



Transaction Network Services

### **TNS launches pre-pay card to financial institutions**

- *Service aimed at small card issuers, building societies, banks and financial institutions*

Transaction Network Services UK Ltd (TNS) is launching a new pre-pay electronic payment card facility enabling financial institutions to offer their customers an alternative to traditional payment cards. The card is aimed at those who are ineligible for, or choose not to use, a conventional payment card, such as people with credit problems, temporary residents, or those wanting to minimise their exposure to card not present fraud.

The pre-pay card is also ideal for parents to give to their children as it can be programmed to work only with certain merchant ID codes, for example if a child is underage it can be programmed not to work in an off-licence. The card can also be used to encourage better budgeting skills.

TNS will utilise its existing infrastructure to load the payment cards with funds so customers could top-up their cards either in a branch, at a retailer's point of sale, via dedicated kiosks, or over the telephone. This new payment facility from TNS represents a significant opportunity for smaller organisations, unable to access or develop this technology in-house, to not miss out on this growing payment market.

Statistics from APACS report that around eleven per cent of adults in Great Britain do not hold a current account, yet an electronic payment card is becoming increasingly crucial for transactions, such as shopping online or renting a car. According to TNS, there is also a significant opportunity for pre-pay electronic payment cards in developing nations, where conventional payment cards are less prevalent.

"The growth of credit and debit cards has created a plastic society," says Alan Stephenson-Brown, Business Development Director, TNS. "But this phenomena still leaves hundreds of thousands of people behind, that may either be ineligible for a debit or credit card or don't want to have one. Introducing this new facility will enable

banks, building societies and other financial institutions to broaden their offering and fill a need within their customer base.”

### **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](http://www.tns-international.com)

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