

Continued online debit growth in second quarter of 2005

MasterCard International has reported strong global online debit activity during the second quarter, as debits continue to take shares from cash and checks as the preferred means of payment. The Maestro trademark now appears on 578.1 million cards worldwide, including 34.5 million MasterCard debit cards, representing 5.9% growth versus the second quarter of 2004.

Merchant acceptance of MasterCard's online debit programs also grew. As of June 30, 2005, consumers could make online debit, point-of sale-purchases with their MasterCard debit or Maestro cards at over 9.2 million merchant locations globally.

(Source: In Europe, MasterCard Europe, issue 5, September/October 2005)