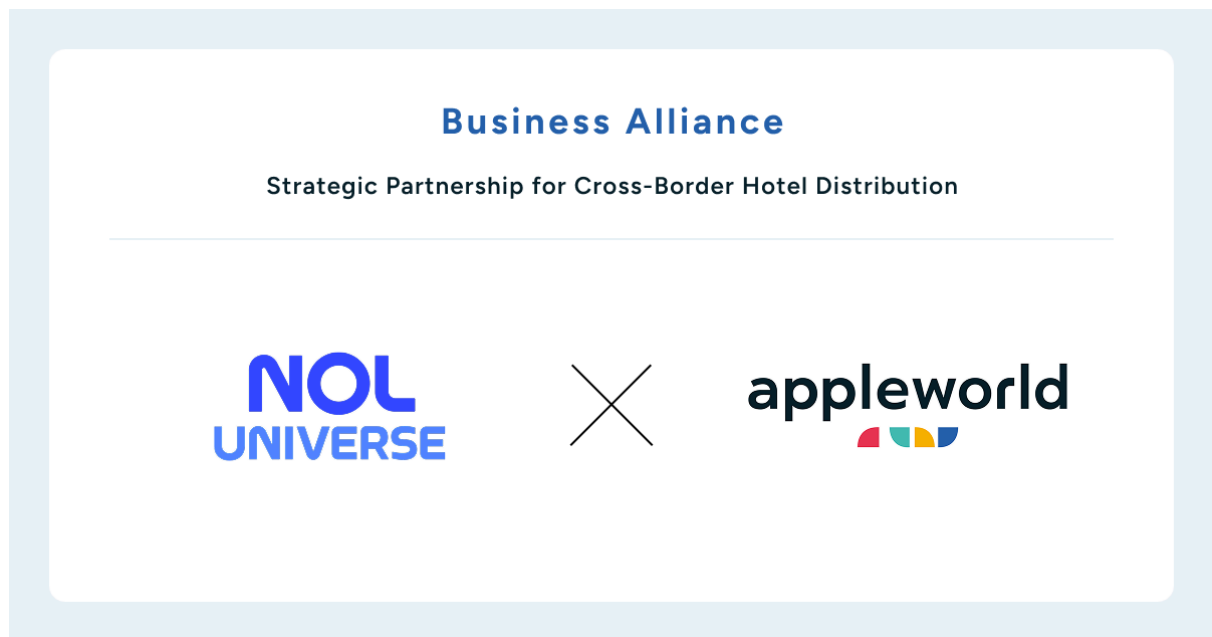


APPLE WORLD Launches Business Partnership with NOL Universe, Operator of the Online Travel Agency "NOL" Used by More Than 18 Million People Monthly



Reciprocal distribution of Japanese and Korean hotel inventory — uniting travel distribution through technology to expand options for both inbound and outbound travel

APPLE WORLD INC. (Headquarters: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Jyo Hirao; hereinafter "the Company"), a group company of ZIGExN Co., Ltd. (TSE Prime: 3679), today announced that it has entered into a business partnership with NOL Universe (Headquarters: Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea; hereinafter "NOL Universe"), operator of the Korean travel and leisure platform "NOL."

Through this partnership, the Company will provide its domestic Japanese hotel inventory to NOL Universe, while incorporating the Korean hotel inventory held by NOL Universe into its system for sale to travel agencies in Japan and overseas. By seamlessly and reciprocally distributing Japanese and Korean accommodation inventory across both markets, the

Company aims to expand distribution in each market, broaden the choices available to travelers, and further energize the travel markets in Japan and Korea.

Background

NOL Universe is a leading Korean travel and leisure platform company, combining the decades of expertise and market leadership of Interpark Triple and Yanolja Platform to deliver integrated travel and leisure experiences. The unified company was established in December 2024. Connecting travelers with more than 30,000 hotels across Korea, it has established a dominant position in Korea's BtoC travel market, centered around its super-app "NOL," which spans accommodation, air travel, entertainment, and more.

The Company, for its part, has served as distribution infrastructure supporting the travel industry since its founding in 1991, using technology to bring together the "components of travel"—such as hotels and airline tickets scattered around the world—into a form that travel agencies can sell with confidence. To date, it has provided hotel inventory from more than 470,000 properties across 200 countries to over 5,000 travel agencies in Japan.

Through this partnership, the Company will broadly distribute Korea's abundant hotel inventory to partner travel agencies in Japan and around the world. This will expand purchasing options for travel agencies worldwide while strengthening inbound travel from Korea to domestic accommodations, supporting the development of the travel markets in Japan, Korea, and beyond.

Overview of the Partnership

■ **Provision of Japanese content (Company → NOL Universe)** The Company provides its domestic Japanese hotel inventory to NOL Universe. This enables NOL Universe to expand its Japanese accommodation inventory and to smoothly sell Japanese hotels to its users and partners through "NOL."

■ **Incorporation of Korean content (NOL Universe → Company)** The Company's system incorporates the domestic Korean hotel inventory held by NOL Universe and sells it to both domestic and overseas travel agencies. This distributes Korean hotels through a wide range of sales channels via the Company's robust BtoB network.

■ **Expected effects** By reciprocally distributing accommodation inventory across both Japan and Korea, each company gains new content and sales channels. Travelers can expect a broader selection of bookable hotels, while suppliers (accommodation providers) and sales partners on both sides can expect to gain new channels for attracting guests.

Future Developments

Building on this partnership, the Company and NOL Universe will continue to explore future strategic partnership opportunities. Going forward, starting from Asia, the Company will continue to unite travel distribution worldwide through technology—by enriching its content

and strengthening global partnerships—and to provide more high-quality hotel inventory to travel agencies and travelers in Japan and abroad.

About APPLE WORLD INC.

Since its founding in 1991, APPLE WORLD INC. has been a travel distribution infrastructure company connecting 470,000 hotels across 200 countries worldwide with more than 5,000 travel agencies in Japan. It also operates international and domestic air ticketing businesses and services for individual travelers, and is one of only a few companies in Japan able to handle everything from air ticket and hotel arrangement through payment on an end-to-end basis, supporting the travel industry. Going forward, starting from the rapidly growing Asian market, the Company will unite travel distribution through technology, expanding its range of products and pursuing agile M&A.

- Company name: APPLE WORLD INC.
- Headquarters: Shinjuku Square Tower 14F, 6-22-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo
- Representative: Joe Hirao, President & CEO
- Founded: December 6, 1991
- Business: Reservation and arrangement of overseas and domestic hotels; hotel coupon sales; travel-related information services
- URL: <https://appleworld.co.jp/>
- Travel-agency site "APPLE WORLD": <https://appleworld.com/agt/>

About NOL Universe

NOL Universe is a leading travel and leisure platform company in Korea, established in December 2024 through the merger of InterparkTriple, one of Korea's largest online travel companies, and Yanolja Platform, a pioneer in travel and hospitality technology. Home to one of the country's largest selections of travel and leisure content, the company connects customers with a wide range of experiences spanning flights, accommodations, package tours, transportation, leisure activities, concerts, exhibitions, and sporting events through its flagship platform, NOL.

NOL Universe also operates NOL World, a dedicated travel platform designed for international visitors to Korea. Leveraging AI technology and extensive travel data, the company continues to deliver more personalized travel and leisure experiences while driving innovation across its platform ecosystem.

- Company name: Nol Universe Co., Ltd.
- Headquarters: Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do, Korea
- Service: Travel and leisure platform NOL, and NOL World for international visitors to Korea
- URL: <https://www.nol-universe.com/>