



PRESS RELEASE

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LAGOS – ValuCard Nigeria Plc, the joint acquiring company for Visa transactions in Nigeria has signed Interconnectivity and Interoperability Agreement (IIA) with ATM Consortium Nigeria PLC (ATMC), Nigeria’s premier off-site independent ATM deployer; operators of the “QuickCashTM” ATM network. The interconnection will initially commence under a six-month pilot phase.

Under the deal, all Visa cards i.e. Domestic V-Pay and Visa International cardholders will soon be able to access the over-100 “QuickCashTM” touch points (spread across Abuja, Benin, Enugu, Ibadan, Kaduna, Lagos and Port Harcourt) to either withdraw cash, pay their utility bills within Nigeria or make any such other transaction that ATMC may enable from time to time. These will be made possible through integration of ATMC’s network into ValuCard’s network, the Visa gateway in Nigeria.

This synergy now increases the number of ATMs that accept Visa cards all over Nigeria.

“The association with ValuCard Nigeria Plc is very significant because it gives us the rare opportunity to not only accept Visa cards on our network but to also join the global payment system”, says Mr. Noble Ekajeh, Managing Director/Chief Executive of ATMC.

In his remark during the Agreement signing ceremony, Managing Director of ValuCard Nigeria Plc, Mr. Kyari Bukar, said, *“working with ATMC in this manner is a demonstration of our resolve to interoperate with other operators in the card payment business in Nigeria”*. Mr. Bukar further stated that global best practice dictates open architecture and informed ValuCard’s principle on interoperability and interconnectivity. By the principle, ValuCard will interconnect and interoperate with all organizations that subscribe to open architecture as opposed to restrictive practices.

About ValuCard Nigeria Plc

ValuCard Nigeria Plc is the leading e-payment service provider in Nigeria. It is owned by a consortium of leading Nigerian Banks and Visa International, the global leader in e-payment. ValuCard is also a principal member of Visa International.

Through its association with Visa, ValuCard is equipped with the latest, most secure and reliable e-payment processing platform and supporting infrastructure that meets international standards and is dedicated to addressing the e-payment needs of Merchants and Visa Member Banks.

ValuCard is now working in conjunction with Visa and their Nigerian Member Banks to launch **V-Pay in Nigeria** - the only EMV-compliant debit card in Nigeria that is Chip and PIN protected.

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