



BACKGROUND ON BUSINESS

Recurring Payment Service Saves Business Owners Time and Money

(NAPSA)—The cost and time associated with accepting monthly payments has prompted many business owners to seek more efficient and convenient ways of managing their money.

For the business owner, customer billing can be an expensive endeavor. Companies spend billions of dollars and thousands of hours on collection correspondence every year. For the consumer, bill-paying can be tedious and time-consuming. In fact, one study found that the average American spends 170 hours paying bills over a lifetime.

A growing number of business owners have turned to a service that provides automatic payment and collection of recurring bills and membership fees.

TeleCheck's Recurring PaymentSM (TRPSM) Service enables funds to be automatically debited or charged to the consumers' accounts. Funds are then deposited electronically into the business owners' bank account within two banking days. TeleCheck guarantees funds for all approved transactions, ensuring that business owners will receive payments on time.

The National Automated Clearinghouse Association, a rule-making body governing payment systems, estimates that American consumers pay 20 billion bills annually. If half of American businesses converted to an electronic payment system, it is estimated those businesses would save a



Business owners can choose the date they want to receive customer payments, as well as how often they wish to receive them.

total of \$8 billion a year in collections and check fraud. These savings would most likely be passed on to consumers.

"This is a win-win situation for businesses and consumers," says Randy Rutledge, senior vice president and Chief Marketing Officer of TeleCheck. "Businesses save money on mail and collections and consumers save themselves the expense and hassle of sitting down every month to pay the bills."

TeleCheck's TRPSM service is already being used to pay expenses ranging from gym memberships and cable television, to tanning salons.

For more information, visit the Web site at www.telecheck.com.