

Surveying the SEPA Landscape – A Practical Guide to Implementation

A 2 day intensive course on implementing SEPA

Why you should attend

Who Should Attend

The course has been specifically designed for professionals from;

- Financial Institutions
- Corporates
- Central Banks
- Payment Systems Operators
- Clearing Houses
- Consultancy Groups
- Regulators
- Auditors

who deal with all aspects of payments, cash management & auditing



One major objective of the euro's creation was to establish a single market where currency could move as 'freely and cheaply' in the Eurozone as it had within member countries' national borders.

However, the euro did not encourage the change necessary to drive forward harmonization of payments processes, and integration of payment facilities across borders to create the single financial services market as envisioned by the EU Commission. It became clear that further regulation was needed to re-structure Europe's financial markets into one single market. As a part of this process SEPA was launched in March 2002.



As of January 2008 SEPA has started to become reality with the initial implementation of its first stage. However much remains to be done before the full SEPA vision is realized.

Citadel Advantage offers an intensive 2-day course taught by experienced practitioners with extensive retail & wholesale payments experience. This course deals with SEPA from its theoretical concept to the practicalities of its implementation - answering the basic questions "what is SEPA?", "how will SEPA affect me and my organization? And "what do I have to do to make SEPA a reality?" It also looks at SEPA from the perspective, not only of the commercial banks, but corporate users and central banks as well.

What is the curriculum focus?

What the course covers

Europe today

- Current European payments scene
- Why is SEPA necessary?
- Role it will play in the Eurosystem
- Crowne Plaza Declaration, adapted by the European Payments
- Council Plenary on the 17th March of 2005
- Players in SEPA
- Anticipated issues and suggested solutions
- Hidden issues and concerns
- Expectations of financial services institutions and corporations
- Where did SEPA start, progress and where are we heading?

Benefits and opportunities

- How will SEPA affect financial institutions and ultimate users?
- Benefits and opportunities for financial institutions, corporations and consumer customers

How will SEPA affect the ECB and the national central banks?

- What are the changes that are occurring?
- How this will affect policy and operations?

The cost factor

- What are the real and hidden costs?
- Who is going to carry these?
- Is there, and what is the financial payback at the end of the line?

How the SEPA project is governed

- Critical roles of the European Payments Council
- Key European Payments Council bodies that form part of the project:
- Roles, responsibilities and deliverables

Changes to European payments

- Examine 'before and after' scenarios for a number of payment system users ranging from consumers through retailers and corporations

Designing SEPA

- Design features that have gone into planning the future payment systems
- Examine how each will work
- Various interrelationships between the systems

Project plan

- Who does what?
- Project timeline: Design, implementation and migration phases

Legal basis

- Legal basis within the European Union for SEPA

Outside initiatives supporting SEPA

- SEPA is supported not only through the European Payments Council and the national central banks, but through a range of outside initiatives as well – This session covers a number of these including what SWIFT is doing in the SEPA field and the IBAN

Implementing SEPA

- Implementation issues
- Detailed examination of national SEPA implementation initiatives
- Business solutions

Implementation from a bank's perspective

- Unique challenges
- Migration
- Communications issues
- Technical interoperability issues

Implementing SEPA from a corporate treasurer's perspective

- Possibly the single biggest benefactor from the SEPA initiative will be the corporate side
- Treasury
- Receivables and payables
- Liquidity management

For further details please contact

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