



PRESS RELEASE

SEPAmail.eu and European banks successfully test cross-European verification of payee interoperability via the Swift network

France, December 18, 2024 – SEPAmail.eu and European banks have completed the first successful end-to-end intra-European Verification of Payee (VoP) test using Swift's Payment Pre-validation service, while leveraging the banks' existing infrastructure based on SEPAmail DIAMOND Application.

The tests demonstrated that VoP providers can connect through Swift, extending their reach across the Eurozone and providing financial institutions in Europe with an easy solution for compliance with the European Instant Payments Regulation. From October 2025, banks and Payment Service Providers across the Single European Payment Area are required to check beneficiary details ahead of a credit transfer being made anywhere in the Eurozone, providing senders with greater peace of mind when sending money internationally.

The tests involved banks in Spain and Germany using Swift Payment Pre-validation to check the details of accounts held with banks in France, using SEPAmail DIAMOND Application. Three scenarios were successfully tested: that beneficiary details matched, were a close match, or did not match at all.

Swift is working to help the financial industry comply easily with the European regulation by acting as an 'interoperability hub' between different European VoP providers, extending their reach across the Single European Payment Area, and helping to reduce fragmentation.

SEPAmail.eu, the French Routing and Verification Mechanism (RVM), has once again proven its ability to respond to the IPR by providing an interoperable solution across Europe to service its members, and more.

Jacques Vanhautère, CEO of SEPAmail.eu, said: "It is an important new step for the DIAMOND community to extend interoperability through Swift Payment Pre-validation with banks in Spain and Germany, thus complementing our existing interconnections with Netherlands and Italy. We are once again proving our ability, as a scheme, to deliver a pan-European IBAN Name Check solution by 9 October 2025 to SEPA PSPs and beyond".

Raphael Marek, Head of France at Swift, said: "Our work is focused on enabling financial institutions to provide the best possible cross-border experience to customers of all sizes. The *EU's* Instant Payment Regulation is a positive development, and our focus is on ensuring interoperability between verification of payee providers – so that our community can use their existing Swift infrastructure to easily comply. We're delighted by the success of these tests and look forward to working with more providers to uplift the international payments ecosystem, not just in Europe but across the world."

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About SEPAmail.eu and STET

For more than 10 years, SEPAmail.eu has provided services to the French and international banking community enabling message transactions between corporates, individuals and banks.

SEPAmail.eu is a secure messaging service with an open architecture delivering two types of applications for its membership of more than 300 banks: SEPAmail AIGUE-MARINE (enabling individuals to switch their current bank accounts to a different bank or PSP) and SEPAmail DIAMOND (IBAN Name Check).

SEPAmail.eu is part of STET Group. STET is a mission critical operator for its clients, the banks and the banking communities it serves every day. As a Systemically Important Payment System (SIPS), STET commits to respecting the highest level of security, rigor, and transparency.

Since its creation 20 years ago, STET's vision is that European harmonization will not preclude market diversity. Hence, we develop flexible and sustainable architectures, designed to host the various needs of our clients with user-friendly multi-channel services.

Having a consistent 360° service offering including a clearing system able to handle the whole range of payment instruments (domestic and SEPA) as well as a routing and authorization network means that we can support all payments challenges.

For more information on SEPAmail.eu, please visit <u>www.sepamail.eu</u> For more information on STET, please visit <u>www.stet.eu</u>

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