

# The U.S. Payments Industry: Findings, Opportunities and **Strategies for the Future**

Collaborating to Improve the **US Payments System** 

### **Guest Speakers:**

▶ Sean Rodriguez, Senior Vice President, Industry Relations

FEDERAL RESERVE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES



**Federal Reserve System** October 16, 2013

Ask the Fed® is a program of the Federal Reserve for senior officials of state member banks, bank holding companies, savings and loan holding companies, and state bank commissioners. Use of the presentation materials, including audio recording of a presentation, is strictly prohibited except by written permission of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, The opinions expressed in the presentations are statements of the speaker's opinion. are intended only for informational purposes, and are not formal opinions of, nor binding on, the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, or the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Each participant is responsible for its own business, financial, investment or credit decisions.

## Welcome everyone

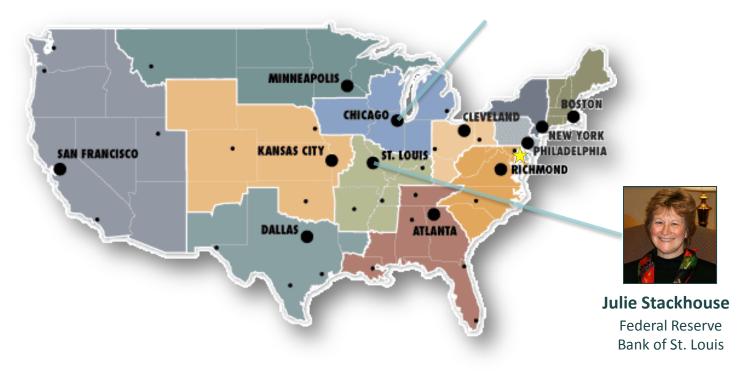
- Today's session
- Questions:
  - Email your question to: <u>askthefed@stls.frb.org</u>
     or
  - Use the "Ask a Question" feature on the Ask the Fed® website:
     www.askthefed.org
- This call is being recorded and will be available immediately following the session.
- A survey will be delivered via email following the call. Let us know your thoughts or ideas for future sessions.

## **Our Presenter and Host Today**



**Sean Rodriguez** 

Senior Vice President, Industry Relations Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago





## To ask a question:

- Email your question to: askthefed@stls.frb.org
- Use the "Ask a Question" feature on the Ask the Fed® website: www.askthefed.org



## Agenda

- Federal Reserve Financial Services (FRFS)
   Strategic Direction and Areas of Focus
- Payment System Improvement Public Consultation Paper
- Questions & Discussion

# FRFS Broadens its Strategic Focus toward End-to-End

# Safety and Security

- Maintain and enhance FRB network security
- Enhance understanding of end-to-end security
- Collaborate and promote industry best practices

### **Speed**

- Develop solutions to enhance payment speed
- Understand market demand for faster payments
- Continue migration of paper to electronic

### **Efficiency**

- Develop solutions to promote efficiency
- Understand needs and barriers
- Promote standards adoption to improve efficiency

# Payment System Improvement – Public Consultation Paper

As a next step in defining FRFS strategic initiatives, Federal Reserve Banks have released a *Payment System Improvement – Public Consultation Paper* for public comment until December 13.

- The paper seeks the input of payment system providers and end users on:
  - Payment system gaps, opportunities and desired outcomes
  - Potential strategies and tactics to shape the future of the U.S.
     payment system
  - The Federal Reserve Banks' role in implementing these strategies and tactics



# Payment System Improvement – Public Consultation Paper Payment System Gaps & Opportunities

**Continued End-User Check Writing** 

**Challenges in Converting Businesses to Electronics** 

**Closed Payment Communities** 

**Lack of Contemporary Features in Traditional Payment Channels** 

Slowness of U.S. Payments

**Mobile Technology Revolution** 

**Obstacles in International Payments** 

**Security Concerns** 



# Payment System Improvement – Public Consultation Paper Five Desired Outcomes

**Ubiquitous Real-Time Retail Payments** 

Improved Efficiency

Improvements in Cross-Border Payments

**Enhanced Payments Safety and Security** 

Strategic Industry Engagement

# Desired Outcome Ubiquitous Real-Time Retail Payments

A ubiquitous electronic solution(s) for making retail payments provides confirmation of good funds at payment initiation and timely sender/receiver payment notification, debits payer funds and makes them available to payees in near-real time and does not require the sender to know the recipient's bank account number.

Near-real-time, ubiquitous payments could be provided in several different ways. Which would be the most effective?

Is it sufficient for a solution to be limited to near-real-time authorization and confirmation that good funds are on their way, or must end-user funds availability and/or interbank settlement take place in near-real time, as well?

Which payment scenarios are most and least suitable for near-real-time payments? (B2B, P2P, P2B, POS, etc.)

## Desired Outcome Improved Efficiency

 Greater electronification and process improvements have reduced the average end-to-end (societal) costs of payment transactions and resulted in innovative payment services that deliver improved value to consumers, businesses and governments.

What barriers need to be addressed to accelerate migration of B2B and consumer bill payments?

What other tactics, including incentives, will effectively persuade businesses and consumers to migrate to electronic payments?

Which industry bodies should be responsible for developing and/or implementing these tactics?



# Desired Outcome Improvements in Cross-Border Payments

 Consumers and businesses have better choice in making convenient, cost-effective and timely cross-border payments from and to the U.S.

What strategies and tactics do you think will help move the industry toward this desired outcome?

To what extent would the broader adoption of the XML-based ISO 20022 payment message standards in the U.S. facilitate electronification of business payments and/or cross-border payments?



# Desired Outcome Enhanced Payment Safety and Security

 We have collaborated with the industry to promote endto-end payment system security amid a rapidly evolving technology and threat environment. Public confidence in FRFS security has remained high.

What are the key threats to payment system security today and in the future? Which threats are not adequately being addressed?

What type of information on threat awareness and incident response activities would be useful for the industry?

# Desired Outcome Strategic Industry Engagement

 Key improvements for the future state of the payment system have been collectively identified and embraced by payment participants, and material progress has been made in implementing them.

Are you in general agreement with the desired outcomes for payment system improvements over the next 10 years?

In what ways should the Federal Reserve Banks help improve the payment system as an operator, leader and/or catalyst?

What strategies would you suggest for ensuring strong industry engagement?

# Share Your Views on the Questions Posed in the Consultation Paper

Visit <u>FedPaymentsImprovement.org</u> to view the paper and instructions on submitting responses.



Respond via online survey at **FedPaymentsImprovement.org** 



Respond via email to <a href="mailto:comment@FedPaymentsImprovement.org">comment@FedPaymentsImprovement.org</a>



Respond until **December 13, 2013** 

## **Next Steps**

- Continue payments industry collaboration efforts to encourage and document interactive dialogue on the U.S. payment system gaps and opportunities, desired outcomes and possible solutions that improve speed, efficiency and security.
- Use *Consultation Paper* industry input to inform FRFS future plans and actions and identify areas where collaboration with industry or independent industry action would be useful in the implementation of U.S. payment system improvements.
- Define and prioritize U.S. payment system improvement initiatives that advance the speed, efficiency and security of payments and communicate these plans in a white paper expected to be published in the second half of 2014.



## To ask a question:

- Email your question to: askthefed@stls.frb.org
- Use the "Ask a Question" feature on the Ask the Fed® website: www.askthefed.org



Thanks for joining us.

www.askthefed.org