



# People want to know about Prepaid

## Press release

The Prepaid industry is solving problems and delivering solutions for governments, companies and individuals globally. Expert estimates show the sector to be growing at a phenomenal 40% year on year. Growth like this always attracts interest and a yearning for more good quality, factual knowledge.

To satisfy this demand Smartex and Global Prepaid Exchange have agreed to partner in the establishment of a specialist forum, offering four full-day meetings every year from launch. The initial planned meeting dates will be: 23rd February, 24th April, 11th October and February 2013. Forum meetings will be open to representatives from local government, educational establishments, commercial companies and other potential scheme operators, as well as other members of the prepaid industry and of Smartex. Meeting sessions and workshops will highlight to attendees the opportunities that prepaid can bring to their sector, and the problems it can solve.

Richard Poynder, Chairman of Smartex said, "Prepaid is growing in importance, and a new membership-based forum is an excellent way to bring our two communities together to understand and promote these products. We are delighted to be working with Global Prepaid Exchange as our partner in this part of the e-payment revolution."

Kevin Harrington, Managing Director of Global Prepaid Exchange, explained, "It is important for us to continue to deliver high quality knowledge and connections to our members and the industry, as well as business sectors for whom prepaid can solve problems and increase profits. This agreement with Smartex will enable us to grow our capability in this area."

## For editors

### About Global Prepaid Exchange

Global Prepaid Exchange is the widest-reaching prepaid industry organisation in the world with a membership of over 80 companies that spans four continents. Members are involved in issuing, processing, manufacturing or distributing three out of four of the world's prepaid programmes.

MasterCard, Visa, Sainsbury's, First Data, InComm, CPI Card Group, Subway, Ceridian SVS and American Express all use the Global Prepaid Exchange to access industry connections, obtain insight into the marketplace and promote dialogue between businesses with a shared commercial goal.

### About Smartex

Now in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, Smartex operates the world's largest international network of professional associations concerned with prepaid, smart card, RFID and biometric technologies and applications, with over 300 members spanning three continents.



Smartex's UK forums continue to educate and inform their members, providing unrivalled networking opportunities within the main market sectors of NFC, smart payments, public transport and higher education. In 2011, Smartex held 21 meetings for its members in the UK, with over 600 attendees and 135 speakers. Smartex also provides independent consultancy services, and holds regular residential workshops in Cambridge.

#### Further information

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