

weekly news round-up

8 February 2019

SUMMARY OF TOPICS:

- Mobile/Contactless and omni-Commerce
- Acquiring/Processing
- Issuing
- Biometrics
- PSD2/Open Banking
- UK Payments Infrastructure
- ATMs (LINK)
- Instant Payments
- Corporate Activity
- Regulation

www.pseconsulting.com

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+44 (0) 20 3771 8520

MOBILE/CONTACTLESS and omni-COMMERCE

Yoyo has launched its new omnichannel platform.
<http://tinyurl.com/y8azes7c>

The new platform combines its in-store digital payments and loyalty experience with an e-commerce solution.

Yoyo has also added a purchase-linked customer feedback feature to the platform.

<http://tinyurl.com/ybrdtzq5>

Individual customer feedback can now be linked to when, where and how they engage with a retailer, without revealing any form of personal identity or financial information.

iDEAL has announced that seven in ten iDEAL online payments are made on mobile devices.

<http://tinyurl.com/ycoh8byo>

In 2018, the share of mobile iDEAL payments jumped to 69.5%, partly due to the popularity of mobile P2P payments.

Monese has announced it is supporting Apple Pay for cardholders in the UK and France.

<http://tinyurl.com/y86yaphu>

N26 has also launched Apple Pay to its customers in the UK.

<http://tinyurl.com/y7f8gyd5>

Divido has announced that Nordea Finance will license Divido's platform to deliver point-of-sale finance to retail merchants.

<http://tinyurl.com/yc8fme9h>

Nordea Finance will whitelabel Divido's technology with a rollout first in Norway, followed by Finland, Sweden and Denmark.

Auchan is opening its cashier-less Auchan Minute in France after Chinese roll-out.

<http://tinyurl.com/yhcaplw>

China <http://tinyurl.com/yhcaplw>

In China uses Wechat Pay or Alipay so nowhere close to Amazon Go type technology.

ACQUIRING/PROCESSING

Secure Trading /acquiring.com have added AEVI's vendor-agnostic payment app, and smart point-of-sale solution to their gateway.

<http://tinyurl.com/y92pavij>

The partnership will allow Secure Trading /acquiring.com to offer omnichannel point-of-sale solutions, powering payments for merchants and partners by leveraging SmartPOS, MPOS, Unattended, Internet of Things (IOT), and new payment form factors.

The Concordis Payment Group is partnering with Scopevisio AG to integrate data streams from the PSP's One Page Shop.

<http://tinyurl.com/y6vc4r6>

By integrating the payment data into the software of the Bonn-based company, financial processes such as invoice processing and checking incoming payments are automated. Credit card transactions are cleared directly by the integrated Scopevisio assistant with manual checks no longer necessary.

American Express and Bill.com have announced a new AP solution: American Express "Vendor Pay" by Bill.com.

<http://tinyurl.com/y778q3zs>

Vendor Pay couples automating your accounts payable process with the ability for businesses to pay vendors with their American Express Business or Corporate Card, without having to set up a new Card account.

ISSUING

Danske Bank and Nets have entered into a five-year agreement to issue and develop the Dankort card.

<http://tinyurl.com/yarhaq9u>

The new agreement is directly between Danske Bank and Nets rather than the previous one that was with the banks jointly, and ensures that Danske Bank's customers can have a Dankort card after 2019. It will also see Danske assume joint responsibility for cooperating with Nets to develop the payment infrastructure in Denmark

BIOMETRICS

SmartMetric has entered into an agreement and license with ServiRed to manufacture the SmartMetric biometric credit card.

<http://tinyurl.com/yc75va3t>

The cards will have the Advantis EMV chip technology and supports fingerprint authentication.

PSD2/OPEN BANKING

The OBIE has published its [Operational Guidelines and accompanying Checklist](#).

Document <http://tinyurl.com/yak4bemg>

The Guidelines have been produced to provide clarity and recommendations to financial institutions (ASPSPs) on the regulatory requirements for a dedicated interface, as set out in PSD2, RTS, EBA Guidelines and FCA Approach documents. The Checklist consolidates the requirements of the FCA Checklist, the Guidelines recommendations, and helps FIs identify where they are conforming to the latter.

