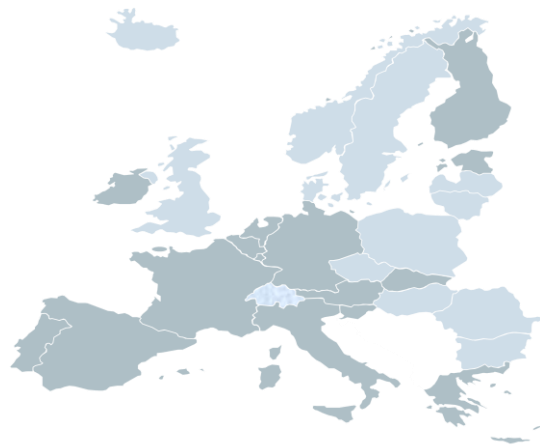


SEPA – Single Euro Payments Area

In the coming years SEPA will change how payments are done in Europe. Almost all euro payment solutions in Europe will be replaced.



SEPA vision

The vision is to create one efficient payment system for credit transfers and direct debits in euros in all SEPA countries.

SEPA covers the 27 EU member states plus Norway, Lichtenstein, Iceland and Monaco.

SEPA enables you to

- create and receive payments between SEPA countries as easy as domestic payments
- execute a direct debit on an euro account anywhere within SEPA

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Advantages of SEPA

- You need only one euro account for all your euro payments within SEPA
- Faster euro payments
- Lower internal costs because of the uniform rules for formats, fees and remittance information
- The uniform rules and formats also make it more easy to change bank within the SEPA area
- Easier to centralise payments
- High STP rates for account receivables

SEPA means change

In order to use SEPA credit transfers (SCT) and SEPA Direct Debit (SDD) payments, you have to adjust your payment solutions.

An essential part of SEPA payments is the use of BIC (Bank Identifier Code) and IBAN (International Bank Account Number). All suppliers of goods and services must inform its customers of its IBAN and BIC.

If you use files when communicating with your bank, you need to be able to forward and receive files in the ISO 20022 XML format.

Centralise your payments

With *one* set of rules and *one* format for euro credit transfers and direct debits in all SEPA countries, the task of setting up a payment or collection factory will become much easier.

SEPA timeline

SEPA started in 2008 and will gain momentum in coming years. The EU has issued a regulation stating the deadline for all banks to be available for cross-border direct debits and the SDD Core scheme. In practice, this means that SDD and SCT will replace domestic solutions by February 2014 in euro zone countries and by October 2016 in non-euro zone countries.

Danske Bank is ready

Danske Bank is ready to advise you on the strategic impact of SEPA and how to implement the best SEPA strategy for your company. Danske Bank operates in both euro zone countries and non-euro zone countries, which gives us an insight into all the issues involved in setting up a SEPA strategy.

Let us help you get the most out of SEPA.