

Technology Flash

Technology -Security of electronic payments

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Recommendations for the security of electronic payments

- On 12 May 2014, ECB published the report on “*Final recommendations for the security of payment account access services following the public consultation*” which was conducted by the SecuRe Pay Forum.
- This report complements the “*Assessment guide for the security of internet payments*” and the “*Recommendations for the security of mobile payments*” reports whose aim is to set up guidelines and minimum security requirements to be reviewed by supervisors, but they are also a set of security measures to be implemented by Payment Service Providers (PSPs), governance authorities of payment instrument schemes, mobile network operators and other stakeholders that deal with electronic payments.
- TPPs (Third Party Payment Service Providers), whose activity requires access to payment accounts, are not subject to supervisory requirements until PSD2 (Payment Services Directive) comes into force. The PSD2 also commits the EBA to provide security guidelines for these issues. Thus, the SecuRe Pay recommendations are neither expected nor enforced by the member authorities of the Forum (as were the recommendations about internet payments). In any case, **the report provides a reference for the final guidelines that EBA is required to establish.**
- The financial sector welcomes the advances in the development of security guidelines. Meanwhile, the regulatory approval of PSD2 goes on, as it will shorten the time before its contribution to fraud mitigation kicks in and therefore it will enhance consumer trust in electronic payments and e-commerce.
- Table 1 describes the Schedule of next steps (the EBA may change some dates)

Table 1
SecuRe Pay recommendations

	Date of issue	Entities in the scope	
<i>Assessment guide for the security of internet payments</i>	Feb2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSPs: Payment Service Providers Governance authorities of payment instrument schemes 	Final text. SecuRe Pay Forum members are enforced to implement it by February 2015.
<i>Final recommendations for the security of payment account access services following public consultation</i>	May2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Party Payment Service Providers PSPs: Payment Service Providers 	SecuRe Pay Forum has released its final text. It is a basis for EBA's further guidelines.
<i>Recommendations for the security of mobile payments</i>	Nov2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MPSPs: Mobile Payment Service Providers Governance authorities of payment instrument schemes Governance authorities of payment instrument schemes 	Public consultation on the paper ended in January 2014. A final report is expected to be released by the end of 2014 and the recommendations should be implemented two years after (February 2017). The EBA is expected to include the recommendations in its further security guidelines.

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