

G-Cloud15

Access PaySuite

Collection

Networks

Service Definition

Contents

1	Service Overview	3
2	Onboarding.....	5
3	Additional Service Options	6
4	Service & Support Management Details	7
5	Account Management & Customer Success	10
6	Backup and Disaster Recovery	10
7	Business Continuity	11
8	ISO27001 Accreditation	11
9	Development Life Cycle.....	12
10	Technical Requirements	12
11	Service Constraints	12

1 Service Overview

Access PaySuite ("PaySuite") is a PCI Level 1 payment service provider and is ideally positioned to help your organisation succeed in delivering a programme of change by simplifying income streams through the unification of payments and income management services. PaySuite offers a flexible, secure and compliant payments platform for customer-present, customer-not-present and self-service payments that can scale with your needs.

As an organisation that processes card transactions and with the UK's implementation and introduction of GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018, card payment data is now classed as 'personally identifiable' and, as such, must be processed and secured to the highest standards. This, coupled with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS), can place a large amount of strain on costs to your organisation. PaySuite can help to reduce your scope of PCI and GDPR by -moving card data from your systems into our fully hosted and managed PCI Level 1 certified infrastructure.

Collection Networks

PaySuite works in partnership with the Post Office, PayPoint and Payzone to provide a solution that is supported on their networks. This offers more than 50,000 outlets for payments, ensuring that a customer always has multiple options of locations to pay.

The solution itself is designed to make payment at these outlets simple, for both the teller behind the counter and the customer making payment.

The customer passes either the card or the statement / letter containing the barcode to the teller, who scans it and asks the customer how much they wish to pay. This ensures that no keying errors can occur when entering the account number. The payment then continues with either cash or credit / debit card being taken (this is often at the discretion of the outlet).

From here, these payments form part of the End of Day file from PaySuite, which can be automatically downloaded and used to update your business systems.

Service Description

PaySuite partners with the Post Office, PayPoint and Payzone, three of the UK's leading payment collection networks, to enable customers to make payments to the organisation at more than 50,000 locations. Payments are managed by PaySuite, passing swiftly through to the organisation's bank account.

Service Benefits

- Extends payment choice to include convenient local retail outlets
- More than 50,000 convenient outlets where your customers can pay
- Complements other PaySuite services, such as internet and DTMF payments
- Socially inclusive, convenient for those who prefer cash payments
- Helps removes cash and cheque processing within your organisation
- Reduced overall running costs
- Faster settlement times deliver improved cash flow
- An all-round smoother payments experience for your organisation
- There is no on-site hardware or set-up needed.
- Can choose whether to use one, two or all three of our collection network partners

Service Features

- Payments are accepted through Post Offices, PayPoint and Payzone retail outlets
- Payment by cash / cheque and, in some outlets, card
- Payer identified by IIN code on card or barcoded bill
- Daily payment file for reconciliation with back office systems
- Payment settlement file provided to each user organisation
- Digital Payment Card creation, no requirement to print physical cards.
- Card printing and fulfilment service available
- IIN code printing on stationery service available
- Income reconciliation and reporting

Service Purpose

Provides your customers with an alternative and convenient way to make payments by cash, cheque and, where supported, credit / debit card. The PaySuite Collection Networks service removes the need for your organisation to handle and process cash, cheques and card data, freeing up staff time.

2 Onboarding

Access Implementation Methodology (AIM)

Our consultants follow a 4-phase, 12-step process and we propose a scale of project, management and administration that's appropriate for your specific needs. From evaluation, planning and design, through to implementation of your business solution.

Phase 1, Pre-project planning

Step 1: Needs analysis

After detailed consultation we will clearly define your needs in a proposal document that identifies the benefits you will experience by updating your systems.

Step 2: Solutions demonstration

We will take you through a tailored demonstration of your proposed solution and work with you to agree which elements will be included in the initial project. We listen and take account of all your feedback and will provide a quotation outlining the anticipated cost of your project.

Step 3: Sales handover

Having finalised the project's scope and agreed commercial terms, we prepare a handover document from sales to the project team who will partner you throughout implementation. They will meet with all appropriate members of your team to ensure continuity throughout the process.

Phase 2, Configure & Install

Step 4: Definition

The Access project team will work with you to define the structure and control processes that will guarantee the success of your project. Documents that we provide you at this stage will cover all your project objectives, the full specification and success criteria. This gives total clarity over individual tasks and responsibilities to ensure you're fully informed going forward.

Step 5: Solutions workshops

This step helps your project team become fully immersed in the proposed software. We map business processes to functionality so that you can understand how the solution will look and feel.

Step 6: Confirmation of requirements

Following your feedback from the solutions workshops, we will confirm the detailed actions and solution components necessary to meet the project success criteria we identified earlier.

Phase 3, Training

Step 7: Configuration

The components identified in Step 6 are delivered and a User Acceptance Test (UAT) system is built ready for you to carry out a pilot test. We configure and tune all the variables within the system to match your specific requirements.

Step 8: User Acceptance Test (UAT)

The UAT is conducted in a workshop environment for your staff against an agreed test plan. At the end of this step you will be ready to go live.

