

## FPC Member News Heating Up FPC Efforts

## Letter from the Executive Director



We hope you had an enjoyable Memorial Day Weekend! As the unofficial kickoff of the summer, I am sure many of you are looking forward to warmer temps, longer daylight, and turning those vacation vibes on. But I also know that while we all enjoy that summer experience, faster payments don't wait, and our efforts as a community will continue.

Case in point, over the past month, we have released two new Work Group deliverables. In early May, we issued the Directory Models Work Group's latest guide: *Decision Points for an Open* 

<u>Alias Directory</u>. The guide presents critical considerations for the development of an open, alias-based directory service that could simplify and accelerate faster payments in the United States. Through the guide, the FPC and Directory Models Work Group hope to further the dialogue around directories to help identify the ideal design, delivery, and operation of an open alias directory to support faster payments ubiquity.

Additionally in late April, the Digital Assets Work Group released its latest blog, <u>Digital</u> <u>Asset and Stablecoin Regulation: U.S. Faster Payments are Shaping the Future</u>. What the blog demonstrates is that evolving regulations and adoption momentum position digital assets and related technologies as key components to the future of the U.S. faster payments system.

And to support the momentum around digital assets, we already have in the queue a new webinar. On Wednesday, June 25 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm ET, the FPC will hold, <u>Understanding Stablecoins: A Beginner's Guide</u>, which will be led by Barbara Hudgins, Director, Payments Education at <u>ePayResources</u>, the sponsor of the webinar, and Chris Colson, Payments Expert at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. Mark your calendars now and make sure you register soon.

So, while it may be approaching summertime, we are not taking our foot off the gas. The momentum is strong, and together, we will continue the work toward ubiquitous faster payments in the United States.

Reed

FPC Fall Member Meeting – Registration, Hotel Block, and Call for Session Proposals Open!

Registration is now open for the 2025 Fall Member

Meeting taking place on **September 3-4** at the **Westin Portland Harborview Hotel** in Portland, Maine!

Please note that when registering for the event, there's a \$50 admin fee that will help the FPC enable new technology and a mobile app at the Fall Meeting.



A room block with a reduced rate of \$279/night at the Westin Portland Harborview is also available to attendees. Make your <u>reservation online</u> or call 855-811-0043 by **August 4**. The group rate is available before and after the event (pending availability), so if you'd like to spend a long weekend in New England, you can do that by calling the hotel.

Following the most recent key themes in faster payments, the Fall Meeting will dive into a variety of crucial topics through panel discussions, member roundtables, and breakout sessions. If you have a session idea or topic to share, we want to hear from you! Please <u>submit your proposal</u> by **Friday**, **June 13**. Proposals will be reviewed by our 2025 Planning Committee, and selected speakers will be notified by the week of **July 7**.

In addition to insightful discussions, the Fall Member Meeting will offer abundant networking opportunities during breaks, meals, and a special networking event, allowing you to connect with fellow members. With another large turnout expected, the member meeting also presents great <u>sponsorship opportunities</u>. Members can choose to sponsor the Evening Networking Event, meals, WiFi, and more.

<u>Event</u> <u>Registration</u> <u>Hotel</u> <u>Reservations</u> <u>Session</u> Proposals Sponsorship Opportunities

## Upcoming FPC Webinar - Understanding Stablecoins: A Beginner's Guide

Faster Payments Council We hope you'll join us for an upcoming FPC webinar, sponsored by <u>ePayResources</u>, on Wednesday, June 25 from 1:00pm-2:00pmET.

Dive into the world of stablecoins in this introductory session! Learn what stablecoins are, explore their different types (like fiat or "pegged," crypto, algorithmic and commodity), and discover how they're used for payments, trading, and DeFi. Perfect for newcomers, this primer breaks down the basics in a clear and engaging way.

### Speakers:

- Barbara Hudgins, Director, Payments Education, ePayResources
- Chris Colson, Payments Expert, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Register

New Resource Alert: Directory Models Work Group Report Published! The FPC Directory Models Work Group (DMWG) recently published the <u>Decision Points for an Open Alias Directory</u> report, which presents critical considerations for the development of an open, alias-based directory service that could simplify and accelerate faster payments in the United States.



The new report builds on the DMWG's prior foundational work on directory services, offering tangible insights into how such a system might operate in practice. It explores architectural frameworks, implementation models, and key decision points such as the types of alias values that can be used, how alias ownership can be established, and how queries and responses should be structured.

Thank you and congratulations to the DMWG for providing this newest industry resource!

