

## Travelport launches “Mobile Payment Solution” offering M-Pesa and Airtel Money transfer services in Kenya

19 September 2016

With Kenya one of the top countries in the world for mobile payment readiness 1, travellers can now use mobile money transfer services to facilitate payment to Travelport connected travel agents



Travelport, a leading Travel Commerce Platform providing distribution, technology, payment and other solutions for global travel and tourism industry has announced its Mobile Payment Solution for travel agencies in Kenya is now live via its industry-leading point of sale technology for travel agents, Travelport Smartpoint. In Kenya, thanks to the popularity of person to person (P2P) payment services, 89 percent of Kenyans are familiar with mobile P2P payments and 68 percent are frequent users.<sup>1</sup> This new, Travelport plug-in development allows travel agents in Kenya to accept payment for travel services via mobile devices from travellers, using either M-Pesa or Airtel money, as an alternative method of payment instead of cash or credit card. The solution is powered by 3G Direct Pay mobile payments platform, the leading online payments provider in Africa. The product is an example of how Travelport is addressing the needs of the travel industry and tailors its product offering to offer additional value to its travel agency customers. Travel agents can avail of Mobile Payment Solution free of charge.

The benefits of Mobile Payment Solution are significant to the travel agent and traveller community. For travel agents the solution improves work efficiency by allowing them to issue instant mobile payment requests within their agency screens; it saves time as it removes the need to leave the workflow to accept mobile payments and it reduces errors as all mobile payments are automatically checked for authorisation during the ticketing process.

For travellers the solution allows for seamless payments, making payment transactions secure and less open to fraud. The new Travelport Smartpoint plug-in also brings a significant value to travellers in Kenya by providing them with more payments options, particularly as consumers in Kenya have very high levels of familiarity with frequent usage of mobile payments <sup>1</sup> instead of paying with cash, cheque or credit card.

Nita Nagi, Regional Manager, East Africa, Travelport, commented: “Kenya has led the world in mobile based payment systems for a number of years, and it therefore fitting that it is the first country for Travelport to successfully launch the Mobile Payment Solution. We are excited to pioneer this innovative payment method for the travel agent community and travellers here. The new, plug-in which operates from our industry leading point of sale technology for travel agents, Travelport Smartpoint, offers a more convenient payment method for travel agents, as the payment is now fully integrated into the agents’ workflow, giving them an edge over competitors as well as increasing customer satisfaction and loyalty.”

If you have any enquires on how to enable the Mobile Payment Solution, please contact Travelport Helpdesk on +254 20 4287004 .

## 1.Mastercard Mobile Payments Readiness Index, 2016

## About Travelport

Travelport is the technology company which makes the experience of buying and managing travel continually better. It operates a travel commerce platform providing distribution, technology, payment and other solutions for the global travel and tourism industry. The company facilitates travel commerce by connecting the world’s leading travel providers with online and offline travel buyers in a proprietary business-to-business (B2B) travel platform.

Travelport has a leading position in airline merchandising, hotel content and distribution, car rental, mobile commerce and B2B payment solutions. The company also provides IT services to airlines, such as shopping, ticketing, departure control and other solutions. With net revenue of over \$2.5 billion in 2018, Travelport is headquartered in Langley, U.K., has over 3,700 employees and is represented in approximately 180 countries and territories.

## Media Contacts

Siobhan McCarthy

Senior Manager, Corporate Communications, Europe, Middle East, Africa & South Asia

e: [siobhan.mccarthy@travelport.com](mailto:siobhan.mccarthy@travelport.com)

t: +971 (0) 43614800

m: +971 (0) 501070018

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