

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MPX and Payments Central Announce Merger to form EPCOR

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – July 1, 2009 – Mid-America Payment Exchange (MPX) and Payments Central, regional payments associations headquartered in Kansas City, Mo. and Columbus, Ohio respectively, announce their merger effective July 1, 2009. The combined association will incorporate under the new name of EPCOR. EPCOR will provide electronic payments and risk management education and support to over 2,300 financial institutions in 12 states in the central United States. EPCOR serves 14 percent of all U.S. financial institutions and represents over 21 percent of financial institutions affiliated with NACHA through a regional payment association.

Both MPX and Payments Central trace their roots back to the early days of the ACH Network when their primary role was to provide ACH rules training and support to banks, credit unions and thrifts. Both organizations evolved over the years to serve as a resource on broader payment systems rules, regulations, operational processes and risk management for member financial institutions.

“Leveraging our combined staff and resources, EPCOR will be better positioned to be an advocate for our member institutions in the automated clearing house (ACH) rules-making process and in the development of new payment applications,” says EPCOR CEO, Ann-Marie Bartels.

“Assisting members in understanding, implementing and complying with new rules and payment applications is our primary purpose,” adds Jerry Woessner, EPCOR president. “We accomplish this through personalized support, a wide variety of training programs and publications and conducting ACH Rules compliance audits and risk assessments for our members.”

The Board of Directors includes 22 officers of member institutions from throughout EPCOR’s 12-state region. Russ Oatman, Senior Vice President, First National Bank of Omaha will serve as the first Chairman of the EPCOR Board. Other EPCOR officers include Robert Becker, Chief Operations Officer, The Ohio Educational Credit Union, Cleveland; Larry Matteson, Vice President, Senior Product Manager, Huntington National Bank, Columbus, Ohio and Michael S. Spafford, Senior Vice President, Commerce Bank NA, Kansas City, Mo.

“The Board is comprised of representatives from all types and size of member institutions to ensure that as we have a balanced perspective as we establish strategic direction for the association,” says Oatman.

As a member-focused payments association, EPCOR will provide electronic payments and risk management information, education, support and national industry representation to its financial institution members and affiliated organizations throughout Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Southern Illinois, Southwestern Iowa, Western Pennsylvania and the Panhandle of West Virginia.

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