

Travel Management

A Travel Management Glossary

Here's a cheat sheet to help decode some acronyms and jargon

- Adoption rate: the percentage of bookings made through a company-approved online booking system; a high adoption rate is key for capturing trip itinerary information and travel spend.
- Advance booking: a travel reservation made a certain number of days ahead of a business trip, as stipulated by the company's travel policy.
- Basic economy: rock-bottom airfare that comes with certain restrictions, such as limits on carryon luggage and seating assignments; each airline has its own set of restrictions.
- Bleisure: the practice of combining business travel and leisure travel in one trip.
- Compliance: when employees adhere to specific guidelines prescribed in an organization's travel policy.
- Duty of care: a company's responsibility to help ensure they know where their traveling employees are in the event of a crisis or another disruption.

- Dynamic pricing: a strategy in which airlines and hotels change prices based on algorithms that take into account competitor pricing as well as supply and demand.
- Global distribution system (GDS): a computerized reservation system for reserving seats, hotel rooms, rental cars, and other travelrelated items.
- Hotel attachment: when a hotel booking is attached to an airline or rail reservation (as opposed to when a traveler makes a hotel reservation directly via the hotel supplier's website or an online travel agency); for a managed travel program, a high hotel attachment rate is desirable, boosting the volume of data for supplier negotiations and risk management governance.
- LLC: low-cost carrier, also know as no-frills airlines; offer low-fare flights with reduced passenger services.



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- Leakage: When employees book business travel outside the preferred channels as defined by the travel policy; a lot of leakage in a managed travel program can lead to missed costsavings opportunities and weaken duty of care capabilities.
- LRA: last room availability; as long as a hotel has even one room available, then parties with an LRA contract have a right to buy it at their contracted terms and prices.
- Managed travel: business travel program
 in which employees book travel within the
 guidelines of a strategic company travel policy
 designed to manage spend and help ensure
 travelers' safety and security.
- OBT: online booking tool; a corporate-approved tool that lets organizations manage and monitor their business trip itineraries as well as track travel spend.
- OTA: online travel agency; a travel website that enables traveler to book flights, hotel rooms, and ground transportation; such sites are to be avoided in a managed travel program.
- PNR: Passenger Name Record; data provided by passengers when booking flights and collected by airlines to handle ticket reservations.
- Preferred supplier: A company such as a hotel or airline that has contract with an organization to extend a preferred rate or additional preferential conditions in exchange for a certain volume of business.

- Proactive Traveler Care[™] (PTC): A flight disruption service (for any flight that is canceled, missed or delayed over 60 minutes) offering real time updates and proactive two-way service messaging and rebooking.
- TM: travel manager; responsible for developing and enforcing a strategic travel policy, managing supplier relationships, monitoring employees' trip itineraries and bookings, processing travel and expense reports and reimbursements as well as other duties.
- TMC: travel management company; a business travel agent (such as American Express Global Business Travel) that helps organizations manage their travel bookings, ensuring duty of care obligations are met, and making available cost-savings opportunities.
- Virtual card number (VCN): A high secure, single-use virtual credit card number used to minimize the risk of fraud.
- Unmanaged travel: An "open booking" business travel program in which employees independently manage their own travel arrangements without the structure and guidelines of a travel policy.

