

## Passport to International Payments Perspectives

Panorama 2007 George Thomas Radix Consulting Corp. June 8, 2007

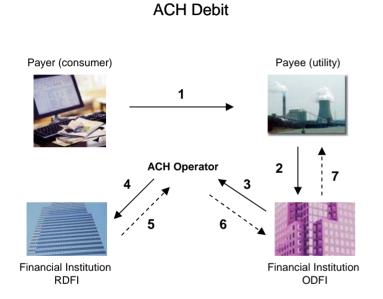
# Agenda

U.S. Payments Systems

- Overview
- ACH Developments and Opportunities
- Wire Transfer Enhancements
- Image Exchange

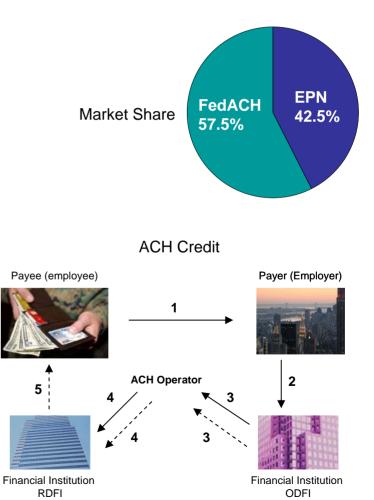


## U.S. Payments Clearing & Settlement ACH



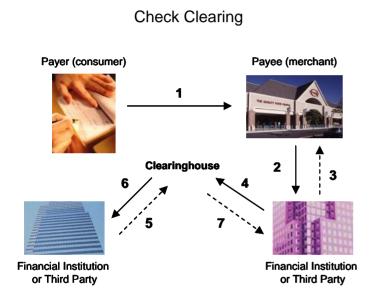
Dotted lines indicate funds flow





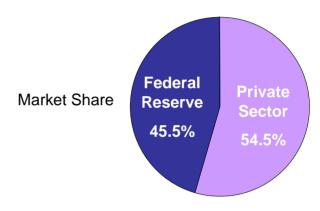
## U.S. Payments Clearing & Settlement Check

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Dotted lines indicate funds flow





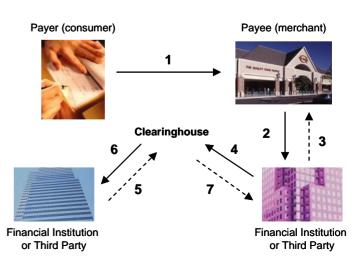
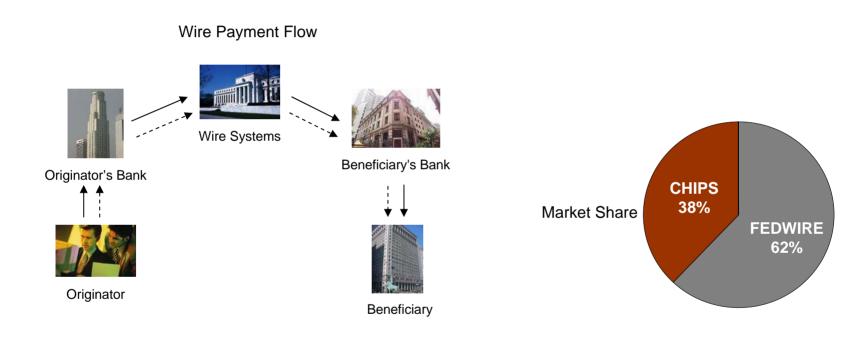


Image Exchange Clearing

## U.S. Payments Clearing & Settlement Wire Transfer



#### Dotted lines indicate funds flow



## U.S. ACH – 2006 Highlights

- ACH inter-bank network volume was 16 billion, up 14.5%
- Dollar volume increased to \$30.3 trillion
- Commercial inter-bank volume increased by 15.4%
- Federal government volume increased by 2.8%
- Internet payments reached 1.8 billion, up 35%
- Check conversion applications combined for 2.4 billion items
- Back-Office Conversion began March 16, 2007 slow start



## ACH Market Opportunities International or Domestic?

- International trade is the most significant potential source of cross-border ACH volume:
  - Canada, the European Union, Mexico, Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan and Malaysia account for more than 75% of US trade.
  - Estimated payment potential of 85 million payments annually based on 2005 data.
  - Wire transfers and payments via foreign accounts will certainly retain a big share of future volume, limiting the potential for cross-border ACH.
- The research estimate is that there are 80 million personal remittances from the US to other countries (2005), 80% destined for Mexico.
  - Specialized providers with extensive agent or branch networks in destination countries dominate this business.
  - It is unlikely that remittances will be a substantial source of ACH volume.



