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July 24th, 2015
Edition #464

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Trending This Week...

This week, [First Data filed a registration with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in relation to an initial public offering.](#)

Following the announcement, [TSG put together an analysis](#) to look at First Data in the Payments Ecosystem, opportunities and technology plays, and the current environment of public payments companies. In addition, TSG discussed the news with a selection of First Data third-party processing clients and has included their comments.

Other highlights include:

- [MasterCard: Why the Move to Chip-Cards is So Important](#)
- [Starbucks Now Clocking 9M Mobile Payments Per Week](#)
- [Neiman Marcus Card Data Breach Suit Given New Life](#)
- [PayPal! Former Retail Chief Kingsborough Joins Capital One](#)

New eReport: Tablet & Card Reader POS Directory

This market research report covers **53 tablet and smartphone point of sale products in the market** and includes established companies as well as emerging players. Those included are most likely to increase market presence over the next five years. [Click here for a preview and see the companies included.](#)

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**This Day
in History: 1911
Machu Picchu
Discovered**

On July 24, 1911, American archeologist Hiram Bingham gets his first look at Machu Picchu, an

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Featured

TSG Commentary: First Data Public Offering Announcement

7/24/15 TSG



On July 20, First Data filed a registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission related to an initial public offering.

Following the announcement, TSG put together an analysis to look at First Data in the Payments Ecosystem, opportunities and technology plays, and the current environment of public payments companies. In addition, TSG discussed the news with a selection of First Data third-party processing clients and has included their comments.

[Click here to read the full analysis.](#)

Related:

- [First Data Files Registration Statement for Proposed IPO](#)
- [How Big Could a First Data Stock Offering Be?](#)
- [First Data: The Story of the Omaha-born Giant that Refused to Die](#)
- [First Data IPO Likely to be One of Year's Largest](#)

MasterCard Exec: Why the Move to Chip-Cards is So Important

7/22/15 Fortune

It's like having a little micro-computer on your card. What chip can do, besides better security, is decision a transaction on the spot. You can have data-like parameters, balance tracking-on the chip, so the chip and the terminal can resolve a transaction right there and not depend on the telecommunications. A mag-stripe is just static data, whereas a chip is creating dynamic data with a key generated every time you make a transaction.

PayPal Celebrates Listing on Nasdaq and Completes Separation from eBay Inc.

7/20/15 BusinessWire

PayPal Holdings, Inc. announced that it has completed its separation from eBay Inc. and is now an independent public company trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market under the ticker symbol "PYPL." The company's leadership team joined with employees and merchants to push the iconic PayPal button to ring the opening bell at Nasdaq to mark the milestone.

The Early Winner Of The Presidential Election? Stripe

ancient Inca settlement in Peru that is now one of the world's top tourist destinations.

Tucked away in the rocky countryside northwest of Cuzco, Machu Picchu is believed to have been a summer retreat for Inca leaders, whose civilization was virtually wiped out by Spanish invaders in the 16th century. For hundreds of years afterwards, its existence was a secret known only to the peasants living in the region. That all changed in the summer of 1911, when Bingham arrived with a small team of explorers to search for the famous "lost" cities of the Incas.

Traveling on foot and by mule, Bingham and his team made their way from Cuzco into the Urubamba Valley, where a local farmer told them of some ruins located at the top of a nearby mountain. The farmer called the mountain Machu Picchu, which meant "Old Peak" in the native Quechua language. The next day-July 24-after a tough climb to the mountain's ridge in cold and drizzly weather, Bingham met a small group of peasants who showed him the rest of the way. Led by an 11-year-old boy, Bingham got his first glimpse of the intricate network of stone terraces marking the entrance to Machu Picchu. [Click here to read more.](#)

7/22/15 Forbes

It may be more than a year out from the presidential election, but there is already a clear winner in the race for the White House. That would be Stripe, a San Francisco payments startup, which has become the go-to platform to support the donation systems for almost half of the major presidential candidates. Based on filings with the Federal Election Commission, candidates including Democrats Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders as well as Republican Senators Marco Rubio and Rand Paul have all sided with Stripe, which received more than \$800,000 in total donation processing fees from eight different campaigns last quarter.

