



Financial Services Policy Committee

Federal Reserve System

Contact

David Fettig
FSPC Spokesman
(612) 204-5274
david.fettig@mpls.frb.org

Federal Reserve Banks Announce the Sunset of the Computer Interface Access Solution

MINNEAPOLIS, April 2, 2007—The Federal Reserve Banks announce plans to decommission their Systems Network Architecture (SNA)-based Computer Interface (CI) access solution. Customer conversion of all critical payment services, including Fedwire® Funds, Fedwire Securities and FedACH® Services to the FedLine DirectSM or FedLine CommandSM access solutions is scheduled to be complete by December 31, 2008. Customer conversion of other services currently offered over the legacy CI platform, including billing, accounting, savings bonds, check, and other information services is scheduled to be complete as of June 30, 2009.

The legacy Computer Interface access solution was once used by as many as 400 of the Federal Reserve Banks' largest customers, but over 50% of those customers are in the process of converting or have completed conversion to FedLine Direct or FedLine Command, the Federal Reserve Banks' newest IP-based access solutions.

FedLine Direct and FedLine Command offer unattended Internet Protocol (IP)-based access to critical payment services and were designed especially for financial institutions that require a highly secure computer-to-computer interface to Federal Reserve Financial Services. FedLine Direct offers access to customers who perform high-volume Fedwire Funds and FedACH Services transactions, while FedLine Command offers an additional access option for FedACH users.

Access to the Fedwire Securities Service via FedLine Direct is expected to be available late April 2007. Unattended IP-based access to information services, accounting and billing support applications is expected to be available by the end of the first quarter of 2008. Check services offered over the legacy Computer Interface platform are currently available via the Federal Reserve Banks' Check 21-enabled product suite, and customer migrations are already in progress.

"We look forward to the time in the near future when all of our Computer Interface customers will be taking full advantage of our IP-based access offerings," said William Barouski, Senior Vice President and FedLine Product Manager. "Our customer input told us many organizations have already made an investment in IP-based technology, and these conversions will enable them to leverage it further for flexible access to Federal Reserve Financial Services."

The migration of customers' legacy services to the Federal Reserve Banks' IP-based access solutions is already well underway. "Since early 2006, we have been working closely with customers to manage their conversions from our Computer Interface access solution to FedLine Direct, FedLine Command or our suite of Check 21-related services," said Ellen Bromagen, Vice President and Access Channel Manager. "They are experiencing the well-managed transition assistance and robust customer support they have come to expect from the Federal Reserve. Because the conversion process typically takes from six to nine months, the time for our customers to begin planning is now," stressed Bromagen.

"We're committed to a smooth migration for our customers," added Barouski. "We want to optimize our customers' conversion experiences by providing for staged migration schedules while still allowing the opportunity to migrate time-critical payments applications first."

The Federal Reserve Banks offer a range of access solutions to help meet the diverse needs of financial institutions. Additional information about Federal Reserve Financial Services is available at www.frbfinancialservices.org.

###