



MasterCard Commercial Card Program Increases Control of Expense Process

The MasterCard Commercial Card Program increases control of the expense process with accurate, timely reporting, and the ability to place limits on employee expenditures.

Keeping track of expenditures employees make each month can prove to be a major challenge for many organizations. However, using MasterCard's Commercial Card Program can help those organizations assert more financial control and more easily keep an eye on exactly who is spending how much money, and for which products and services.

The MasterCard Commercial Card Program provides an easy solution for an organization to address all of its travel, entertainment, purchasing and fleet needs. The credit card program increases an organization's control over spending while consolidating all spending information so everything is in one place.

That is particularly important when professional service organizations are experiencing fast-paced growth. With more people in the field and increased demand for products and services, having a sophisticated credit card that can grow with the organization, without adding to its administrative burden, is essential.

Working with Your Growing Business

Despite the current economic uncertainty in the country, the gross domestic product continues to record brisk growth, and hiring continues similarly. For the third quarter of 2007, GDP climbed by 4.9 percent, following on growth of 3.8 percent for the second quarter of the year, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (www.bea.gov).

Meanwhile, the U.S. economy has added more than 1.16 million new jobs during the first 10 months of the year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov). The increase of 166,000 new jobs in October 2007 made it the 50th straight month for job growth in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce (www.commerce.gov).

As professional service organizations see a demand for their skills and services rise, more employees will be purchasing goods and services, and more people will need to pay for local or long-distance travel.

But busy organizations do not have time to deal with all of the paperwork additional employees might generate if they have to pay for goods and services out of pocket and then be reimbursed, or if they have to seek out pre-approval for even the most minor expenditures.

The Perfect Solution

Organizations can avoid that potential wave of paperwork by tapping into the services that MasterCard's Commercial Card Program provides. MasterCard's strong reputation, the card's widespread

acceptance (throughout the United States and around the world), and the ease that MasterCard offers for monitoring credit card charges coming from a wide range of employees, makes it the perfect solution for many organizations that need to keep pace with their business growth.

The MasterCard Commercial Card Program can be tailored to fit a particular company's needs. An organization can hand out credit cards to as many employees as it sees fit, and can increase the number of cards available as it adds to the organization's payroll. The program also allows the organization to set variable spending controls on each employee's purchase amounts, the types of suppliers where the card is authorized to be used, and the number of transactions allowed.

Usage is customized so authorized employees in the information technology department can use their cards to purchase computer parts, salespeople can use theirs to fuel up their cars before making sales calls around town, and executives can use their cards to pay for international travel. Each individual's card has a specified limit, and those limits can be easily adjusted.

Helps Support Employees Who Travel

Having a credit card available to pay for travel expenditures helps give employees a sense of comfort so they no longer have to worry about being stranded somewhere, whether 50 or 500 miles from home. With MasterCard's widespread acceptance, they can use their corporate cards to pay for rental cars and hotel rooms.

Not only is the card accepted locally and at millions of locations worldwide, but it also provides access to cash at hundreds of thousands of banks and ATMs.

With the MasterCard Commercial Card Program, employees of professional service organizations are freed up to do what they do best — provide top-notch service to their clients — while cutting down on their administrative paperwork. They no longer have to estimate travel expenses ahead of their trips and then request a cash advance. And it is no longer necessary for them to charge their expenses to their personal credit cards when they are on the road and request a reimbursement. It frees up time for everyone.

Increase Oversight

Along with the decrease in paperwork comes increased oversight of all credit card transactions. Because credit card statements come to one central data repository, it becomes easier for supervisors and leadership to monitor spending, both for individuals and companywide. This lets them know if they are nearing the organization's monthly spending limit so they can make adjustments accordingly.

The ease of payments, control over expenditures and availability of centralized statements offered by the MasterCard Commercial Card Program provides a credit card solution that is flexible enough to grow with a successful professional service organization.