Your Guide Through Payment Gateways
What is a Payment Gateway?
A payment gateway is a hosted software application that authorizes credit card payments and ACH (check) payments between the payment portal (such as a website or mobile phone) and a credit card processor. You can think of a payment gateway as an entrance to your credit card processor, in the same way that a gateway in a fence could be the entrance to a garden. It acts as the equivalent of the hardware terminal you would find in your local grocery store.

The payment gateway is a remotely-hosted software application that can allow businesses of all sizes and industries to process credit cards. The payment gateway can accept online sales for retail transactions through its virtual terminal. Or provide e-commerce credit card processing web services through simple website integration for e-commerce merchants. Payment gateway credit card processing solutions are not only used by online businesses, but also support mobile payment capabilities.

The TSYS® payment gateway enables you to process online. It is a complete payment processing center that lets you manage your payment acceptance through any web-enabled device. With the TSYS payment gateway, merchants can accept payment anywhere they can access the internet — on the road, in the store or online. There is nothing you need to buy because no special equipment or software is needed to start accepting credit and debit card payments through a payment gateway.

Payment Gateways Offer Accessibility and Flexibility
Payment gateways offer merchants a better way to control their business. Payment processing through an electronic payment gateway provides accessibility and flexibility. Retail and e-commerce to finance, government, education, utilities, healthcare and non-profits can benefit from customizable, innovative payment solutions. TSYS combines processing speed and security with transparent price options and low monthly fees.

What is a Virtual Merchant Account?
A merchant account is a contractual agreement between a merchant and the bank or financial institution that processes its credit and debit card payments.

A virtual merchant account (also known as an online merchant account) payment processing system lets merchants accept credit cards, PIN debit cards and checks through any internet connection with no physical terminal needed. It is an alternative to the physical point-of-sale (POS) terminal most commonly used in restaurants and retail markets. To transact sales online, you need an internet merchant account, website, virtual shopping cart and payment gateway.
Are Internet Merchant Accounts Safe?
Security is a major concern for merchants and merchant service providers. TSYS is committed to enabling your business to safely accept credit and debit cards without fear of fraud and identity theft. Our products and services are PCI compliant. This means they meet the requirements established in the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards (PCI DSS). TSYS employs the latest technology and security tools. Plus implements industry best practices to help provide the utmost protection against credit card fraud and data breach.

Secure Socket Layer Protection
Payment gateways use SSL (Secure Socket Layer) encryption to secure information that is passed between the customer and merchant. The same security measure is used between the merchant and the payment processor too. Encrypted sensitive information includes the cardholder’s name, credit card number, expiration date and transaction amount.

How It Works
TSYS’s online payment gateway allows you to process credit card orders in real time.

The customer selects what they want to purchase. The item(s) are added to a virtual shopping cart. At checkout, the shopping cart totals the items, adds tax and shipping and collects the customer’s shipping and billing information.

In one seamless process, the payment gateway captures the credit card data and encrypts it. Then transmits it securely to your credit card processor. The processor then sends it on to the issuing bank for authorization.

The online payment gateway performs three vital functions:

1. Authorization – Any purchase made with a credit or debit card via a payment gateway must first be authorized by the card-issuing bank. The gateway affords you a secure link between you and your credit card processor, who acts as an intermediary in the authorization process. The authorization is typically completed in just seconds.

2. Settlement – At the end of the day, the internet payment gateway is used to batch settle all your transactions and send them to your processor. The processor sorts them and passes them along to the correct issuing bank. Once the transactions are settled, your processor deposits the funds into your bank account within a couple of days.

3. Reporting – Transactions are recorded and you can view them with the gateway reporting function. You can review, print and download reports to your computer.

“With the TSYS payment gateway, merchants can accept payment anytime, anywhere they can access the internet.”

[TSYS Logo]
888.845.9457
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TSYS Payment Gateway Features

- Payment processing via any device with internet connection
- Real-time transaction processing
- Credit card and signature debit payment methods supported
- Direct swipe via USB, no additional software needed
- Multi-merchant and multi-user platform
- Tokenization for both one-time and recurring payments
- Customizable reporting with up to 5 user-defined fields
- Merchant and customer email management
- Advanced merchant grouping capabilities with single sign-on

TSYS delivers everything you need in an electronic payment gateway. Talk to us today about how we can support your credit card processing needs.

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