

@PLAY

HOT WIRED HOTELS

BUSINESS TRAVEL ACCOUNTS FOR 32% OF ALL U.S. TRAVEL EXPENDITURES, which means hotel guests often tote laptops along with their luggage. Hotels are doing their part to provide good workspace and business-oriented amenities. As a result, business lodging can now be convenient, comfortable, and productive.

Wyndham Hotels & Resorts (wyndham.com) provides wireless Internet access, two-line cordless phones, and ergonomically designed desk chairs in guest rooms. The Benjamin (thebenjamin.com) in New York offers guests personalized business cards with direct room telephone and fax numbers along with all-in-one printer/fax/copy machines in each room.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide (www.starwoodhotels.com) has separate "smart rooms" equipped with computers, fax machines, and printers in many of its Sheraton hotels. Starwood also introduced Tables For One at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel restaurant, where tables are wired for Internet access and have room for a laptop, paperwork, or newspaper. At the New York Sheraton Hotel, the company implemented Cisco Internet Mobile Office, which delivers secure Internet access and Cisco Long-Reach Ethernet to provide Internet connectivity from hotel rooms.

David Hedley takes 200 business trips a year. As an investment banking partner at Thomas Weisel Partners LLC, he usually needs business amenities. "Internet access is now much smoother than it used to be, and many hotels offer individual fax machines in each room," he says.

George Albert, director of IT for Met Life, has been traveling about twice a month for 30 years. "One of the most useful changes I've seen in traveling is access to the concierge and simple service rewards for repeat visits," he says.—KRISTEN CHANLEY



INSITE

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

These travel sites can help make your next business trip more enjoyable:

travelvault.nbta.org

The Travel Vault is stuffed full of breaking travel news and links to information on hotels and other business needs.

business-trip.com

Get the latest in travel technology, city guides, and

even a Palm travel-software product section, courtesy of the Business Travel Information Network.

www.biztraveler.org

Sponsored by the National Business Travel Association, this comprehensive site has information on everything from airport security to hotel accommodations.

fita.org/travel.html

Find "Road Warrior Travel Tips," a monthly newsletter, and suggestions on where to find an ATM anywhere in the world, courtesy of this site from the Federation of International Trade Associations.

travel.americanexpress.com

The American Express site provides extensive links for

business travel tools, advice, and reservations of all kinds.

btnonline.com

The U.K.-based *Business Traveler* magazine features a searchable archive of issues dating back to 1996. It also offers a weekly subscription-based content service, The Corporate Traveler, for companies or individual employees.