

## The Co-operative Group Selects ACI Worldwide to Enhance Data Security Across All Co-op UK Food Stores and Fuel Sites

### *UK food retailer utilises ACI's UP Merchant Payments solution*

LONDON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [ACI Worldwide](#) (NASDAQ: ACIW), a leading global provider of real-time [electronic payment and banking solutions](#), today announced that The Co-operative Group (Co-op), one of the UK's largest food retailers, has selected the company to run its card payments processing operations and maximise card data security across all of its UK food stores and fuel sites. The retailer, with over 2,800 stores, will utilise ACI's UP [Merchant Payments solution](#) to secure its payment data with the latest version of its point-to-point encryption (P2PE) and tokenisation capabilities.

[P2PE](#) is an emerging encryption technique in the payments industry that protects sensitive cardholder data in transit—as it is transmitted from a merchant's store to its acquiring bank. P2PE converts a consumer's confidential credit and debit card data into indecipherable codes when the card is read by the payment terminal. This conversion renders the sensitive data invaluable while in the possession of the retailer, preventing theft and subsequent fraud. The solution delivered by ACI will be certified against version 2 of the PCI P2PE Standards specifications and is expected to go live across all stores in early 2017.

"Against the backdrop of numerous high profile data breaches in Europe and the US, protecting customer data is imperative for many retailers, such as the Co-op, which is utilising ACI to help ensure its customer data remains secure," said Andrew Quartermaine, Head of Merchant Retail, ACI Worldwide. "Using the latest version of P2PE and tokenisation will not only increase card security, but also put retailers ahead of the curve in terms of regulatory changes, especially as P2PE is likely to be mandated in the near future."

"The security of our customers' data is of paramount importance to us," said Cheryl Marshall, Retail Chief Information Officer, the Co-op. "We believe ACI Worldwide's UP Merchant Payments solution offers us not only the payment processing power we require, but also the flexibility to meet our needs in the future."

ACI will run the service for the Co-op from its European data centre. The Co-op will have the advantage of a dedicated service, which has the scalability and flexibility to be adjusted to meet the retailer's individual needs as they change over time, while enjoying all of the benefits of outsourcing.

### **About ACI Worldwide**

ACI Worldwide, the [Universal Payments](#) (UP) company, powers electronic payments for more than 5,000 organisations around the world. More than 1,000 of the largest financial institutions and intermediaries as well as 300 of the leading [global retailers](#) rely on ACI to execute \$14 trillion each day in payments. In addition, thousands of organisations utilise our electronic bill presentment and payment services. Through our comprehensive suite of software and SaaS-based solutions, we deliver real-time, any-to-any payments capabilities and enable the industry's most complete omni-channel payments experience. To learn more about ACI, please visit [www.aciworldwide.com](http://www.aciworldwide.com). You can also find us on Twitter [@ACI\\_Worldwide](#).

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