



SWIFT for CORPORATES

The most secure network for multi-banked corporates globally



The Value of SWIFT for Corporates _____ 4

Challenges of Multi-Banking _____ 8

The Value of SWIFT _____ 10

Frequently Asked Questions _____ 15

1

The Value of SWIFT for Corporates

In today's landscape treasurers are facing increased regulation and global cash liquidity challenges like never before. Most companies, particularly those operating internationally, work with more than one bank for cash, trade and treasury. Connecting with multiple banks efficiently and securely takes considerable resources, time and cost.

To address these challenges, SWIFT has become the preferred means for corporates to efficiently access a wide and growing range of services from their banks through a single, secure and reliable channel.

SWIFT services for corporates

SWIFT offers a wide and growing range of products and services for multi-banked corporates, including:

Liquidity management

- » Account statements (including intra-day reporting and legal end of period eStatements)
- » Payments
- » Advice to receive
- » Banks' credit and debit advices

Cash management

- » Bulk payments (e.g. supplier/ employee payments)
- » SWIFTRef - Reference data utility for domestic and cross-border payments

Treasury

- » FX Deal Confirmations
- » Matching of FX/MM, Derivatives, Commodities, Securities confirmations
- » Regulatory Reporting

Trade & supply chain finance

- » Documentary credits & Demand guarantees
- » Bank Payment Obligations (BPOs)

eBAM (electronic bank account management)

- » Account opening, closing and maintenance

Securities

- » Bonds and Equities
- » Investment Funds
- » Collateral Management

“Reach all financial institutions through a single, secure and reliable channel”



Cash visibility *Secure* *Available*
Bank and vendor agnostic
Reliable *Global*



2

Challenges of Multi-Banking

Challenges facing treasurers

- » *Lack of visibility on cash positions*
- » *Lack of automation of payments and trade transactions*
- » *Manual processes and errors*
- » *Bank- and vendor-specific processes, security tools and onboarding costs*
- » *High operational costs*
- » *Complicated traceability and compliance*

Corporations of all sizes and in all geographies need to communicate securely and efficiently with their banks for cash management, treasury and trade.

As companies increase the scale or geographic reach of their operations, most will need to work with a growing number of transaction banks.

Challenges of multi-banking

The ability to access multiple banks' services according to their geographic scope and specialist expertise can bring considerable advantage; however, the need to access and integrate multiple banking systems can be costly and labour-intensive. It also adds complexity and potential risk into companies' financial processes; for example:

- » *The need to support different security protocols reduces transparency and makes it difficult to comply with audit requirements*
- » *Fragmented data and inconsistent content from banks restricts a timely, accurate view of cash and risk across the business*
- » *Payment processes and formats often differ between banks, with the risk of error, omission and payment failure*
- » *Inconsistency in formats and processes makes it difficult to automate activities such as bank account reconciliation, reducing treasury and finance efficiency*
- » *Adding or changing banking partners can be costly and time-consuming, so companies effectively become 'tied' to their incumbent banks. This impacts on treasurers' ability to support the evolving business requirements and has serious risk management implications*

3

The Value of SWIFT

SWIFT addresses these challenges by providing treasurers and finance managers with a bank-neutral, secure channel to access cash, treasury and trade services from multiple banks in a consistent way.

The main opportunities that SWIFT offers can be summarised in five key areas: Connectivity, Automation, Security, Supply Chain and Compliance as follows.

1. Connectivity

SWIFT replaces multiple banking systems with a single, bank-neutral channel. This means that treasurers and finance managers can connect with their banks worldwide in a consistent way using industry-recognised standards. This is particularly important for companies seeking to manage their counterparty risk effectively, expand their business both domestically and internationally, and integrate mergers and acquisitions quickly.

In addition to its role in providing a multi-bank communication platform, SWIFT is a key participant and driver of standardisation initiatives, promoting efficient, harmonised communication between financial counterparties and streamlined integration of financial processes and systems.

2. Automation

By standardising the flow, format and content of communications with banking partners, corporations can automate financial processes such as payments, bank account reconciliation, customer account posting and daily cash positioning more effectively.

To further support data integrity and process automation, SWIFT's reference data utility SWIFTRef can be integrated directly into corporations' technology infrastructure. This provides a central, trusted repository of counterparty bank account information globally, reducing the risk of error and fraud that results from manual update of this data and avoiding payment failures and delays.

3. Security

Payment and information security is a critical role for treasurers, finance managers and the IT experts that support them. As digital communication plays an ever greater role, internal and external threats become more significant, exacerbated by the need to manage multiple channels and security protocols. SWIFT has an unrivalled record in security, availability and resilience, routinely exchanging more than 22 million financial transactions every day.

In addition to providing a secure network, SWIFT's multi-bank digital identity solution, 3SKey, provides corporates with a single digital key to authenticate with all of their banking partners over any channel including e-banking portals. 3SKey can also be used to digitally sign banking instructions.

