



Brussels, 22 October 2009

Belgacom International Carrier Services (Belgacom ICS) and The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the facilitation of foreign currency exchange for mobile remittances.

Belgacom ICS, a leading global provider of voice, data and value added services, are pleased to announce that they have signed an MoU with The Royal Bank of Scotland that will form the basis of a co-operation deriving mutual benefit from RBS's FXmicropay System and Belgacom ICS' HomeSend solution.

Belgacom ICS' HomeSend solution, built in partnership with eServGlobal, is the first mobile centric global hubbing service for international remittances, while RBS's FXmicropay System enables efficient and secured foreign exchange transaction processing with limited currency exposure.

International remittances are a significant part of mobile payments, allowing mobile subscribers to easily and quickly transfer money internationally. Through the currently existing remittance channels these cross-border transactions often bring a spread in currency exchange. Removing this obstacle will consequently catalyse the uptake of mobile remittances and therefore bring greater value to Belgacom ICS' hubbing service, HomeSend, which is available to its mobile operator customers and other mobile payment suppliers.

Frederic Schepens, EVP Strategic Business Development at Belgacom ICS says: "This collaboration between a wholesale bank and a wholesale carrier will enable a unique value proposition within the mobile financial ecosystem and towards the carrier world: mobile money transfer without foreign exchange risks."

Mike Robertson, Director RBS says: "This is a great example of different parties focusing on what each does best and, in collaboration, generating a solution that delivers much more than the sum of its parts. For RBS, it highlights the bank's ability to build innovative and value-adding solutions across differing client segments without losing sight of our core markets. "

About Belgacom ICS and HomeSend:

Belgacom International Carrier Services S.A./N.V. (Belgacom ICS) is a leading global carrier of voice, data and value added services to over 500 wireless, wireline and service providers through sales offices in Brussels, Bern, Dubai, Singapore and New York. Belgacom ICS is at the forefront of the international communications industry, acting as a catalyst for growth, both in terms of traffic and reach. The company aims to enable global interworking across all networks, technologies and services. As a result of this approach and the joint venture with Swisscom ICS, Belgacom International Carrier Services is now one of the largest wholesale voice carrier and a world leader in data transit services.

The HomeSend service, based on eServGlobal technology, is the first mobile centric global hubbing service for international remittance, airtime exchange and roaming recharge, endorsed by the GSM Association.

For more information on HomeSend, please see www.homesend.com

About The Royal Bank of Scotland and FXmicropay

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group is a large international banking and financial services company. Headquartered in Edinburgh, the Group operates in the United Kingdom, Europe, the Americas and Asia, serving more than 40 million customers. The Group provides a wide range of products and services to personal, commercial and large corporate and institutional customers through its

two principal subsidiaries, The Royal Bank of Scotland and NatWest, as well as through a number of other well known brands including, Citizens, Ulster Bank, Coutts, Direct Line and Churchill.

FXmicropay is a Royal Bank of Scotland proprietary system that provides real-time foreign exchange risk management services to clients with a high volume of low-ticket value transactions. As a fully automated processing platform, FXmicropay enables trade netting and deal aggregation across global networks and combines the straight through processing efficiencies of electronic deal processing with real-time risk management, daily trade settlement and comprehensive reporting.

For more information on RBS' FXmicropay System, please see www.rbsm.com/fxmicropay

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