Step 9: Education

With a fully designed, installed and tested system now in place, we will train your staff on all relevant areas of the software. We are highly skilled at adapting our training to the learning styles of each of your staff members. We can train all of your staff or, if preferred, we will train your in-house.

Phase 4, Support

Step 10: Go Live

The test system is converted into a live working environment ready for the processing of real-time business transactions. This is managed by a pre-agreed go live check list to ensure all possible circumstances are considered and addressed. We will be on-site to answer your questions and support your users throughout this time, helping them to get maximum clarity and impact from the software as they become increasingly confident.

Step 11: Support handover

We prepare a handover document and deliver it to our ongoing support team. This document contains all the information our support consultants need to answer any future queries you may have.

Step 12: Post project review

Your experience is extremely important to us. Shortly after you go live we will request feedback on your experience of the implementation process to help us further refine our delivery processes. We then agree sign-off for the project.

3 Additional Service Options

The table below highlights the additional value added services that our consulting teams can provide. Please take some time to review these.

Digital Payments Card

DPC (Digital Payment Cards) is to be used by organisations to generate a Digital payment card containing a barcode for user to present during a payment. It will then post the payment with the CRN of the payment card and this can be cross reference to the customer account. Organisations can either use existing CRN or new CRN and DPC will create a DPC card containing a Barcode. The card can be sent to the customer by an email. The customer can then store the card digitally and use the barcode to make a payment.

4 Service & Support Management Details

Raising a Ticket

When contacting the Service Desk about any issue, you will need to provide as much information as possible including:

- Identify yourself
- The users, businesses or customer name this is affecting
- The specific product(s) affected
- The release version you are on including Service Packs or Hotfixes
- What impact this is having on your business in real terms e.g. deadlines
- Environmental issues that may be contributing factors
- A reference number (if calling about an existing matter)

As much detail as possible about what you are reporting including:

- Error messages (and the steps taken which cause the error message to appear)
- Time/date when these errors occur(ed)
- If the issue is intermittent or replicable, has this occurred more than once?
- Screenshots
- Which environments are affected e.g. Live/Test?. We will always strive to resolve your query immediately, but sometimes a deeper level of investigation is required. The time required to do this will depend on the complexity of the issue and the factors involved. It may be necessary to ask you a few questions in order to establish additional information or even to request a copy of some data for further investigation. While your case is being investigated, you can expect regular contact, with higher frequency depending on its priority.

Changes to a case status may be made in the following circumstances:

- Where you have been asked to provide further information, to test software, or to undertake any other action
- Where you or a third-party support agency has returned the case to PaySuite the severity will be re-assigned as deemed necessary.
- Where the significance of the fault diminishes, either because of partial fix or elimination of some elements, the case category may be downgraded.

How we intend to resolve your issues?

Software Defects

If we determine that a problem or fault reported by the customer relates to PaySuite software, we will attempt to provide a solution. The solution may take the form of additional corrective software or an updated version of PaySuite software in which the problem has occurred. We will use reasonable endeavours to provide a full resolution when the next version of the relevant PaySuite software is released. Incident resolution may take different forms e.g. advice, workaround or upgrade to later version – regardless of whether this version is released yet.

When will you respond to me?

We aim to resolve cases according to their Priority, usually with the most Urgent and Impactful cases being addressed first. The following is the Key Performance Indicator we use to target how quickly we aim to resolve an Incident or escalate it as a problem.

*Target resolution time excludes delivery of product or software resolution.

Priority	Target Response Time
1	1 Hour
2	2 Hours
3	1 Working Day
4	2 Working Days

Priority	Target Resolution Time
1	4 Hours
2	1 Working Day
3	5 Working Day
4	10 Working Days

Priority Level	Examples
Priority 1 – System Down	A service interruption which has a critical impact on the activities of the authority; causes significant financial loss and/or disruption to the authority or results in any material loss or corruption of authority data.
Priority 2 Critical	A service interruption which can or could have a major (but not critical) adverse impact on the activities of the authority and no workaround is available.
Priority 3 - Major	A service interruption which has a major adverse impact on the activities of the authority which can be reduced to a moderate adverse impact due to the availability of a workaround.
Priority 4 - Low	Service or change request

Service Levels

Availability

Monthly Availability Target = 99.95%

3 Month Rolling availability Target- 99.95%

% availability of each managed service component is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Total Agreed Availability Hours} - \text{Unscheduled Outage Hours}}{\text{Total Agreed Availability Hours}} \times 100$$



Notes

Total Agreed On-line Availability Hours is defined as 7 days by 24 hours minus any agreed scheduled maintenance periods.

Service outages caused by other service providers are excluded from this target e.g. loss of internet connection and other telecoms failures and links to 3rd parties.

Alerts

We intensively monitor our service 24*7 with real-time alerting of any problems with the service.

If a service-affecting issue is identified during business hours, a service notification email will be sent out to your list of company contacts, advising of the issue and any subsequent updates pertaining to the issue. It is important that you supply and keep us updated with a list of contacts – you can do this by contacting the Service Desk.