4. Supply Chain

The value of SWIFT is not restricted to cash transactions. While a growing proportion of transactions are now done on open account, trade finance instruments continue to play an essential role in enabling international trade, particularly in emerging markets. SWIFT supports a range of messaging standards for documentary credits and guarantees to automate trade transactions, minimise errors and delays and facilitate cash flow forecasting.

In addition to traditional trade instruments, the Bank Payment Obligation (BPO) is a new instrument to support trade settlement using ISO 20022 data structures and automated matching of trade data contained in trade documentation using SWIFT's centralised matching and workflow engine, the Trade Services Utility (TSU). Corporate adoption of BPO is growing quickly to take advantage of more rapid, secure and accurate trade settlement and therefore to promote international trade.

5. Compliance

The regulatory landscape has become increasingly complex in recent years. Compliance with local and international regulations can be extremely onerous for corporations and their bankers. Using SWIFT supports regulatory compliance in a variety of ways, including:

- » *Promotes automated, standardised processes and data completeness and transparency for internal audit and complying with external regulation*
- » *For corporates under stringent regulation, such as Sarbannes Oxley, Dodd Frank, SEPA and EMIR using one single interface significantly reduces the administration work required to document, to ensure banking communication processes are up-to-date*

Benefits of using SWIFT

Global visibility on cash and trade

The ability to receive end-of-day or intra-day cash reporting directly from all banking relationships increases funds visibility and gives the ability to optimise the use of available liquidity

Lower cost of financial transactions

SWIFT allows for channel rationalisation, a single channel versus a multitude of different channels. The more banking relationships, the higher the savings. Additionally, standards used over SWIFT allow increased straight-through-processing (STP) and therefore staff productivity gains, for example by eliminating the need for manual intervention.

Improved security /reliability

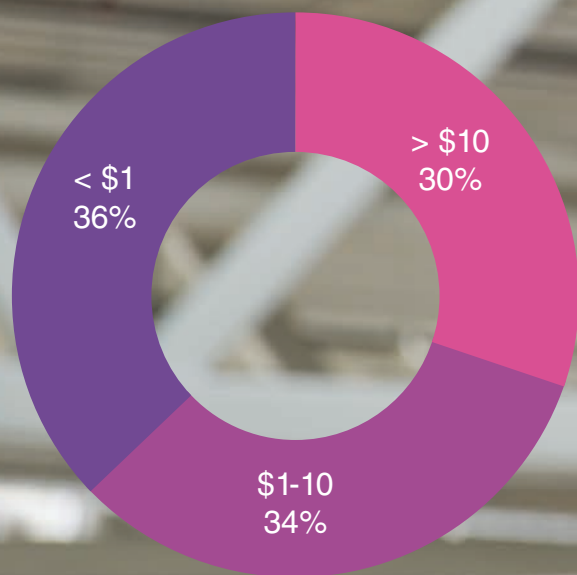
SWIFT's highly available network and focus on highest levels of security and resilience are of critical importance for corporates as they require continuous access to their banking partners.



An aerial night photograph of a city, likely Shanghai, featuring a complex multi-level highway interchange with light trails from traffic. In the background, a prominent tower with a red light at the top stands out against the city skyline. The scene is illuminated by city lights and streetlights, with a body of water visible on the left side.

*Global
visibility on
cash and trade
positions*

SWIFT's offering was originally for large multi-national companies but now is for corporates of all sizes



Profile of Corporates on SWIFT
Annual Turnover in Billion USD





Frequently Asked Questions

What size corporations are using SWIFT?

The first corporate users of SWIFT were large multinational corporations with multiple banking relationships globally. SWIFT is now in use by nearly half of Fortune Global 500 companies. Today, any multi-banked corporation can benefit from SWIFT connectivity, valuing the security, consistency, efficiency and access to multiple services that SWIFT offers. In fact today around 36% of corporate users under \$1bn turnover.

Can I use SWIFT to connect with my banks domestically and internationally?

Absolutely. SWIFT is a global platform and allows corporations to connect to their banks within their country and around the world. This applies whether corporations have a single treasury and/or shared services centres or multiple centres in multiple regions.

How can I connect to SWIFT?

SWIFT has a variety of connectivity options available for corporations, dependent upon their requirements and technology capabilities. These include on-premise and cloud-based solutions.

How can I make the most out of SWIFT for Corporates?


SWIFT offers training courses that enable corporates to become more familiar with SWIFT's solution for corporates and to put SWIFT standards into practice. SWIFT also provides consulting services which help before, during and after the implementation of SWIFT's solution for corporates and standards for corporate to bank messaging.

Contact us now to find out more

SWIFT is a global, member-owned co-operative that enables secure financial messaging between more than 10,500 financial institutions and corporations in 215 countries and territories. In addition, SWIFT brings the financial community together to shape market practices, define messaging standards and develop collaborative innovations in financial services.

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