



Payment Alliance International Acquires Payment Transaction Solutions, LP

Deal continues diverse growth of new payment firm

LOUISVILLE, Ky. – January 30, 2006 – Payment Alliance International (PAI), an emerging leader in the payment sector, announced today its acquisition of Payment Transaction Solutions, LP (PTS), a leading provider of payment processing services to financial institutions. This transaction will provide expanded access to Financial Institutions for PAI.

Since its inception in 1999, Memphis-based PTS has become one of the most valued payment entities in the Mid-South by developing key relationships with more than 500 bank branches across the country. The acquisition of PTS provides expanded access to markets where PAI currently is not present.

“When you look at the payment sector, PTS has one of the best combinations of leadership and clients,” says John J. Leehy III, CEO of PAI. “We need to be strong in this part of the country, and we need to have great relationships with financial institutions. PTS brings both.”

PTS will continue to expand its network of agent banks and bank customers while working with PAI to increase the quantity and value of services and programs available for all its clients.

“PAI is driving innovation in the payment industry today, and I’m pleased that we will be a part of this dynamic team of industry professionals,” said Bruce Schratz, President of PTS.

“We’ve built a great organization that complements PAI. Together, we will make a significant impact in the industry,” added Steve Demaree, CEO of PTS.

The merging of operations will begin immediately, and PTS will retain its identity into the second quarter of 2006. Details of the acquisition were not released.

About PAI

Payment Alliance International (PAI) is an emerging leader in the payment sector offering credit card and check processing as well as other services like ATM and analysis products. Created by leading payment executives, PAI is poised to become one of the fastest growing companies in America. PAI is based in Louisville, Kentucky.

About PTS

Payment Transaction Solutions, LP (PTS) is a leading provider of payment processing services to more than 500 bank branches nationally. The company’s services include check 21 processing solutions, card issuing programs, ATM placement, gift & loyalty card products, as well as card and electronic check processing. PTS is based in Memphis, Tennessee.

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