

TrustCommerce and MagTek® Help with PCI Compliance

California, 5 October 2006 -- TrustCommerce and MagTek have collaborated to deliver a truly encrypted end to end Point of Sale payment environment utilizing TC POS Vault from TrustCommerce and MagTek's MagnePrint®-enabled Encrypting Magnetic Stripe Reader. This secure environment provides complete protection of sensitive card data from the moment the card is swiped through the reader.

The data encryption process prevents card holder information from being compromised at any point throughout the transaction, reducing merchant's management, network, and infrastructure expenses, while offering unequaled integrated security and peace of mind. ★

Optimal : Game Over

Montreal, 10 October 2006 – On October 2nd, 2006, Optimal Group Inc., made an announcement regarding the passing of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 by the United States Congress and its impact on FireOne Group plc. Optimal Group holds approximately 76% of the issued and outstanding shares of FireOne Group.

FireOne Group announced that following the approval of the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006, it will immediately cease to process settlement for transactions originating from U. S consumers that may be viewed as related to online gambling. FireOne Group also announced that as a consequence of the anticipated significant negative impact on its business and results of operations, it has embarked upon a restructuring of its operations and cost base. It is expected that the President of the United States of America will sign the Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act of 2006 into law in the immediate future.

FireOne Group further stated that it will continue to offer its multi-currency credit and debit card and FirePay electronic wallet processing to the online gambling industry originating from non-U. S. consumers and not prohibited by the Act, and will consider card-not-present payment processing opportunities outside of online gambling. ★

Debit-card use is on the rise

North America, 20 October 2006 – One-third of all consumer purchases in the North America are now made through debit cards, a 50 percent increase in only seven years. The use of debit cards for purchases gives the consumer the ability to save money, get cash and eliminate credit-card debt. ★

UseMyBank Services Joins NACHA Internet Council

Ontario, 20 September 2006 – UseMyBank Services, Inc. has joined the NACHA Internet Council. The mission of the Internet Council is to smooth the progress of electronic commerce over open networks by enabling business, government and consumers to transact in a secure and cost-effective manner.

“Based on UseMyBank's success in the area of online direct debit, we believe that our membership in NACHA's Internet

Council will help make a positive impact on the ACH network by working together to promote efficiency, reliability, and security,” said Brian Crozier, VP of Business Development, UseMyBank.

“The past four years in Canada have demonstrated that we are fully aware of all the major issues surrounding online debit. Everything from risk aversion management, customer support, trends, and other valuable information is readily available to us. We would hope that this would prove invaluable to an organization such as NACHA,” said Joseph Iuso, CEO, UseMyBank. ★

POSLynx220™ Approved by Merchant Link for Hospitality Systems Solution

Ottawa, 22 September 2006 – Precidia Technologies Inc., a global leader in the design and manufacture of Internet Protocol (IP) access devices, announces verification of its POSLynx220™ with NetVu™ payment router by Merchant Link, a leading solutions provider to the integrated point-of-sale (POS) industry. The POSLynx220 multi-port payment router connects serial and dial based equipment such as PC or electronic cash registers and ATMs to DSL, cable or wireless IP networks. Designed to meet the needs of the retail payments industry, it features SSL, dial back up and routing to multiple destinations based on card type.

Following extensive testing, the POSLynx220 has been verified by Merchant Link to transmit high-speed transactions via the Merchant Link siteNET® M2 Internet Gateway, to the processing host. The POSLynx220 converts the dial message to an IP format for transmission over the Merchant Link network. The testing verified transactions transmitted via a PC-based integrated point-of-sale system and confirmed that transaction time was significantly improved. Hospitality management systems from several major vendors are widely-used for electronic payments in the restaurant industry, but many are not currently configured to send transactions over a high speed broadband network.

Precidia president Deepak Wanner says this option not only helps merchants extend the functional life of their equipment, but also delivers value added services: “With NetVu, users in the high volume restaurant and hospitality sectors gain access to tools such as online support and detailed event logging. While POSLynx speeds transactions, NetVu is working to deliver critical operational data. Together they deliver a powerful value-add to users of hospitality management systems”, said Mr. Wanner. ★

Over 500 Businesses Sign Up For ZATA in B.C.

Vancouver, 13 October 2006 – ZATA, is a market sales intelligence and benchmarking tool for BC's retail and restaurant industries. Over 500 BC retail outlets and restaurants have already signed up for the new service and more businesses are signing up every week. The BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association (BCRFA) and Retail BC have developed ZATA's online data network in partnership with BC-based technology firm Vivonet.

Here's how it works. Participating businesses simply enter their sales data for the week in order to get an accurate market ranking known as a ZATA score, an easy to understand number that lets them know exactly how they compare with other similar