

NPCI/NFS/OC No.383/2020-21

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

To,

All members of National Financial Switch (NFS) & RuPay

Madam / Dear Sir,

**Sub: NFS - Migration of 'Magstripe Only' cards to EMV Chip cards**

We refer to RBI Circular No. RBI/2015-16/163 DPSS.CO.PD.No.448/02.14.003/2015-16 dt. 27<sup>th</sup> Aug'15 whereby issuing banks were advised that the magnetic stripe debit and credit cards issued would have to be replaced by 31<sup>st</sup> Dec'18, irrespective of the validity period of the card.

We still observe 'magstripe only' card transactions are approved by Issuer banks in NFS ATM network. The 'magstripe only' card transactions can be identified in the online NFS ATM transaction based on the card service condition code value received in Data Element (DE) – 35 / 40. 'Magstripe only' cards shall have the 1<sup>st</sup> digit of the card service condition code value as '1' OR '5'.

In the NFS Steering Committee (SC) meeting dated 7<sup>th</sup> Oct'20, it was decided that NPCI may start declining ATM transactions done by 'magstripe only' cards due to risk associated with it. Members who are yet to migrate all their 'magstripe only' cards to EMV Chip and Pin cards are requested to complete the migration at the earliest, to avoid any inconvenience to the cardholders.

Please be informed that NPCI shall start declining ATM transactions done by 'magstripe only' card from **1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021**, except for those prepaid card BINs requested by member banks for exclusion.

In case of prepaid cards, which may be in force for some more time, banks can share the BINs of those prepaid cards with NPCI for excluding them from being declined.

Banks can submit the prepaid card exclusion list, if required, in the format given in Annexure A to the following email IDs latest by 31<sup>st</sup> Jan'21.

Name	e-mail ID	Mobile Number
Zeenal Rodrigues	<a href="mailto:zeenal.rodrigues@npci.org.in">zeenal.rodrigues@npci.org.in</a>	95036 04372
Anand Iyer	<a href="mailto:anand.iyer@npci.org.in">anand.iyer@npci.org.in</a>	98200 66464

Yours sincerely,

  
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Head RuPay & NFS