PSD2/OPEN BANKING (Cont)

RBS is working with fintech FreeAgent to offer direct bank feeds of NatWest and Royal Bank of Scotland accounts via the Open Banking platform for its SME customers.

<http://tinyurl.com/ycr35ql3>

The new feature uses Open Banking to deliver secure data feeds from customers' accounts via an API directly into FreeAgent. Initially open to a select group of test users, a wider roll-out is expected later in 2019.

Lloyds Bank and Halifax customers can now load all their personal current accounts from CMA9 banks.

<http://tinyurl.com/yabot25g>

Customers can add an account in their online banking app using a secure Open Banking connection.

UK PAYMENTS INFRASTRUCTURE

Pay.uk New Payments Architecture Programme Industry e-newsletter.

<http://tinyurl.com/y7u95as8>

Covers NPA, Programme highlights, Market Overlays Update including CoP and RtP, and Industry Engagement. It includes the information that Cheques are to be excluded from the NPA.

ATMs (LINK)

The **PSR** is proposing to extend the deadline for LINK's central infrastructure services (CIS) from 2 April 2021 to 2 October 2021.

[Read the draft specific direction here.](#)

Document <http://tinyurl.com/yaoylorm>

The extension of the competitive tender process is deemed necessary to allow LINK's operator to resolve outstanding issues before awarding the CIS contract. LSHL expects to award the new contract during August 2019.

INSTANT PAYMENTS

Yves Mersch speech - Promoting innovation and integration in retail payments to achieve tangible benefits for people and businesses.

<http://tinyurl.com/y75xx3c6>

The ECB Executive Board Member on his favourite subject of using instant payments to challenge the ICS. 'Digitalisation changes the way we pay'.

CORPORATE ACTIVITY

Wirecard remains embroiled in a 'criminal misconduct' spat with the FT. IR Statement 8 February 2019.

<http://tinyurl.com/yd34fb4f>

Wirecard denies the contents of the latest FT article and says it is taking legal actions against the FT and its unethical reporting.

Visa has raised its offer for Earthport to c£247m according to Reuters.

<http://tinyurl.com/yahmhlcu>

Earthport is now said to be recommending the Visa bid although nothing new yet on Earthport IR page.

Mastercard has announced a new sonic brand identity.

<http://tinyurl.com/y9hx37zb>

Video <http://tinyurl.com/y7kyrm4g>

'A comprehensive sound architecture that signifies the latest advancement for the brand. Wherever consumers engage with MasterCard the distinct and memorable Mastercard melody will provide simple, seamless familiarity.'

Barclays is partnering with payment and loyalty platform company Bink.

<http://tinyurl.com/yav2eqlp>

The bank has committed to a significant investment (no amount quoted) and will take a minority stake in the firm. The deal is set to digitalise the way customers engage with loyalty programmes, enabling them to automatically collect loyalty points when they make a purchase with their linked payment card.

Bud has raised \$20m in a Series A funding

<http://tinyurl.com/yauh3zxi>

The round includes investments by HSBC, Goldman Sachs, Banco Sabadell, ANZ and Investec. The funds will be used to double the number of staff and expand into new markets.

REGULATION (Cards)

The **PSR** has published a Draft Specific Direction on Crisis Communications for Visa.

<http://tinyurl.com/y8csrdbu>

Consultation Document

<http://tinyurl.com/y82ge56e>

This relates to the Visa outage last June and issues with Visa's communications during the outage. The aim of the proposed direction is to make sure Visa does all it can to ensure that its participants, service users and other stakeholders are given enough information. It requires Visa Europe to review and adopt appropriate incident communication strategy and response plans.

The **PSR** has also published a Consultation on its proposed pass-through analysis as part of its card acquiring investigation.

<http://tinyurl.com/ya5x5bq8>

Consultation <http://tinyurl.com/yd8swve3>

The analysis will examine how the level of fees that merchants pay for card-acquiring services have responded to changes in interchange fees and

scheme fees. This is a technical working paper. It is likely to be of most interest to acquirers.