

## **To the payments trade press:**

### **EPSM welcomes the increased limits for contactless payments without PIN across Europe**

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In response to the Corona crisis, most national payment markets across Europe have recently increased limits for contactless payments without PIN at a POS terminal - typically to 50 Euro or the local currency equivalent.

EPSM welcomes and supports these fast and cross-European moves as the new limits will reduce the necessary physical contact when handling a standard card transaction at a POS terminal. It should be noted however, that in many cases, the implementation of the new limits will require significant technical changes at thousands of POS terminals.

To provide guidance to its members, EPSM has conducted a survey on a country-by-country basis on the changes decided and being considered. Within the payments industry these Contactless Limits are called “No Cardholder-Verification-Method (CVM) Limits for Contactless Card Transactions”, which means that a PIN entry at the keypad of a POS terminal is not needed.

Nicolas Adolph, Chairman of EPSM, appreciates the flexibility of the entire card payment industry: “Even if a potential infection risk at a POS payment terminal for a standard card transaction is reported to be minimal – according to the information publicly available – the increased limits cater for the perceived wish of many card holders and cashiers for a minimisation of any physical contact.”

EPSM therefore welcomes that after an initial encouraging statement by the European Banking Authority (EBA) and other organisations, many payment service providers are now implementing relatively quickly the maximum amount allowed under the European “PSD2 Regulatory Technical Standards on Strong Customer Authentication” which limits the maximum amount per transaction to € 50 or equivalent in the European Economic Area.

A current country-by-country overview of the “No-CVM-Limits for contactless card payment transaction” can be found at the EPSM website under [www.epsm.eu](http://www.epsm.eu).

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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 payments acceptance. As a not-for-profit organisation, 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”.

For more information, please visit: [www.epsm.eu](http://www.epsm.eu) or contact:

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