

Press release



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PAYSQUARE SIGNS CONTRACT WITH JCB AND CUP, ASIA'S BIGGEST CREDIT CARD BRANDS

Utrecht, 18 January 2006 – **As of January 2006, PaySquare, market leader in the acceptance and distribution of international payment methods, will be representing 2 new credit card brands. In addition to the payment brands of MasterCard, Visa, Maestro and – thanks to a unique joint venture – American Express, PaySquare now also offers the Japanese JCB (the biggest Japanese credit card brand) and Chinese CUP (the biggest Chinese credit card brand).**

From now on, Dutch and foreign business owners only need to deal with a single organisation for payment using all of these products. This makes PaySquare the first credit card organisation in the Benelux to offer such a wide variety of international payment methods and allows them to effectively serve the increasing numbers of Asian tourists.

For European business owners in tourist areas in particular, the brands JCB and CUP are a welcome addition to the current payment network, especially considering the fact that more and more Asian tourists are travelling to Europe each year and that these tourists almost always visit the Benelux. "The addition of these 2 new brands not only benefits business owners, but Asian visitors are also sure to be pleased that they can pay using familiar payment methods. In other words, it works both ways," claims Jeroen Jungerius, Manager of Commercial Affairs Acquiring at PaySquare.

PaySquare has also announced that JCB is already operational. As far as CUP is concerned, the first transactions are expected to take place in the course of 2006.

About PaySquare

PaySquare is the specialised partner for accepting and issuing international payment instruments. In addition to issuing a broad range of MasterCard and Visa credit cards, PaySquare is also licensed to accept MasterCard, Visa, JCB, China UnionPay, Maestro and – thanks to a unique partnership – American Express. As a result, Dutch businesses can rely on a single organisation for the acceptance of all the above products. This also makes PaySquare the first credit card organisation in the Netherlands to offer such a range of international payment instruments as well as to respond to the growing number of Asian tourists.

PaySquare support includes a broad range of services and products, adapted for each specific situation. PaySquare is a 100% subsidiary of Interpay Nederland B.V. and is located in Utrecht. PaySquare is able to operate from an independent position, while continuing the many years of experience and expertise of Interpay Nederland B.V.

About China UnionPay

China UnionPay Co., Ltd, approved by the State Council and licensed by the People's Bank of China, is a shareholding financial service institution established through capital contributions by more than 80 domestic financial institutions. The Shanghai-based China UnionPay ("CUP") was officially incorporated on March 26, 2002. To date, CUP has altogether 18 branches and 175 members, among which 24 are overseas financial institutions. Major subsidiaries under CUP include CUP Merchant Services, CUP Data, ChinaPay e-Payment, China Financial Certification Authority, etc.

CUP is committed both at home and abroad to improving the bankcard acceptance environment. It has achieved the goal of nationwide bankcards interoperability and launched successively the CUP card acceptance in Hong Kong, Macao in 2004, and Singapore, Korea, Thailand, US, Germany, France, Spain, Belgium, Luxemburg, Japan, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam in 2005. CUP will continue to develop the overseas acceptance network to realize the vision of "touring the world with a CUP card" and build the CUP brand into an international payment brand.

Additional information may be found at:
www.chinaunionpay.com/englishversion.

About JCB

JCB is an international credit card brand and the largest card issuer and acquirer in Japan. JCB launched its card business in Japan in 1961 and began expanding overseas in 1981. Its merchant network includes 12.4 million merchants and spans 190 countries and territories. JCB cards are now issued in 19 countries and territories, with 55.14 million cardmembers. As part of its international growth strategy, JCB has formed alliances with more than 350 leading banks and financial institutions globally to increase merchant coverage and cardmember base. JCB's corporate philosophy of



"Service from the heart", a commitment to responsive and high-quality service, continues to guide it as it creates the future together with its customers, merchants and partners. For further information, please visit the JCB Co. Ltd. home page at: www.jcb-global.com/english or www.jcbcorporate.com/english.

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