



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Michael Herd
mherd@nacha.org

NACHA Issues Training Materials on New Back Office Check Conversion

Businesses and Financial Institutions Can Access Online at No Charge

Herndon, Virginia, November 14, 2006 – With businesses and the financial services industry gearing up for back office check conversion, NACHA - The Electronic Payments Association has released resource materials that businesses and financial institutions can use to begin training customer service staff about the new ACH check conversion application. Enabled by new NACHA rules that become effective March 16, 2007, back office conversion (BOC) allows businesses and billers that accept checks at the point-of-sale or at manned bill payment locations to convert eligible checks to ACH debits in a centralized location.

“NACHA and its members are committed to educating the marketplace and consumers about check conversion,” said Mark Tizzard, Payment Strategies Director of Wachovia, and co-chair of the BOC Education Task Force, the group that spearheaded this effort. “The training materials provide businesses, processors, and financial institutions with a tremendous amount of organized and interactive information to answer their customers’ questions about back office check conversion.”

The training materials can be accessed and downloaded from the Business or Financial Institution sections of the Electronic Payments web site at <http://www.electronicpayments.org>. Currently, the material includes interactive training decks and a sample consumer “take-away.” Additional information for consumers will be available closer to the implementation date in March. The materials were produced by NACHA’s BOC Education Task Force and are available to businesses and financial institutions at no charge.

“Several requirements of NACHA’s back office conversion rules are intended to ensure that customers are properly notified that their checks may be converted,” said Peter Hohenstein, Senior Vice President of Bank of America, and the other co-chair of the BOC Education Task Force. “Even so, consumers may still have questions that either the businesses or their financial institution will need to answer.”

The rules include notification and information requirements that are consistent with those recently required by the Federal Reserve’s changes to Regulation E. In addition, NACHA’s rules require the provision of a working customer service telephone number that is answered during business hours.

Check conversion has been available in the marketplace since September 1999, when NACHA’s interim rules for converting checks at the point-of-purchase went into effect. NACHA estimates that more than 2.3 billion checks were converted into ACH payments in 2005.

About the ACH Network and NACHA - The Electronic Payments Association

The Automated Clearing House (ACH) Network facilitates commerce, electronically, by serving as an efficient, reliable and secure payments system. NACHA, led by member depository financial institutions and payments associations, fulfills this purpose by managing the development, administration, and governance of the ACH Network, and by providing superior services and value to its members as the industry association responsible for ACH payments. NACHA represents more than 11,000 financial institutions through direct memberships and a network of regional payments associations, and 650 organizations through its industry councils. Visit NACHA on the Internet at www.nacha.org or www.electronicpayments.org.