Visa in Talks to Reunite with Visa Europe

7/23/15 Reuters

Credit and debit card issuer Visa Inc. said it was in talks to reunite with former subsidiary Visa Europe Ltd in a deal that would give the global company more scale to compete with arch-rival MasterCard Inc. Shares of Visa, which also reported a better-than-expected quarterly profit as its U.S. customers spent more, rose as much as 7.5 percent to \$77.11 in extended trading.

ISOs Must Decide What to Become as Payments Grow Up

7/20/15 ISO & Agent

Independent sales organizations are facing an age-old question that has confronted teenagers for centuries: What are they going to do with their future? As payments technology evolves, ISOs will be confronted with the choice of taking on a new role with their clients. They can be "all things payments" to better service merchants and acquiring banks, or they can sharpen their focus to become specialists in a niche field. This was the underlying question many people faced at this year's Midwest Acquirers Association conference, which took place in Chicago last week.

Eye On Earnings: AmEx's Earnings Slip But OptBlue Grows; Discover's Pulse Volume Dips

7/23/15 Digital Transactions

American Express Co. saw total revenues and profits decline by 4% in the second quarter, but its OptBlue program has added 700,000 small merchants this year. Meanwhile, Discover Financial Services reported late Wednesday that its Pulse volume fell after losing a large issuer. New York City-based AmEx on Wednesday reported total revenues, net of interest expense, of \$8.28 billion versus \$8.63 billion in 2014's second quarter, and net income of \$1.47 billion against \$1.53 billion a year earlier, when AmEx had a one-time gain from the sale of its business-travel operation.

Five years After Dodd-Frank, Time for a Course Correction at CFPB

7/20/15 The Hill

When disaster strikes in this country, someone usually grabs the microphone to pronounce that Washington will step in with new programs to ensure "it" will never happen again. Such was the case five years ago this month with the passage of the Dodd-Frank Act, the voluminous legislation intended to supposedly ensure that there would never be a repeat of the 2008 financial crisis that gripped America.

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Mobile Payments & Bitcoin

Starbucks Now Clocking Nine Million Mobile Payments Per Week

7/24/15 LTP

With 16 million active users, coffee chain Starbucks is now clocking 9 million mobile payments per week. In terms of transaction value, it is around 20% of all transactions in US stores. Since December 2014, the number of active users has grown by 3 million and the number of weekly payments has grown by 2 million.

Apple Pay Goes Live for Over 30 New Banks and Credit Unions in the U.S.

7/23/15 gto5 Mac

With Apple Pay now up and running in the UK, Apple is continuing to roll out additional banks and credit unions in waves across the US for its iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch-based mobile payment service. The latest round includes 34 more institutions now supporting Apple Pay.

The A, B, Cs Of PayPal's Next Act

7/20/15 Pymnts

Back in 2007 - the year the iPhone was introduced and Amazon and eBay were both celebrating their 12th birthdays - PayPal was about 25 percent of eBay's total revenues. By 2011, that had become just about a third, and in 2014 it was reported to be 43 percent. Last week - and the last time that both would report as a single company - PayPal was just about half of eBay's reported revenues. Analysts estimate that eBay will have an \$8 billion revenue hit as a result of the split. As a single entity, eBay not only masked PayPal's value, it also masked eBay's challenges in operating in an increasingly crowded and competitive space.

Half of Brits Want Retailers to Offer Contactless

7/22/15 Finextra

Despite its relative recent introduction, over a tenth (12 per cent) of consumers state that they do not think enough retailers offer contactless and just under a tenth (9 per cent) suggest that the current £20 spending limit is too low. However, all is not lost for those businesses that do not hold payment terminals, as four out of ten consumers (40 per cent), say that they would still continue to shop in businesses that do not offer contactless card payment facilities.

