Case study

COMMERZBANK 🔷



Commerzbank introduces the SWIFT 3SKey Service

Responding to the growing security demands of business clients

In the traditional exchange of messages between banks via SWIFTNet, the messages transmitted are authenticated via the SWIFT-verified sender procedure. This procedure has been adapted for business clients which – since the introduction of the MACUG and SCORE connection models - are increasingly using SWIFTNet as the standard solution to communicate with their banks. In response to clients' growing demand for order authorisation and logging, SWIFT in 2011 introduced the personalised signature procedure 3SKey.

The personalised authorisation of payment orders had been a particular challenge in the past for businesses with several bank connections. Authentication instruments varied greatly depending on the bank and country. Treasurers thus needed a large number of such instruments to manage their business cash flows.

More transaction security through personalised signatures

The adaptation of the 3SKey signature procedure by the world's leading banking groups will translate to significant improvements for business clients with regard to certain security needs. With one single token, it is now possible to access the accounts of all banks that have adapted the procedure.

Bank verification of signatures gives business customers enhanced security. Furthermore, the procedure brings about further simplification and greater transparency when fulfilling internal documentation and record-keeping requirements. In addition to the records of the ERP systems, digital signatures can also be verified by the company.

Commerzbank therefore welcomes the fact that SWIFT has adopted a multi-bank authentication tool. This solution has significant potential; hence, in the autumn of 2013, we adopted the procedure to meet the demands of our business clients.

3SKey is already widely used in France in particular. For Commerzbank, France –after Germany – is the second largest market with business clients that communicate with their banks via SWIFT. However, we are not just restricting ourselves to France. As a first step, the procedure was implemented for all payment orders submitted via SWIFT FileAct. This means that it can be used for accounts in all Commerzbank branches worldwide.

We are closely monitoring the market and will broaden the scope of application in line with demand. In addition to "traditional" payment orders, 3SKey can be applied to documentary transaction orders and other types of transactions.

For more information please contact your SWIFT account manager or visit www.swift.com

