



EAPS Appoints Antonio Galiano As Vice Chairman

14 June 2011, Brussels: EAPS, the Euro Alliance of Payment Schemes, has appointed Mr Antonio Galiano as its Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr Galiano joins the alliance during a period of sustained growth, with EAPS announcing earlier this year that two million cross-border transactions were undertaken using the payment framework in 2010.

Mr Galiano, Head of Payment Cards and Card Schemes at Italian Iccrea Banca – Central Institute of Cooperative Credit Banking Group, will work with EAPS' current Chairman Mr Peter Blasche to steer the activity of the alliance in efficiently and economically connecting debit card schemes across Europe.

Mr Galiano brings to the position over 13 years' experience in the European card payment industry. Prior to his current role at Iccrea Banca he worked for organisations including American Express, UniCredit and Capitalia. In addition to his commitments at EAPS, Mr Galiano is also a Board Member for the Consorzio BANCOMAT, the debit card scheme based in Italy.

Commenting on his appointment, Mr Galiano says: "EAPS has gained significant momentum in the European payment landscape and, as the increasing year-on-year transaction volumes demonstrate, offers a real alternative to the international card schemes. I look forward to this new opportunity and working with members of the alliance to generate even higher cross-border payment volumes across Europe, which are in line with the Single Euro Payments Area requirements stipulated by the European Central Bank and the European Payments Council."

Mr Blasche adds: "I am delighted that EAPS has elected Mr Antonio Galiano to the position of Vice Chairman. His proven expertise and knowledge of the European marketplace will significantly contribute to the on-going success of the EAPS framework and encourage new partners to join and benefit from the growing network. Our focus for the coming year is to further increase the efficiency of the existing payment infrastructures in Europe, while establishing partnerships that will see EAPS operating in additional European countries. We very much welcome Mr Galiano's experience and contribution in these initiatives."

EAPS unites independent European card schemes, banks, acquirers and payment institutions throughout Europe to create a single card payment framework. The alliance enables debit cardholders in one European country to use their domestically issued cards for ATM and POS transactions in other European countries, delivering mutually advantageous cross-border connections.

For further information visit www.card-alliance.eu or email info@card-alliance.eu

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About EAPS:

The Euro Alliance of Payment Schemes (EAPS) is an alliance of European card schemes founded by Consorzio BANCOMAT (Italy), EUFISERV (Europe), EURO 6000 (Spain), LINK (UK), SIBS (Portugal) and Zentraler Kreditausschuss (Germany). EAPS offers a European alternative to international card schemes. www.card-alliance.eu