NCR Small Business Releases All-in-One Tablet POS System

7/20/15 NCR

NCR Small Business today announced the launch of NCR Silver Register™, an all-in-one, tablet point-of-sale (POS) system that is built for purpose, runs NCR Silver™ in the cloud and excludes third-party user applications to help maximize employee productivity and help minimize security risks. The integrated system, which operates on a closed Android platform, is ready, out of the box, with implementation software allowing for a quick set-up of NCR Silver so merchants can ring-up sales the same day.

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Regulation & Security

Report: Spammers Tied To JPMorgan Chase Hack

7/22/15 *Bank Info Security*

The Manhattan U.S. Attorney's office has charged three men with running a pump-and-dump stock scheme that blasted out millions of spam emails per day to artificially "pump" up the price of penny stocks they owned, before the defendants allegedly "dumped" their stocks, making at least \$2.8 million in profits. The scheme was reportedly also tied to hack attacks against financial services heavyweights JPMorgan Chase, Fidelity Investments and E*Trade Financial.

Spike in ATM Skimming in Mexico?

7/22/15 *KrebsOnSecurity*

Several sources in the financial industry say they are seeing a spike in fraud on customer cards used at ATMs in Mexico. The reason behind that apparent increase hopefully will be fodder for another story. In this post, we'll take a closer look at a pair of ATM skimming devices that were found this month attached to a cash machine in Puerto Vallarta - a popular tourist destination on Mexico's Pacific coast.

Neiman Marcus Customer Card Data Breach Suit Given New Life

7/20/15 *Bloomberg Business*

Neiman Marcus Group LLC must face a proposed class action in which the high-end retailer is accused of failing to protect customers from computer hackers who stole credit and debit card information, an appeals court ruled, saying a judge decided too soon that the victims didn't have a case. The decision reverses a September ruling by a Chicago federal judge who found the customers didn't show they suffered concrete harm. The consumers sued Neiman Marcus for negligence, breach of contract and deceptive business practices.

Private Equity Firm Sees Upside in Small Banks' Compliance Pain

7/22/15 *BTN*

Banker's Toolbox now has a private equity war chest. The Austin, Texas, company, which helps community banks and credit unions detect money laundering and fraud, has received a significant investment from Accel-KKR, a tech-focused private equity firm. "We've bootstrapped our way through the last 15 years, but we now felt it was the right time to find a partner to help us get to the next level," said Daniel Cho, chief executive of Banker's Toolbox. "Our plan is to triple or quadruple our company in the next four to five years."

Costco, Other Retailers Take Photo Centers Offline After Possible Breach

7/20/15 *NBC News*

Several more retail chains, including Costco and Sam's Club, have

temporarily taken down their online printing stores in the wake of a suspected data breach at PNI Digital Media, a third-party vendor that manages and/or hosts photo services sites. Last week CVS Health Corp. disabled its CVSphoto.com site, and the week before Walmart Canada's walmartphotocentre.ca took a similar action after it was informed that customer credit card data had been potentially compromised. Other photo printing sites that might have been recently affected included Rite Aid Corp., Sam's Club and British supermarket chain Tesco's.



Economy

U.S. Jobless Claims Lowest Since 1973

7/23/15 Reuters

The number of Americans filing new applications for unemployment benefits last week dropped to its lowest level in more than 41-1/2 years, suggesting the labor market maintained a sturdy pace of job growth in July. Other data on Thursday also offered an upbeat assessment of the economy. A gauge of future economic activity increased solidly in June and another measure suggested growth picked up slightly last month.

America's Third-Quarter Outlook Brightens

7/21/15 MarketWatch

After a rather dismal first half, the rate of growth of the U.S. economy looks set to pick up in the current period. If the MarketWatch consensus is correct, third-quarter growth could hit the tape at 3% or better. Besides the economy's internal dynamics, demand is getting a boost from external factors as well. We can credit easy money and rock-bottom interest rates for bringing the economy to this point so far. Even fiscal policy has helped - after all, budget deficits have at least some redeeming qualities.