# Driving Faster Payments Forward: Key Use Cases, Challenges, and Opportunities

At a recent Faster Payments roundtable, industry leaders convened to share insights on top use cases, successes, and hurdles in implementing instant payments. The discussion highlighted the growing adoption and complexity of real-time payments, particularly in areas like account-to-account (A2A) transfers, gaming payouts, brokerage funding, and 24/7 auto dealer and loan disbursements.

#### **Top Performing Use Cases**

Instant A2A wallet transfers were cited as a major success, with J.P. Morgan reporting double their expected monthly transaction volume. Use cases such as instant gaming and brokerage transfers, auto dealer payments, and loan disbursements are also gaining traction. These services are being chosen by consumers for their simplicity, efficiency, lower cost (especially when free), and reduced fraud rates — thanks to transaction data tagging.

#### **Challenges Slowing Adoption**

Despite momentum, the industry faces several hurdles. Building a compelling business case for executive buy-in, educating both consumers and internal teams, and managing liquidity for 24x7x365 operations were common concerns. Other roadblocks include limited support for consumer-to-business (C2B) push payments, fear of fraud, lack of standardized data tagging, inadequate dispute resolution processes, and outdated legacy systems that hinder integration.

### **Opportunities for Expansion**

Participants identified broader applications for instant payments, such as weekend event disbursements, small business payments, and government services (e.g., IRS refunds, social security). Use cases like utility payments via QR codes or RfP (Request for Payment) could prevent service shutoffs and boost customer satisfaction. Importantly, metadata tagging — likened to "MCC+ on steroids" emerged as a critical enabler for transparency, fraud prevention, and dispute reduction.

### Call to Action for FPC/EAWG

The Faster Payments Council (FPC) and its Education and Awareness Work Group (EAWG) were urged to support the ecosystem through standardization efforts, particularly around transaction tagging and dispute management. Providing data to build business

cases, sharing best practices, and helping institutions overcome integration and governance challenges will be key to accelerating adoption. As faster payments mature, collaboration across the ecosystem will be essential to unlock its full potential — from improving customer experience to driving real-time financial services at scale.

The EAWG will be making videos of members who would like to highlight their faster payment use cases during the Fall Member Meeting Sept 3-4 in Portland, Maine. Videos will be posted to the FPC Use Case Repository and highlighted in other ways. Contact <u>memberservices@fasterpaymentscouncil.org</u> for more information.

# Two New Episodes of FPC's "Off the Rails" Podcast



Catch up on the latest discussions in the payments industry with top experts on the "Off the Rails from the U.S. Faster Payments Council" podcast!

<u>Episode 9</u>: During this episode, FPC's Reed Luhtanen goes off the rails with **James Watts** of **Mitek Systems**. Reed and James dig in on payments fraud, talk about how faster

payments reduce check fraud, and the virtues of a few regional delicacies.

<u>Episode 10</u>: Reed catches up with **Phillipa Wilson** of **Mastercard** in this episode. Reed and Phillipa cover a wide range of things going on in faster payments, how emerging tech such as AI will play a role, and how the NBA playoffs might shake out.

Listen to the podcast on your favorite apps like <u>Apple Podcasts</u>, <u>Spotify</u>, <u>Audible from</u> <u>Amazon</u>, <u>Podcast Addict</u>, and more. You can also find it on the <u>FPC website</u>. Be sure to subscribe to stay updated on future episodes featuring FPC members.

New episodes drop on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. If you enjoy the show, please give us a five-star review, and share it with your industry friends and colleagues!

## Welcoming Our Newest Member

We are thrilled to welcome **Thought Machine Inc.** as the FPC's newest business member.

Our members are the backbone of the FPC. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and support drive us forward in our mission to achieve ubiquitous faster payments across



the United States. We deeply appreciate your commitment to the Faster Payments Council and your role in turning our vision into reality.

You can view the full and current list of <u>FPC members</u> on our website at any time.

## FPC Work Groups Advance Efforts



Over the past month, FPC Work Groups have continued to drive progress across key initiatives. See the latest updates and achievements below.

*Business Benefits of B2B Instant Payments Work Group* – The Group recently launched a new Blog

subgroup focused on generating content ideas and exploring potential topics for future posts. The Driving B2B Instant Payments Adoption through Use Cases subgroup is actively conducting a market survey to gather insights into the challenges and priorities organizations face in their B2B payment processes.

*Cross-Border Payments Work Group* – The Group's ISO 20022 Use Cases subgroup has completed a draft of its article, "ISO 20022: Data-Rich Messaging Advances Top Cross-Border Real-Time Payment Use Cases," which is now under review by the Operations Committee. The B2B Use Cases subgroup has finalized the format for its upcoming deliverable and is now shifting focus to content development. In addition, the Group has launched a new Stablecoin for Cross-Border Payments subgroup to explore the role of digital assets in international transactions.

