

Remittance Coalition Conference Call
February 10, 2012
Meeting Summary

Claudia Swendseid reviewed the agenda and noted that this is the first call since the November meeting, and encouraged Coalition comments and feedback on work underway and planned.

NACHA & Coalition Survey

Rob Unger began by discussing the NACHA survey. As background, he explained that NACHA is a “payments plus” mechanism, providing value by transmitting payments as well as information about payments. A survey is underway to better understand how remittance data is currently flowing outside the ACH network and the opportunities for improving remittance exchange. Survey results will be made available at the NACHA Payments 2012 conference. Claudia Swendseid said that Coalition members would be informed about the NACHA survey results following the conference.

Claudia Swendseid said that the Coalition survey will not duplicate the NACHA survey, as the Coalition survey is intended to obtain corporate views on remittance reconciliation issues and “solutions” that address them. Earlier this week, a meeting of the survey team was held and good progress was made in refining the survey questions and the process and timing for conducting and reporting results.

Claudia said that she meets with the state directors of the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) in March to get direction on how best to include the views of small business in the survey. Donna Ettenson, ASBDC, cautioned that the ASBDC might not be able to distribute the survey to small businesses directly. Claudia assured her that the Coalition would be open to other survey distribution methods.

ISO 20022 Extended Remittance Information Standard

Rich Urban, IFX President, gave background on the ISO 20022 Extended Remittance Information standard being worked on by IFX. The work is progressing well; a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been executed between X9 and IFX to share personnel resources. The ISO 20022 message is under construction.

X9C – Glossary of Remittance Terminology

James Wills, chair of X9C, reported that development of a glossary of remittance terminology is beginning now that work on the new Balance Transaction Reporting Standard is concluding. A call for more participants will go out to Coalition members.

Healthcare Remittance

Steve Ranzini, University Bank, shared information about the health care remittance issues that he is addressing.

Routing Numbers & Electronic Payments

Deb Hjortland reported on the routing number issue. Because financial institutions use multiple routing numbers and may restrict acceptance of electronic payment transactions to

Remittance Coalition Conference Call
February 10, 2012
Meeting Summary

specific routing numbers, corporate practitioners cannot simply share their checking account number with a trading partner when beginning to accept electronic B2B payments. The American Bankers Association (ABA) Routing Number Administrative Board (RNAB) only determines if an institution is eligible for a routing number; it does not define how an institution uses routing numbers. The resolution is to educate corporate practitioners that they must consult with their bank before converting from paper checks to electronic payments.

Next Remittance Coalition Face-to-Face Meeting

A face-to-face meeting of the Remittance Coalition is being planned for the NACHA Payments 2012 conference on Sunday, April 30.

Other Topics

The Credit Research Foundation had surveyed their members about the adjustment/discount code issue raised during the RC meeting at the AFP conference last November. The results of the survey will be made available to the Coalition. Sharon Jablon said that X12 is beginning work to include adjustment/discount codes at the summary and invoice level of the STP 820 format. The Coalition will form a best practices work group to improve the definition and use of the X12 adjustment/discount codes and to encourage vendor support.