Payments Press

PayPal's Former Retail Chief Kingsborough Joins Capital One

7/22/15 Recode

Don Kingsborough, the retail and payments veteran who was, most recently, a high-ranking PayPal executive, has joined Capital One to work on a team that invests in and acquires startups. The move comes about six months after Kingsborough left PayPal, where he led the company's high-profile initiative to push PayPal as a payment method in brick-and-mortar stores. At Capital One, Kingsborough will join the Ventures team as a managing director, but he said in an interview that he imagines he will also work on broader digital initiatives outside of the ventures group,

too.

Gravity Payments CEO, Who Set \$70K Minimum Pay, Sued by Brother

7/21/15 The Seattle Times

A Seattle CEO who received widespread recognition after announcing plans to raise his credit-card-processing company's minimum salary to \$70,000 is being sued by his brother, King County Superior Court documents show. Lucas Price, co-founder and director of Gravity Payments, accuses his brother, co-founder and CEO Dan Price, of violating Lucas' rights as minority shareholder and breaching duties and contracts, according to court records.

Bank of America Replaces Its Chief Financial Officer as Part of a Shake-Up

7/22/15 DealBook

Bank of America, which has struggled to generate consistent profits even as other banks have begun to prosper, is broadly overhauling its top leadership, including the abrupt replacement of its chief financial officer, Bruce Thompson. Mr. Thompson, who has been mentioned as a possible heir to the bank's chief, Brian T. Moynihan, is stepping down at the end of the month, Bank of America announced on Wednesday evening in a memo to employees. Mr. Thompson served as chief risk and chief financial officer for five and a half years.

Industry Veteran Dave Chester Appointed as Unified Payments CEO

7/21/15 Net Element

Net Element, Inc. (NASDAQ: NETE) ("Net Element" or the "Company") announces the appointment of David Chester to lead Net Element's US subsidiary, Unified Payments as its CEO. Chester joins the company with 30 years' experience in the payments field and long standing relationships with sponsoring banks, national retailers, direct marketers, eCommerce, independent sales organizations (ISO's) and national catalogers.

NCR May Be Up For Grabs As Thoma Bravo Prepares Bid

7/21/15 Payment Week

The mobile payments market has quite a bit of potential, and people out there are wondering where it will go next. New reports, however, have put one clear price tag on at least part of the mobile payments market, as a Reuters report suggests, Thoma Bravo may be assembling a bid for NCR, a staggering \$9 billion.

ETA Expands Policy Advocacy with New Director of Regulatory Affairs

7/22/15 ETA

The Electronic Transactions Association, the global trade association of the payments technology industry, announced the next step in its continued expansion of government relations activities with the hiring of seasoned public affairs professional Mary Albert as the Director of Regulatory Affairs. "Mary brings extensive experience in regulatory and legislative affairs to our growing ETA team," said Jason Oxman, CEO of ETA.

Priority Payment Systems Acquires American Credit Card Processing Corporation

7/23/15 ABC 3340

Priority Payment Systems, a leading provider of payment processing services and related technology solutions, announced the acquisition of Huntington, New York based payments processor American Credit Card Processing Corporation ("ACCPC"). Terms of the deal were not disclosed. As part of this transaction, Priority, will add over 9,000 new merchant accounts generating roughly \$2.0 Billion in annual charge volume on the TSYS platform.

Square Launches Dashboard App For iOS So Businesses Can Track Sales In Real-Time

7/21/15 TechCrunch

Over the past few years, Square has evolved from being "that payment company with the recognizable dongle," to an indispensable part of the technology stack for quite a few businesses. It's not just about accepting the payments anymore, it's about managing your business with software. Today, Square is releasing its second non-consumer app, a dashboard app for iOS that lets business owners track sales in real-time and allows them to dig into the health of their business with analytics.