Notifications

At PaySuite, we aim to provide our customers with accurate information, advice and guidance regarding service and product related changes under the form of notifications.

These may be:

- New releases, software upgrades or weekly maintenance related work;
- 2-4 weeks' notice on changes that may impact your integration and require you to operate specific changes on your systems;
- Scheme, Vendor or Acquirer changes that may impact you;
- New products or changes to existing PaySuite products.

Scheduled Maintenance

As we are continually improving our service, we have scheduled a regular maintenance window to ensure any scheduled upgrades or infrastructure changes take place at a time you can expect and prepare for.

Our maintenance window is the 3rd Sunday of every month between 04:30am and 06:30am. Whilst we strive to minimise any impact to clients during this time, please be prepared for potential intermittency while system changes are implemented.

If we need to make urgent changes, for example related to security or performance, outside of this window which we feel may impact your service, we will notify you as soon as possible, and aim to provide 48 hours' notice wherever possible.

5 Account Management & Customer Success

With over 160,000 customers using products supplied by the Access Group we have a large team involved with ensuring that our customers are able to build on their investment with Access.

This includes the Customer Success team who are specialists in specific products whose role is to ensure that our customers on Standard and Premier Success plans benefit from educational webinars to ensure that you are always taking advantage of new functionality and most importantly continuing to adopt best practice in the day to day use and set up of the software.

Our Account Management team work with our customers specializing in vertical sectors or specific products. Depending on the complexity of the customer these are either office based using the latest technology to provide our customers with the highest possible levels of service or will visit sites for face to face meetings.

Our Account managers work with you keeping our customers informed on the way emerging technologies can help their business. They prepare briefings on the business, technical and financial benefits of technology and collaborate with customers to ensure the customer is aware of the breadth of software and support that Access can provide.

6 Backup and Disaster Recovery

PaySuite utilises multiple data centres that host our systems, this is to separate PCI data and environment. Our Disaster Recovery (DR) solution(s) are based on Primary and Secondary datacentres where all data is replicated from Primary to Secondary for DR. PaySuite also has backup/storage clusters in each datacentre running HYCU backup software for data backups away from the payment clusters, resulting in data being in 4 locations for increased resiliency. Backups are also stored offsite and are SAN stored so involve no physical devices.

In the unlikely event that the primary datacentre goes completely dark, an investigation period will be undertaken to determine the cause and decide if a datacentre promotion is required to make the secondary datacentre the primary one.

In the event of a disaster, PaySuite shall:

- Recover data stored off site
- Recover the service at the nominated disaster recovery site
- Procure and implement, at the expense of PaySuite, other equipment necessary to supply the service
- Aim to, where possible, provide a minimum service within 24 hours
- Provide a fully functional system as soon as is logistically possible.

Backups

- Synchronised high availability primary and secondary sites
- Two separate dedicated backup clusters (HYCU)
- Database mirroring – real-time synchronisation
- Hourly database logs
- Daily full database and files system/server

Backup Retention

- Daily for 1 week
- Weekly for 1 month
- Monthly for 3 months

Restores

- Recovery Point Objective (RPO) – <5 seconds
- Recovery Time Objective (RTO) – 2 hours core systems; 4 hours non-core systems

NB/ Targets for the restoration of the service do not apply in the event of a customer site disaster such as loss of equipment or premises.

7 Business Continuity

The Access Group's full and most up to date business continuity plan can be requested by emailing buyer.enablement@theaccessgroup.com

8 ISO27001 Accreditation

The Access Group holds ISO27001:2022 accreditation across the entire organisation. This independently verified certification demonstrates our commitment to protecting your data. Maintaining this accreditation requires us to demonstrate effective security controls, regular staff training, and documented processes that are tested through independent annual audits.

9 Development Life Cycle

As one of our core products PaySuite has a detailed roadmap of improvements driven both by customers and by our own roadmap. Ongoing development against each application is supported by a development plan that has high levels of details for the next 3 months including user stories. Beyond that top line plans are in place by quarter for a further 12 month with a list of additional options waiting to be added.

There will always be a requirement to continually improve and enhance our products. Part of this can also mean products will reach end-of-life and be decommissioned. These outcomes are recognised as having different drivers, all of which are taken in to consideration:

Business-led:

- Legislative changes (including safety and security)
- Strategic business decisions
- Technological advances

Customer-led:

- Requests from individual customers
- Requests from User Groups

10 Technical Requirements

- Paying customer needs access to Post Office / PayPoint / Payzone outlet
- Organisation connections into our service are by public internet using TLS in line with PCI guidelines
- End of Day files are provided in a CSV format

Other protection within a supplier network

Applications in the DMZ pass data over SQL direct connections and HTTPS to the authorisation service and the SQL server. We protect the data by ensuring that this traffic is only internal to the network and not externally accessible or transmitted; our internal PCI network is 'ring fenced' from all other users' network traffic.

11 Service Constraints

Maintenance windows as detailed above are minimal with the service so that we use all reasonable efforts to ensure that the SaaS Services are available for 99.70% of each calendar month.

As a true SaaS solution customisation is not available although the product can be configured to meet all standard set up requirements.