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Technology

Travelport announces investment in Locomote

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LANGLEY, UK - **Travelport**, a leading travel commerce platform providing distribution, technology, payment and other solutions for the \$7 trillion global travel and tourism industry, announced that it has invested in the travel technology company, **Locomote**, acquiring a 49% share.

Locomote has developed a platform to empower corporations in the seamless management of their travel, authorisation and procurement processes, including corporate traveller profile management, pre-trip approvals and duty of care capabilities. The platform has been designed ab initio for the mobile commerce world by Locomote's team of developers based in Melbourne, Australia. In turn, the Locomote platform uses all of Travelport's Universal Profile, Universal Record, travel policy engine and Travelport's state of the art uAPI (Universal Application Programming Interface), from which it obtains real time access to Travelport's content, including low cost and network carriers, airline ancillary products, car rental and all of the industry leading, broad range of hotel properties and rates that Travelport now distributes.

The platform has further been developed to enable easy integration of third-party, complementary applications that an individual corporation might want to add to its travel and/or authorisation processes. This includes multiple expense management systems, corporate booking tools and other add on services, however, crucially, all within the same corporate user experience, workflow and data management capabilities.

Gordon Wilson, President and CEO of Travelport commented, "Through this strategic investment in Locomote, we have significantly strengthened our offering to both corporates and TMCs from an end to end customer experience perspective. Locomote has been, and will continue to be, totally focused on what corporations and their corporate travellers want, in order to make the management of their travel an empowered, improved and mobile user experience, leveraging all of the latest technology and content that Travelport brings. We are excited about the reaction received from the initial companies that have experienced the Locomote product line, including the ease of deployment and user adoption. We believe that further assets Travelport has recently acquired, such as the corporate hotel booking company, Hotelzon, will add even more differentiated content to the Locomote offering in the near future."

Philip Weinman, CEO and Executive Chairman of Locomote added, "Locomote is excited to have a global partner in travel technology of the scale and reach of Travelport. This is all about giving our corporate travel customers a greater level of control over their own travel programmes. With the Locomote product, powered by Travelport content, we have created a powerful tool that is bespoke, flexible and cost effective. It will save businesses time and money and allow them to make the most of their travel budgets in real time. The platform we have developed is designed to be constantly added to, to keep pace with emerging trends as well as changing corporate customer needs."

Locomote already names organisations such as ANZ Bank, World Vision, Medibank, Allen & Overy and Glencore as users of the Locomote Travel Management Platform.