MasterCard Opens its Digital Security Lab to Customers

7/23/15 MasterCard

MasterCard today opened its digital security facility to its customers, driving further collaboration on key issues that can deliver greater payments peace of mind. Located in England, the MasterCard DigiSec Lab is focused on proactively testing threats to all forms of digital payments in coordination with government security agencies and leading academics.

Cayan Study Reveals Small Business EMV Sentiments

7/23/15 The Green Sheet

With the EMV liability shift deadline less than three months away, 52 percent of small businesses will not be EMV-ready, and 37 percent of small businesses have no plans to accept EMV cards after the deadline. But that's likely to change. Cayan, The Payment Possibilities Company™, conducted a study in June, 2015 to find out what will tip the scale on EMV card acceptance. Cayan surveyed 344 small business owners or managers. Each small business accepts credit or debit cards and employs fewer than 50 people.

Visa Inc. Declares Quarterly Dividend

7/22/15 Visa

Visa Inc. announced that its board of directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.12 per share of class A common stock (determined in the case of class B and class C common stock on an as-converted basis) payable on September 1, 2015, to all holders of record of the Company's class A, B and C common stock as of August 14, 2015.

Chase and Southwest Airlines Renewal Cleared for Takeoff

7/23/15 BusinessWire

Chase Card Services, a division of JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Southwest Airlines® announced a multi-year extension to the nearly 20-year partnership for co-branded credit cards, Southwest Airlines® Rapid Rewards® Plus, Premier and Business Cards. "This extension reinforces our long-term commitment to collaborating on a program that delivers exceptional value and service to our shared customers," said Eileen Serra, chief executive officer of Chase Card Services.

Electronic Merchant Systems Partners with Womply to Offer EMS Insights

7/20/15 PRWeb

Electronic Merchant Systems (EMS), a leader in payment processing, and Womply have partnered to offer merchants EMS Insights, a platform to enable EMS merchants to grow, protect, and simplify their businesses. EMS Insights is an online dashboard that takes the power of big data and makes it available to small businesses. By monitoring close competitors, defending online reputations and analyzing external events, such as weather, it enables merchants to make faster, smarter decisions.

Moneris Drives Businesses to Mobile Solutions

7/22/15 Yahoo! Finance

Moneris Solutions Corporation, one of North America's largest processors of debit and credit card payments, announced it has accelerated its rollout of integrated mobile solutions. Moneris is using its national scope, suite of products and end-to-end customer experience know-how to help businesses adopt management solutions that take advantage of vertical applications and anywhere, everywhere payment acceptance.

Gemalto and InComm to Deliver Prepaid Contactless Cards to Mobile Devices

7/21/15 NFC World

Digital security specialist Gemalto has partnered with prepaid card provider InComm to enable mobile wallet providers to offer prepaid NFC mobile payment services. "The InComm Mobile Platform (IMP) enables mobile wallet providers and merchants to streamline the deployment of prepaid contactless payments," Gemalto says. "InComm is leveraging Gemalto's infrastructure to securely pass prepaid card information from InComm's platform to the consumer's NFC-enabled mobile device.

Business Discount Plan selects Merchant Cash and Capital

7/23/15 The Green Sheet

Business Discount Plan (BDP) has selected Merchant Cash and Capital (MCC) as the exclusive finance provider for Business Discount Plan members. Business Discount Plan (BDP), based in Atlanta, GA, is a value-added program which enables the payments industry, specifically independent sales offices (ISO's), to provide valuable discounts and benefits to the merchants they serve. Now BDP members can also utilize the unique business financing options offered by MCC, enhancing a program that already saves small businesses time and money.

SunTec Announces Partnership with Loylogic to Help Banks Retain Customers

7/22/15 ITProPortal

SunTec has announced a partnership with Loylogic in an effort to help banks keep their customers via carefully crafted loyalty schemes. SunTec is a provider of revenue management and business assurance solutions to companies in the financial services arena, and Loylogic works with the "world's leading loyalty programs" to drive engagement and commerce.



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