A global platform for accessible travel and hotel booking.

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Accurate and detailed information about the accessibility features of hotels is an essential part of trip planning, yet almost impossible to obtain. Expert accessibility audits are expensive, self-audits are unreliable, and crowd sourcing asks a lot of someone on a vacation. Working with Accessibility Groups, UMOJA has developed a sustainable and scalable approach to collect detailed and reliable accessibility information that is changing the landscape of accessible travel. By engaging the hospitality industry from a business first perspective, UMOJA is mainstreaming the economic case for accessible tourism. We leverage our proprietary application to provide hotels with a free and efficient means of selfassessment, creating a foundation layer of accessibility information. Our platform then enables guests to build on this foundation by verifying details and sharing their experiences, creating a powerful means of ensuring up-to-date and accurate information. Furthermore, this provides a valuable feedback channel for hotels to maintain or improve their accessibility.

At UMOJA we believe that no two persons' abilities are the same, even though they may refer to their impairment using the same language. Therefore, our approach to search is based on how people need or prefer to interact with their environments (I need a roll-in shower, would like braille lettering, or would prefer not to climb more than 2-3 stairs) rather than searching simply by broad disability classifications. We believe this approach provides more relevant and reliable information to our users, enabling what we call an Access Match.

While UMOJA is still a young company, the response to our approach has been tremendous. We are in advanced partnership discussions with some of the world's leading hotels groups; we have developed the world's first technology enabled, multimedia capable self-assessment app; we have built a user friendly and yet robust engine for people to find and book hotels that match their requirements; we have a pilot to co-create exciting accessible travel content with Lonely Planet, and we have created a dynamic platform for people to share their experiences. We firmly believe we are poised to disrupt the accessible travel industry. By mainstreaming the business-case for accessibility we can catalyze a self-reinforcing cycle of connecting businesses and travelers with disabilities, ultimately creating truly inclusive environments.

We are excited to share our project with you. We seek to learn from your experience and wholeheartedly invite all feedback that can help build this solution into something truly revolutionary.