

Card trade



Transaction Network Services

TNS dispensing euros with Raphaels Bank and ICE

Card issuers will now be able to provide their customers with the ability to withdraw euros from UK ATMs thanks to Transaction Network Services (TNS), Raphaels Bank and International Currency Exchange (ICE). The TNS-hosted ATMs – deployed by Raphaels Bank at ICE locations – accept both Visa and MasterCard and are commission free with a competitive exchange rate, giving card issuers the choice on their charging configuration.

Phase one of the joint project sees euro-dispensing ATMs in Luton Airport and Waterloo International Station, home of the Eurostar, allowing travellers to conveniently take out euros before leaving the UK. The TNS hosted server manages the ATM network to enable transactions to take place, carrying all transactions and communications between the ATM and the card issuer. TNS is one of the few processors to be fully certified with both Visa and MasterCard to do this.

Mike Smith, Group Director Marketing and Strategy at Lenlyn Group, Raphaels Bank and ICE's parent company, explains, "TNS demonstrated flexibility in their ability to deploy and run the ATM software with all the necessary relationships in place for a system of this complexity to work. TNS has unrivalled experience in the marketplace and, with access to the latest chip and PIN compliancy and fraud protection measures, gives us the confidence to deploy throughout the UK."

TNS will support Raphaels Banks as it looks to deploy euro-dispensing machines in major UK travel gateways to provide travellers with the convenience and speed of any ATM, with the added comfort and secure feeling of doing it in the UK.

Alan-Stephenson Brown, business development director at TNS, comments, "The ATM market is growing, along with consumer demand for increased functionality on the

machines. Consumers will want their cards to do more and more and it will be important to provide travellers with this choice of accessing foreign currency in the UK.”

The second phase of the relationship will be the introduction of dynamic currency conversion (DCC) on sterling-dispensing ATMs, which will allow overseas credit card holders to view the amount requested in their home currency. TNS and Raphaels Bank are also looking at the potential of dual-dispensing ATMs, configured for combinations of sterling, euros and dollars.

About Raphaels Bank

Raphaels is one of the longest established private banks in the UK and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. The bank was founded in 1787 and provides traditional banking services to personal and business customers. It specialises in financing small scale property development throughout the Midlands, Home Counties and the South of England. More recently, Raphaels has secured issuing and acquiring membership of both Visa and Mastercard and is also a member of the Link Interchange network and runs a network of ATMs at travel gateways and other high footfall locations.

About ICE [International Currency Exchange]

With around 250 locations in the UK, Continental Europe, North America and Asia, ICE offers customers and businesses alike a complete retail foreign exchange service that is professional, innovative and flexible in responding to customer needs, by utilising our expertise and an extensive range of travel related financial products. International Currency Exchange plc (ICE) is part of the Lenlyn Group, also incorporating Southern Finance and the private bank R. Raphael & Sons. www.iceplc.com.

About TNS

Transaction Network Services is one of the leading providers of business-critical, cost-effective data communications services for transaction-oriented applications. TNS provides rapid, reliable and secure transaction delivery platforms to enable transaction authorisation and processing across several vertical markets and trading communities.

Since its inception in 1990, TNS has designed and implemented multiple data networks, each designed specifically for the transport of transaction-oriented data. TNS networks support a variety of widely accepted communications protocols and are designed to be scalable and accessible by multiple methods. TNS network technologies have been deployed in the United States and internationally, and TNS networks have become preferred networks servicing the trading community, wireless and wireline carriers, and the card processing and dial-up automated teller machine markets. For further information about TNS transaction solutions, please refer to www.tns-international.com.

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