



## Galileo Celebrates 15 Years in India

**New Delhi, September 10, 2009** – Galileo, one of the world’s largest providers of travel content and a technology leader serving travel companies in India, celebrates its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary this week. Galileo, a Travelport GDS brand, was officially launched in India on September 12, 1994 and is distributed by InterGlobe Technology Quotient (ITQ).

Galileo was the one of the first global distribution system (GDS) in India and since then has grown to become one of the leading technology partners of choice for travel agents across the country. Galileo has helped travel management companies and travel agencies to expand its business faster than the industry average. ITQ has extended Galileo’s network to more than 330 cities with 21 dedicated offices. Galileo has more than 11,500 agency terminals with 19 service centres and 11 training centres across India.

Mr. Rahul Bhatia, InterGlobe Enterprises Managing Director said, "We have come a long way in the past fifteen years. From a humble beginning in 1994, as one of the first GDS to enter the Indian market, I am proud to reflect on a remarkable journey shared with our Industry Partners".

Over the past 15 years, the company has achieved a number of industry and technology milestones in the Indian marketplace. These milestones include:

- In 1999 Galileo was the first GDS in India to offer domestic ticketing with Jet Airways.
- Galileo has the most accurate faring system in the world.
- Galileo was the first to offer an automated ticketing solution with launch customer Jet Airways. This eliminated the need to manually write tickets saving an estimated 18,000 man-hours annually.
- In August 2003, Galileo was the first GDS in India to receive certification from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Billing and Settlement Plan (BSP) enabling Galileo to offer e-ticketing capabilities that are now widely used by the industry.
- In 2006, Galileo became the first GDS to sign an exclusive content deal with a low cost carrier - SpiceJet
- More recently, Galileo was the first GDS to offer a booking and reservation tool incorporating a Graphical User Interface (GUI).
- In August 2008, Galileo’s Carbon Tracker was launched to companies with information needed to understand and manage their carbon footprint. The Web-based reporting system automatically calculates the carbon emission impact for every travel booking, and stores the results for future reporting and benchmarking.

“Galileo has retained its strength and credibility over the years in India as a GDS of choice for thousands of travel companies. We, at InterGlobe are proud of Galileo’s various achievements and today we celebrate a milestone in the company’s success and constant innovation in the field of travel technology. We are looking forward to being part of that growth and to partnering with the travel agency community by providing effective products and solutions that will help run



successful businesses, grow revenues and increase efficiencies.” Added Mr. Michael Whitaker, Group CEO- Travel, Technology & General Aviation Services, InterGlobe Enterprises.

More than 100 institutes now offer Galileo training as part of their curriculum with over 18,000 Indian professionals enrolling in these courses annually.

Continuing the trend of being the first in technological innovation, Galileo has recently added Value added services like *Galileo Budget Hotels* that offers more than 10,000 hotels, bed and breakfast and guest houses across India while the newly launched *Galileo mSmart* product, a first mcommerce product in the GDS sphere, enables customers to pay for travel services using their mobile phones.

“Today marks a very important milestone for Galileo having had a fifteen year long successful journey in India. Over the years, the company has innovated its technology offerings to meet the dynamic needs of the Indian travel industry. To the company’s credit, we have had many firsts and would like to thank our customers and partners in showing consistent faith and encouragement over the years,” said J.B. Singh, President and CEO, InterGlobe Technology Quotient Pvt Ltd.

From within ITQ, Galileo has more than 400 dedicated industry professionals that combine global expertise with local knowledge to provide customers with innovative solutions and best in class customer service. InterGlobe has also been voted one of the “Top 25 Best Work Places 2008” by Great Places to Work® Institute in partnership with the Economic Times.

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#### **About Galileo:**

Galileo, a Travelport GDS brand, is officially distributed by InterGlobe Technology Quotient (ITQ) in India and Sri Lanka. Galileo commenced operations in India in 1994 and over the past 15 years, ITQ has extended Galileo’s network to over 333 cities with 21 dedicated offices. Galileo has more than 11,500 agency terminals with 19 service centres and 11 training centres across India.

Galileo’s global distribution services and commitment to partnership is aimed at reducing operating costs whilst increasing efficiency and revenues for travel agencies, corporations and travel suppliers. Galileo provides global distribution system services for the travel industry through its computerised reservations systems, leading-edge products and innovative, Internet-based solutions. Galileo is a value-added aggregator of travel inventory, dedicated to supporting its customers and, through them, expanding choices for travellers worldwide.

Participating in the Galileo GDS are 385 airlines, 25 car rental companies, 87,000 hotel properties, 400+ cruise lines and tour operators. The system can handle 1.5 billion messages a day, stores more than 4 billion airfares and books around 320 million air segments, 24 million hotel bookings and 19 million car rental bookings annually.

Galileo has been recognised as the “Best GDS” by TravelWeekly Awards in 2008 & 2007.



Visit us at [www.galileo.co.in](http://www.galileo.co.in)

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