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Travelport launches free COVID-19 Smartpoint Plugin

July 15, 2020

Travelport launched the Travelport COVID-19 Smartpoint Plugin. The plugin provides travel agencies with the latest information on government restrictions, lockdowns and safety measures across the globe – all within the agent workflow. It is available free-of-charge to all Travelport customers globally, using Travelport Smartpoint 8.2 or above, and can be downloaded directly from Travelport Marketplace.

The new tool provides detailed information on a range of topics, including: lockdown rules, entry requirements and quarantine measures for travellers. Country-level information can be displayed at the click of a button, allowing agents to advise their customers easily and instantly.

Kyle Moore, Global Head of Customer Strategy and Marketing, Travelport, said, "The travel ecosystem today is probably the most complex it has ever been, with government, airline, and hotel policies in every country constantly-changing. We're making sure our agent partners no longer need to constantly leave their workflow to search for accurate and up-to-date information – greatly improving their efficiency in servicing their traveler customers."

Sandeep Dwivedi, Chief Operating Officer at InterGlobe Technology Quotient, said, "With the looming uncertainty across the globe, having a substantial amount of certainty through readily accessible up-to-date information including on government and airline policies shall unequivocally prove beneficial for our network of agents and serve as a ready aid for gaining momentum in operations and transactions. This free built-in plugin in the GDS is a welcome move from Travelport, one that will result in both an informed traveller and travel enabler."

The information in the Travelport COVID-19 Smartpoint Plugin is provided by global travel safety intelligence provider, Safeture, and is updated daily. "Our collaboration with Travelport will provide millions of travelers with the information they need to make informed decisions. With travel showing signs of a long-awaited recovery, creating this sense of security will be key to the reopening of economies and societies," commented Magnus Hultman, Chief Executive Officer of Safeture.

"Working with the Travelport COVID-19 Smartpoint Plugin will allow our consultants to advise our customers with up-to-date destination information regarding this pandemic straight from the Smartpoint desktop. Travelport has turned this around quickly. It is great to know they are listening to the needs of the industry and are prepared to supply new leading-edge tools that can help aid recovery," said Colin Boddy, Group Commercial Director, Meon Valley Travel Group.

"With the Travelport COVID-19 Smartpoint Plugin, we can provide reliable information to clients on the destinations they're planning to travel to or through, without leaving the workflow. In this way, we're able to continue providing a top-class service to clients who can confidently make travel choices and book flights," commented Scott Pawley, Managing Director, Global Travel Management.

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The plugin is the latest Travelport initiative to arm travel agents with the safety information they need and to support a safe, healthy, and responsible return to travel. In recent months, Travelport has:

- Created the travel technology industry's first COVID-19 Resource Hub; compiling information such travel supplier policy trackers, relevant news, and guides. To-date, the company has registered more than 80,000 visits to the hub.
- Contributed to the formation of various World Travel and Tourism Council protocols aimed at supporting a strong industry recovery.
- Helped airlines to use the Travelport Rich Content and Branding merchandising solution to communicate safety information to travel agents.
- Worked with hotel groups to utilise descriptive space on the GDS screens to communicate safety information.

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