Source: Clearing House Payments Company Research 2006

## International ACH Research Conclusions

- Insufficient demand to justify the deployment of full-scale cross-border payment services by ACH operators
  - Estimated potential of less than 85 million payments per year (excluding personal remittances)
  - The Fed's cross-border ACH service has very low volumes, indicating lack of demand
  - Interviews with banks indicate that they do not anticipate high demand
  - Wire transfers and foreign accounts are an effective way to make international payments and are cornerstone international banking services offered by many banks
  - Currently available cross-border services are sufficient to meet demand
  - Preoccupation of potential European partners with the SEPA
- US domestic market 35 billion potential electronic payments versus 85 million cross border payments Where would you put your resources?



Source: Clearing House Payments Company Research 2006

# Law Enforcement & Compliance Issues

#### US ACH – The Wild West of Payments

- ACH Operators and NACHA are becoming the ACH police
  - Protect consumers from telemarketers and companies with bad business practices
  - Protect corporate and consumer customers from unauthorized account access
  - Aid law enforcement with Internet gambling and tobacco sales
  - Expert witnesses in FTC and criminal proceedings
  - Keep banks out of trouble
- Cross-border activity is limited by OFAC
  - Outbound only activity with FedACH International Service
  - New formats are required to supply more information about originator and beneficiary
  - Tools for financial institution compliance to be deployed
  - Self-regulation is required or OFAC will set its own rules



## Same Day ACH Will it happen on the network?

- No technical obstacles
- Value exchange application
- Long-term can not be restricted to debits
- Credit transactions may erode volume on RTGS systems
- Bilateral arrangements are currently underway



## Native Electronic Payment Opportunities

- New Revenue Applications
  - Business to Business Payments
    - 4-5 billion payments annually
    - Revenue for origination and remittance delivery
  - Account to Account transfers
    - 3-4 billion annually
    - Fees for initiation depending on speed
      - o Next day \$10
      - o 2-3 business days \$3
    - Compete with Western Union and MoneyGram domestically
- What's needed?
  - Fix broken bank systems retail and wholesale
    - Origination and Receipt



#### Situation

#### U.S. Wire Transfer Systems – Fedwire & CHIPS Require Automation Enhancements



#### Enhancing the US Wire Transfer Systems Dilemma: ISO 20022 or STP 820?

**B2B** Payments Opportunity

- Domestic
  - The Federal Reserve Study
    (2001) 4+ billion payments
  - New study this year
- Global
  - The Clearing House Study –
    85 million payments
    - Includes payments already being made by wire and bank proprietary systems
    - Based on 75% of U.S. major trading partners





## **Corporate Expectations**

- Wanted a structured remittance capability for wires for the past 3+ years
- Do not want to wait 10-15 years
- AFP Payments Advisory Group sent a letter of support for STP 820
- AFP group opposes implementation of ISO 20022 in the near term



Association for Financial Professionals\*



## ISO 20022 - Benefits

- Based on current technology
- Brings multiple standards
  together
- Global standard potential
- Currently being implemented in Europe
  - Key for implementing SEPA
  - No other viable alternative
  - Time frame for full implementation is extended





## ISO 20022 - Barriers

- Cost to the U.S. banking and business community to implement
  - No return on investment for payments system operators or financial institutions (over 15,000 FIs in the US)
  - Businesses of all sizes will need to implement it in their enterprise resource planning (ERP) or accounting systems
  - Cash management and accounting software providers will need to implement the complex standard into their accounting packages
  - Financial Institutions will need to develop remittance delivery capability using the new standard for their business customers
- 20 years before ISO 20022 is broadly adopted by US businesses
- The standard is unproven in any payments systems



## STP 820 - Benefits

- Speed to market large corporations are able to process the STP 820 in their ERP packages without any upgrades or changes
- Cash management software vendors are already implementing the STP 820 for their ACH offering
- Minor implementation effort for vendors for wires
- Banks already have EDI delivery platforms that can be used to deliver the STP 820 to their business customers today
- This is the first step to streamlining front-end applications for business customers
- Most corporations do not have XML in their five-year plan for payments



#### STP 820 - Barriers

- U.S. Standard
- Some banks do not believe the systems should be upgraded for B2B traffic
- Global banks only want to upgrade once



## Bridge to the Future

- Implement STP 820 for wires now
- Ensure that formats can be mapped
- Include 9000 characters of remittance for Fedwire
  - CHIPS has it
  - SWIFT MT103 Remit
- Additional remittance space allows:
  - Reduced expense by all parties to implement
  - ISO 20022 to be carried by SWIFT, CHIPS or Fedwire
  - Banks that want to use ISO can



## Pivotal Year for Image Exchange

- May 2007 annualized rate of image exchange/share is in excess of 8 billion items approximately 25% of total
  - 66% of these items are being received and processed as images
  - 2.6 billion being cleared as substitute checks
  - Approximately \$10 trillion
- 42% of U.S. financial institutions are receiving images
- Federal Reserve, SVPCO, Viewpoint and EndPoint are the major exchanges



## Critical Mass for Image Exchange

- Each of the existing networks should double their volume in 2008
- Financial institutions that have not converted will continue to face higher paper clearing prices
- Check clearing volume will continue to decline due to debit cards, ACH check conversion and native electronic payments
- Vast majority of the paper will be long gone by 2010





#### Thank You