

Numerics Initiative: Merchant Readiness Checklist

This document is intended to provide a high-level checklist of the potential impact areas service providers will need to review to determine and complete readiness for the eight-digit BIN and processing numerics changes in advance of April 2022. This document is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather a guide for service providers when determining areas of impact.

Merchant
Acquirer
Date

Task Owner **Date Projected** **Date Completed** **Comments**

Not yet started

Key initiative Resources Related

Merchant facing deck

Discovery Interview, Action Steps, etc.

[Numerics Initiative Page on Visa.com](#)

Training

Webinars:

– Merchant Webinar

– Service Provider Webinar (Recorded Version)

Actively Engaged

Planning and Resources

Executive management aware

Assessment

Assess Point-of-Sale and merchant's processing platform readiness for eight-digit BINs

Assess downstream and proprietary system readiness

Confirm routing is based on Visa Tables (or Visa routing)

Review hardcoding or any system logic based on BINs

Identify project milestones

Create a project plan including risk mitigation

Analysis Underway	Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
Establish a cross-functional project team				
Impacted Functional Areas (Internal and Third Parties)				
Review Impacted Functional Areas chart to assess and identify potential impacts				
Identify and inventory all third party service providers:				
– Terminal providers				
– Processors				
– POS application providers				
– Software vendors				
– Aggregators				
– e-Commerce shopping bag and wallet developers				
– Payment gateways				
– Fraud Risk management providers				
– Dispute resolutions providers				
– Value-added resellers (VARs)				
Consult with PCI Qualified Security Assessor if a merchant would like to expose the full eight-digit BIN as well as the last four digits				
Communicate the changes to acquirers				
Communicate the changes to service providers				
Progressing Implementation				
Executive management endorsed				
Project resourcing approved				
Target readiness date				

	Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
Progressing Implementation (cont'd)				
Project Progress (input projected dates)				
Make modifications if you are using six-digit BINs to:				
				– Identify Prepaid Cards
				– Fraud and/or Chargeback analytics
				– Fraud or Chargeback prevention
				– Issuer Identification
				– Routing
				– Unique BIN Identification; e.g. Fleet Cards, GSA Cards, etc.
				– Optimise Approval Rates/Authorisation Analysis
				– Loyalty solutions
				– Cash back qualification
				– Instalment payment qualification
				– Limited acceptance (Credit, Debit)
				– Surcharging
				– Strong customer authentication (PSD2 related products)
				– Back-office processors; e.g. reconciliation
Testing (Highly recommended)				
				Work with acquirers to understand testing requirements
				Internal test plans established
				Testing plans with acquirers and third parties established
				Conduct testing with acquirers

Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
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Confirmed Ready

Readiness Confirmed (Merchant project complete)

Internal test plans completed

Testing plans with acquirers completed

Testing plan with third parties completed

Project is completed and readiness has been communicated to acquirers, Visa and to third parties

Ready to handle eight-digit BINs

Impacted functional areas

The following are functional areas that may be impacted. Internal processes should be reviewed to determine if these apply, or to identify additional areas specific to your organisation.

General considerations

- Reporting - including client generated internal reporting
- Invoicing - including invoice formats
- Call centre systems
- Value-added networks (VANs)
- Fraud/risk management systems and encryption services
- Dispute resolution systems

Issuer-specific considerations

- Statementing processes
- PAN assignment logic
- Product-specific reporting/processes
- Affiliated entities, including:
 - Processors
 - Software vendors
 - Card manufacturers
 - Card personalisation bureaus
 - Fraud/risk management providers
 - Dispute resolution providers
 - Loyalty/rewards providers
 - Programme managers (e.g. Prepaid)
 - Co-brand partners
 - Cardholder benefits
- Visa Quarterly Operating Certificate Reporting Loyalty Programmes

Acquirer/Merchant-specific considerations

- Any terminal-level logic that may be based on six-digit issuer BIN
- Interchange reconciliation logic
- Merchant loyalty programmes
- Transaction routing logic
- Affiliated entities, including:
 - Processors
 - Software vendors
 - Payment gateways
 - POS application providers
 - e-Commerce shopping bag and wallet developers
 - Terminal providers
 - Fraud/risk management providers
 - Aggregators
 - Value-added resellers (VARs)

Key areas for consideration on the expansion of BINs, in particular if you:

- Manage your own POS environment
- Share BIN information with any third parties
- Use proprietary BIN tables in transaction processing or supplied via third parties
- Have any system logic or POS device that uses the first six-digits of the PAN

And if you are using BINs to:

- Identify Prepaid Cards
- Fraud and/or chargeback analytics
- Fraud or chargeback prevention
- Issuer identification
- Routing
- Unique BIN identification; e.g., Fleet Cards, GSA Cards, Others
- Optimise approval rates/authorisation analysis
- Loyalty solutions
- Cash back qualification
- Instalment payment qualification
- Limited acceptance (Credit, Debit)
- Surcharging
- Strong customer authentication (PSD2 related projects)
- Back office processor: i.e. reconciliation

Merchant Readiness by Stage

Key milestones to meet mandate by April 2022

Readiness stage

How to determine?

Not Yet Started

– Has merchant answered 'no' to any questions for Actively Engaged phase?

Actively Engaged

- Is merchant's executive management aware?
- Has merchant begun assessing impacts for eight-digit BINs?
- Has merchant begun assessing downstream and proprietary system readiness?

Analysis Underway

- Has merchant begun identifying and inventorying impacts?
- Has a cross-functional team been established?
- Have project milestones been identified?

Progressing Implementation

- Has merchant's executive management endorsed the effort?
- Have project budget and other resourcing requirements been approved?
- Has a project plan been created and is it progressing?
- Has a targeted launch date been set?
- Is merchant actively engaged with their acquirers and third parties?

Confirmed Ready

- Has the merchant's plan been completed, including any downstream changes and testing?
- Are merchant's third parties ready to support?
- Has merchant communicated readiness to their acquirers?
- Is a risk mitigation plan in place?