Landesverband der
Tourismusorganisationen
Südtirols

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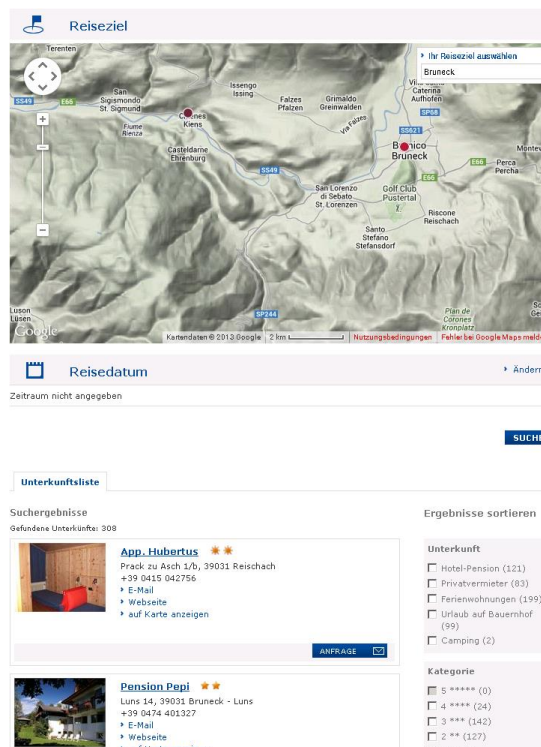
1. About LTS Technology News

Starting now, LTS will send out technology news periodically. The goal of our newsletter is not to provide detailed technical information but to give a short overview of current and planned innovations. Should you have any further questions, Alex Mutschlechner will be available via e-mail (alex.mutschlechner@LTS.it).

2. Widget – LTS Hotelfinder

The *LTS Hotelfinder* is available (as you can see for the example of the south of South Tyrol). This is an economic way to display accommodation services on their own web portal. The *LTS Hotelfinder* was developed in responsive design and supports the representation of accommodation services in various layouts. The previous hotel finder (as below), which was developed by Sinfonet, will be inactive after the 30th April 2014.

previous hotel finder

3. Data interface – hotel search

Up to now, the LTS provided an accommodation data search via the XML Web Service *SendData/SeekEngine*, which was developed by the company Sinfonet. This XML Web Service will be replaced by the newly developed XML Web Service *AccommodationDataSearch*. From now on, the new accommodation data search will be provided for all interested customers via the LCS interface. The new interface offers various innovations. It is not only faster, but it also has new functions e.g. neighbourhood search and detailed filter functions. The old accommodation data search *SendData/SeekEngine* will be marked as *deprecated*. This interface will not be developed further and will be closed on the 30th April 2014.

4. Data interface – gastronomic data

The LTS data interface for reading gastronomical data (e.g. Restaurants, Bars …) from the LTS database was overworked. From now, the interface *LCS Gastronomic Data* reads gastronomical data. The interface SendData in reference to gastronomy is deprecated and should therefore no longer be used. All gastronomy data is available via the new *LCS- Gastronomic Data* Interface.

5. Data interface – miscellaneous data

The LTS data interface for reading miscellaneous data (e.g. museums, stores, sports facilities …) from the LTS database was overworked. From now, the interface *LCS - Miscellaneous Data* reads this data. The interface for Miscellaneous Data that was used up to now is deprecated and should therefore no longer be used. All miscellaneous data is available via the new *LCS – Miscellaneous Data* Interface.

6. PMS – hotel availability notification

From now, PMS (Property Management System) can submit room availability using the OTA message HotelAvailNotif. The SendData function SetGroupRData_Times is marked as deprecated and will be closed on the 30th November 2015.

7. PMS – ASTAT/ISTAT overnight stay notification

From January 2014, every accommodation facility has to transmit not only the ASTAT/ISTAT overnight stay notification but also new local tax information. In accordance with the SGV (local government association of South Tyrol / Südtiroler Gemeindenverband) parameters, the transmission of both notifications have to be done simultaneously via TIC-Web (or the LTS interface with costs). The data will be verified on plausibility by the LTS.

Should the accommodation facility transmit the overnight stay notification via a PMS, it has to be done manually via a TIC-Web report closure. Automatic closure is no longer possible; this is the usual handling on the national base. Many PMS favoured PMS providers have stated explicitly that their customers have to be advised that after the report, closure has to be carried out manually on TIC-Web.

PMS now has two possible methods of reporting ASTAT/ISTAT overnight stays. Firstly, the existing function *SendData/SetFN1*. In this case, local tax data has to be entered manually via TIC-Web. The interface *SetFn1* is deprecated, if technically possible, it will be active until 30th November 2015. Afterwards the interface will be deactivated. Secondly, the *HotelOvernightStaysNotif* function can be used via the LCS interface and local tax reported together with the overnight stay via LTS. In both cases, closure has to be carried out via TIC-Web.

8. Activity Data

A short while ago the LCS interface was extended by the Activity Data function. Firstly, this interface offers the following data: ski slopes, ascent systems, cross-country ski-tracks, coasting slides, webcams and snow reports. Secondly, further objects will be added. These objects have a high grade of detail and allow you to generate excellent applications.

There is an interface created by Sinfonet with ascent system, weather and webcam data. Please note that this interface no longer functions correctly. In addition, this data is no longer up to date. With the *LCS – Activity Data* interface the Sinfonet interface can be replaced completely.

Please note that the server for the Sinfonet interface will be maintained until the 30th April 2014, however there will be no service or support by LTS as this is not a LTS product.

9. Perspective

Currently LTS is working on several other projects:
- revision of the booking-software (new interface and surface)
- extension of the Activity Data
- *TIC-Web-Module* to manage the overnight stay for police, ASTAT/ISTAT and local tax
- new version of the *LTS Hotelfinder* with additional functions
- bookable holiday packages
- revised price entry in TIC-Web and exchange with third party systems

I hope that I was able to give you some useful information.

Sincerely,

Alex Mutschlechner
South Tyrol Association of Tourism Organisations
Landesverband der Tourismusorganisationen Südtirols