*Digital Assets in the Financial Industry Work Group* – The Group's Stablecoins for Payments subgroup has finalized its latest blog post, "Stablecoins for Faster Payments," which has been approved by the Operations Committee and is now under review by the Board of Directors. Likewise, the Disaster Relief subgroup has submitted its draft blog, "U.S. Disaster Relief Payments: Dangerously in Need of Innovation, and Fast," for feedback. The Group has also launched a new Digital Identity & Payments subgroup to explore the intersection of digital identity and emerging payment methods. Additionally, the Group has updated its charter, which is currently under Operations Committee review.

*Directory Models Work Group* – The Group recently published a new report in the FPC's Knowledge Center titled, *Decision Points for an Open Alias Directory*. As part of the FPC's broader strategic initiative to align with evolving industry priorities, the Group has decided to sunset as an independent work group. This transition supports the goals outlined in the 2025 Strategy Work Group Refresh, aimed at enhancing the FPC's overall impact and adaptability.

*Education and Awareness Work Group* – The Group's Glossary subgroup continues to enhance the interactive Faster Payments Glossary in the FPC's Knowledge Center by identifying and defining new terms. Recent additions have been reviewed by the Operations Committee, and the Group is now integrating their feedback. Additionally, the Group has updated its charter, which is currently under Operations Committee review.

*Financial Inclusion Work Group* – The Group's Access to Technology subgroup is advancing its research on "How Digital Assets Can Address Financial Inclusion Pain Points," examining how digital tools might help broaden financial access. At the same time, the Group is evaluating its next steps and exploring ideas for future initiatives.

*Fraud Work Group* – The Group is currently reviewing the fraud-focused section of an upcoming deliverable from the Operational Considerations Work Group. The Focus Group subgroup is also exploring the best approach to gather insights from financial institutions of all sizes on perceived barriers to instant payments adoption, including fraud concerns. Additionally, Shelley Rojano of JPMorgan Chase has been appointed Vice Chair of the Work Group.

Instant Payments Data Optimization Work Group - \* Open Call for Participation\* Set to

launch soon, this new Work Group will bring together financial institutions, service providers, and payments associations to establish and promote best practices for enhancing data accuracy in instant payments. Nominations for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair are also open.

*Operational Considerations for Instant & Immediate Payments Work Group* – The Group has finalized the draft of its upcoming deliverable, "Guideline.02: Operational Considerations for Instant Payments Send-Side Deep Dive," and plans to share it with the Federal Reserve and The Clearing House for early input. The Group has also updated its charter, which is now under review by the Operations Committee.

*Real-Time Recurring Work Group* – The Group has begun work on its next deliverable, "Instant Recurring Payments: What's the Opportunity?," starting with a draft outline to guide development. The Group has also updated its charter, which is currently under review by members and will be submitted to the Operations Committee for approval.

*Secure Instant & Immediate Payment APIs Work Group* – The Group's Hackathon initiative has been approved by the Operations Committee and will be shared with the FPC Board for awareness. The Group is now finalizing the participant package, establishing judging criteria, and identifying potential sponsors to support the event.

Member contributions in our FPC Work Groups are key to our progress. If you haven't joined one of our Work Groups, we encourage you to do so. Also, remember that anyone from your organization can join work groups and contribute, so spread the word within your organization. Also, please feel free to share public-facing FPC deliverables with others in the industry. The more we all share knowledge, the more we will be able to advance the adoption and usage of faster payments.

You can find more information about the FPC's Work Groups and join here. We are also always looking for new work group ideas! If there is something happening in the industry that the FPC can help with – an FPC Work Group is the way to make that happen.

### We Value You as an FPC Member!



Thank you for your engagement and commitment to advancing faster payments.

If you have any questions, please contact us at <u>memberservices@fasterpaymentscouncil.org</u> and visit <u>fasterpaymentscouncil.org</u>.

Thank you to the FPC's 2025 Sponsors – <u>ACI Worldwide</u>, <u>Alloya Corporate Federal Credit</u> Union, <u>BNY</u>, <u>Endava</u>, <u>ePayResources</u>, <u>EPCOR</u>, <u>Finzly</u>, <u>Form3</u>, <u>Mastercard</u>, <u>North</u> <u>American Banking Company</u>, <u>SHAZAM</u>, <u>SRM</u>, <u>The Clearing House</u>, <u>Trustly</u>, and <u>Volante</u> <u>Technologies</u>.

## **Faster Payments Council**

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