementType

4. Initial Contributions

Document name	Type of Document	Document Source
OTA_VehTransferNotifRQ.xsd	XML Schema	Ace Rent A Car
OTA_VehTransferNotifRS.xsd	XML Schema	Ace Rent A Car

5. Resource Requirements

Minute taking	
Facilitation	X
Schema development	

Planned activity	Number per month	Number of months	Duration (hrs)	Total Time (hrs)
Conference calls	1	2	1	2hrs
Face to face meetings	None			

Total Spec Manager time required for this project.	

6. Anticipated Completion Date/Publication

Publication Target Version (e.g., 2004B)	2010A

7. Sponsoring Member /Work Group

This specification has been submitted by Joe Schafer on behalf of the Transport Work Group.

Contact Information:

> Name: Joe Schafer
> Company: ACE Rent A Car Reservations, Inc.
> Mailing Address: 4529 West 96th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268
> Telephone: 317-786-8372
> Fax #:
> E-Mail Address: jschafer@acerentacar.com

The chair of this work group has reviewed this submission for completeness and understands this particular Work Group is the Sponsoring Work Group, responsible for the communication process. This does not mean the Chair or WG is approving the actual work or its inclusion in any specification.

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Chair's Signature or Initials
(electronic is acceptable)

8. Additional Participants

The following OpenTravel members/companies are participants in the development of these specifications:

Member	Company
Joe Schafer	Ace Rent A Car
Christy Wells	Enterprise
Carol Peeler	Hertz
Saundra Ford	Hertz

Mail distribution list required?	Yes
Please provide the name of the mail distribution list:	Existing ota_car mailing list only

9. Deliverable Schedule

Component	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Business Requirements Documentation (optional)		N/A
UML Models (optional)		N/A
XML Schema(s) (softcopy provided to specification manager)		
Pre-member initial version	In Progress	May 21, 2009
Member comments updates		
Public comment updates		
Use Cases		
Initial use case	In Progress	May 21, 2009
Revised use case		
Finalized use case		
Sample Instance Documents		
Initial sample instance based on use case	In Progress	May 21, 2009
Finalized sample instance based on use case		
New codes for Data Elements/ Attributes (softcopy provided to Code Mgr)		N/A