

Brief News to the Payments Trade Press:

EPSM's Review for 2019: Eight new members and a PSD2-SCA call to regulators

Munich, 31 January 2020

In 2019, the European trade association EPSM, representing the interests of payment service providers for merchants, has seen a consolidation in its membership base mainly due to various M&A activities, but gained also eight new members. As a result, the total membership grew slightly from 66 members in January 2019 to 68 members from 17 countries at the beginning of 2020.

The new voting members are the well-established acquirer JCC, based in Cyprus and the start-up Paystra, based in Lithuania. Further new extra-ordinary, non-voting members are Web Shield (United Kingdom), Apple Payments (United States), LexisNexis Risk Solutions (United Kingdom), Cardlink (Greece), the Dutch Payments Association (Netherlands), and New SIA Greece (Greece).

Three EPSM Meetings with 40 – 60 participants and several external speakers were held in Frankfurt, Germany (hosted by American Express), Mondorf, Luxembourg (hosted by 3C Payment), and Vienna, Austria (hosted by Blue Code).

In July 2019, EPSM called to national PSD2 regulators for a delayed and EU-wide harmonized approach of the new PSD2-SCA rules for ecommerce card transactions. The corresponding EPSM press release was mentioned in more than 25 articles of trade publications from nine countries. Supporting the actions of other, much more influential industry groups, this joint activity has helped to persuade European regulators to delay the PSD2-SCA requirements for ecommerce card transactions by 15 months. The EPSM shares the opinion of other market participants, that this delay was very appropriate, as the technical infrastructure across various IT-operations was not ready yet, and therefore, the regulators' decision helped to avoid some severe operational "fire" in European ecommerce card acceptance during last September.

Currently, EPSM continues to look at PSD2-SCA topics, like the progressing implementations of EMV 3DS 2.1 and 2.2 and tries to get a better understanding of "MITs - Merchant Initiated Transactions". In addition, regulatory requirements like DCC and the future EU VAT-law reporting requirements are topics, and last but not least payment trends like new payment systems and new payment instruments like wearables.

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About the EPSM:

The European trade association EPSM represents the interests of payment service providers for merchants, like acquirers and internet PSPs for the payments acceptance. As a non-for profit organization, it provides a cost-effective interest representation and general information exchange on payment topics to its members.

Since its founding in April 2005, the specialized EPSM has grown to 68 EPSM members with headquarters in 16 European countries (AT, BE, CH, CY, CZ, DE, FR, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, LT, NL, SE, UK) and one country outside

Europe (USA). There are 35 voting (ordinary) members, like acquirers, payment network operators, and internet payment providers, and 33 non-voting (extra-ordinary) members, like payment schemes, service providers, and terminal manufacturers.

The association has been in contact with the European Commission, the ECB, the EBA, and other European and national organisations and has actively taken part in several consultation proceedings. EPSM representatives are also active in the EU Payment Systems Market Expert Group (PSMEG) and the global PCI SSC Board of Advisors (PCI BoA).

The services for members include three EPSM Meetings per year with external speakers, up-to-date information by e-mail, a homepage with a non-public intranet, a small PSD2-SCA working group, and a regular “EPSM Market Research Newsletter” and “EPSM Legal Research Newsletter”.

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