

Hotels, guesthouses and other accommodation providers can simplify the completion of selected statistical forms

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The statistical data collection is undergoing innovations, in order to reduce the administrative burden of the business environment in the field of tourism.

The Statistical Office of the SR simplifies for the entrepreneurs in the hotel industry the completion of the statistical reports. Owners and operators of accommodation establishments submit data on the visit rate and capacity to the Statistical Office of the SR on a regular monthly basis in the form of an electronic form **Monthly report on the activities of the accommodation establishments (CR 1-12)**. The result is a monthly statistical product providing a wide professional and lay public with valuable data on the volume and structure of visitors to accommodation establishments and a quarterly product on the capacity of rooms and beds of accommodation providers in Slovakia.

The Statistical Office of the SR is innovating the statistical data collection and enables the completion of the statistical form by automated submission of information that is available in the hotel information system.

Accommodation establishments, such as hotels, guesthouses and the like, can link their information system with the statistical system of the statistical office. It will allow them to replace the manual completion of electronic forms with the automated submission of data from the hotel information system. Fulfilling the statistical obligation will be faster and easier with much less administrative burden.

As part of the development of an integrated statistical information system, the Statistical Office of the SR implemented a new module, including an application interface, which supports the automated collection of data from hotel systems of accommodation establishments. The newly built universal interface for receiving data from hotel systems will enable automatic filling of the statistical form via the web service with data sent in XML format according to the relevant XSD scheme.

Currently, this option is used by accommodation providers who have chosen an information system with this option. As part of the pilot project, selected providers of hotel information systems voluntarily participated in the preparation. The company Alto Slovakia actively participated in the preparation, with which the integration to the new module was successfully verified, including the application interface for the automated download of statistical data from their Hores hotel system. The first accommodation establishments have already completed the testing phase and are successfully providing data automatically.

Before integration, the new users must go through a testing phase for one quarter and then can fully use the new functionality.

The Statistical Office of the SR provides space for the involvement of other creators and operators of hotel systems in order to significantly facilitate the provision of data for state statistical surveys in the field of tourism to their users and thereby contribute to reducing their administrative burden. The environment for downloading data has been created and can be used by accommodation providers whose reservation system has the necessary functions.

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