International payments in euros

With SEPA, you benefit from attractive payment terms

SEPA, the Single Euro Payments Area, has been in place since January 2008. This makes it even easier and less expensive for our clients to make payments in euros. Financial institutions in over 34 countries participate in SEPA. The SEPA payment standards will gradually replace national procedures for processing euro payments.

Development of SEPA
Euro payments are one of our specialties. This is why UBS is one of the founding members of the European Payments Council, which is behind the development of SEPA. Our clients have thus been in it from the very beginning, and have been able to receive and make SEPA payments since May 2008. Since November 2009, we have offered a completely overhauled euro direct debit process.

The advantages of SEPA
Thanks to SEPA, euros can be transferred to any participating financial institution in the EU, EEA, Monaco, Switzerland and San Marino more easily, transparently, securely, quickly and inexpensively.

• More easily – because details such as the IBAN (International Bank Account Number) and BIC (Business Identifier Code) allow the fully automated processing of transactions.
• More transparently – because the breakdown of fees is clearly defined and the recipient receives the entire transfer amount. Some recipient banks charge their clients (recipients) a price for the payment received, which they communicate in advance.
• More securely – because all banks apply the same checking criteria.
• More quickly – because we pass on payment orders submitted in good time on the same day, even with a currency conversion.
• More inexpensively – because each payment only costs our clients the same as a domestic euro payment. You don’t need to change anything. For you, everything will work as normal using the electronic UBS products (UBS e-banking, UBS Multimat, UBS KeyDirect, UBS KeyLink and SWIFT for Corporates). We automatically recognize your payment orders as SEPA-compliant, ensuring they are always processed in the best possible way. (Please refer to the current Formatting Guide in the case of payment orders via SWIFT for Corporates.)

Criteria for SEPA payments
A payment is SEPA-compatible if it meets the following criteria:
• The recipient’s IBAN and the BIC of the recipient’s bank are provided.
• The payment is in euros.
• Fee regulation is SHA (costs are shared, i.e. the recipient and the payer bear the costs charged by their own banks).
• There are no messages to forwarding agents/banks on the payment order.
• The order is submitted within the applicable cut-off times.
• The recipient’s bank participates in SEPA.
• Amount to be transferred in euro does not have any higher equivalent than CHF 24 million.

1 It needs to be borne in mind that some banks charge their clients an initial price. UBS has no control over this.
Special characteristics of SEPA payments

- SEPA payments are carried out in accordance with the “Terms and Conditions for Payments”.
- If the payment order is submitted promptly, the transfer amount is credited to the recipient’s account within one bank working day.
- If an incoming payment cannot be posted, all parties involved in the transaction (including the payer) are notified of the reason.
- Amounts are always credited based on the IBAN given in the payment order.

The applicable cut-off times and current price list are available on the internet at ubs.com/sepa, or you can request them from your UBS client advisor.

Expert support

If you have any questions or require support, please contact us. We will be happy to help you optimize your euro payments.

ubs.com/sepa