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Seven leading European mobile payment systems establish association to promote collaboration and international payments.

## **SIBS, as founding member of EMPSA, is working to allow the interoperability and international use of the MB WAY**

Lisbon, September 03 - SIBS, through MB WAY, has just joined six other leading domestic mobile payment services in nine European countries to establish the European Mobile Payment Systems Association (EMPSA). Working in a collaboration between systems, SIBS is making possible MB WAY's interoperability with other mobile payment systems, enabling its operation in an international context. At a time when mobile phone payments are a reality and they are increasingly present in Europeans' daily lives, SIBS fulfills its goal of widening the service scope.

Seven European leading domestic mobile payment solutions, a category in which MB WAY, as a founding member, is undoubtedly included, come together to achieve interoperability and international reach. This is an ambitious plan, but also a natural step for systems that have already reached an important level of relevance and usage in their national markets.

**Tiago Bianchi de Aguiar, SIBS' Strategy Director, representing SIBS in the association, underlines that:** "For SIBS, being part of this association represents the international recognition of all work done - in the creation of a payment system that meets users' needs, like MB WAY - but also of its focus on the future and its ability to make a decisive contribution to internationally differentiated payment experiences."

For MB WAY users, who are already connected to over 1.7 million people and who can shop at over 100,000 merchants in Portugal, this also means that SIBS is investing significantly, so that in the future they can use their preferred mobile payment solution in a variety of European countries.

In total, EMPSA members already have 25 million users from over 350 banks and over 1 million acceptant merchants across nine European markets, but more countries and mobile payment systems are expected to join the association in the next months.

**Tiago Bianchi de Aguiar** also points that: "SIBS, with a track record of over 30 years of innovation and cooperation in payments, is proud to contribute to the birth of EMPSA, hoping to leverage its success with MB WAY in Portugal to foster collaboration and unlock new



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possibilities in the European cross-border space. It has always been our goal since its launch in 2015 to make MB WAY an international mobile payment service.”

With this cross-border cooperation through the creation of EMPSA, the association ensures that users of these systems can enjoy mobile payments abroad, a major competitive advantage in the current scenario of digital economy’s globalization. To underscore the importance of interoperability, EMPSA has already set up a working group, which SIBS integrates, to establish communication and joint operation of those various systems.

### **About SIBS**

Founded in 1983, SIBS provides financial, modern, reliable and secure services, particularly in the payments’ area, to more than 300 million users from different geographies, processing more than 3 billion transactions annually. Alongside being a major payment processor in Europe, SIBS is a benchmark in Security and Anti-Fraud solutions and services in Business Process Outsourcing and the Iberian leader in Card Production and Personalization.

SIBS was born and grew up as a fintech, innovating and taking technology as its driver in this path. SIBS reinvented the existing payment methods and created MB WAY, Portugal’s most modern and complete payment app, which allows users to make purchases, instant transfers and withdrawals using the mobile phone only. It’s also the company responsible for the management of the ATM Express and MULTIBANCO Networks, the largest Portuguese ATM network, to which SIBS has added dozens of features, many of them pioneer worldwide. In parallel, SIBS manages multiple digital payment channels, from Automatic Payment Terminals, to online channels or mobile phones.

It is also an important international player, present in several markets, namely in Europe and Africa, where SIBS solutions operate in more than 330 thousand terminals that process around 2 billion transactions, especially in Poland, where SIBS owns Paytel, one of the most dynamic payment terminal operators in that market.

Committed in its daily work, SIBS is constantly pursuing its mission of being the reference partner of public and private entities, creating value for Society through the development and management of payment solutions, processes and related services based on technology that combine safety, convenience and innovation, respecting the good behavioral principles and the sustainability conditions.

You can find more information about SIBS at [www.sibs.com](http://www.sibs.com)