

**79th Annual Meeting & Exhibition** *Making the Difference* 

September 11-14, 2011 \* InterContinental Hotel \* Berlin, Germany





# THE FUTURE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTER

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#### What is a CSC?

- Retail & Customer Interaction Organization
- Account Manager
- Cash & Payment Manager
- Systems Developers and Operators
- Transaction Processor
- Billing Agent
- Reciprocity/Clearinghouse Agents
- Special Projects Office





#### Forms of CSC

- Agency
  - CSC for one or a group of Toll Operators with any Reciprocity being point to point
- Single
  - National CSC to process all toll transactions including billing
- Hub
  - An agent who provides processing for multiple toll operators using different systems



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# Why are Toll Operators Still Running CSC's

- Transactional Accounting
- Guarantee of Payment
- Control of Costs
  - Competition among service providers
  - Charges to customers
  - Longer term contracts
  - Ability to change Business Rules





# **Potential Real World Solutions**

- Hybrid
  - Customer Service Center which maintains accounts for multiple toll operators (a HUB)
  - CSC's that provide additional services such as multi-agency billing and settlements
- Split
  - Separating Account Management from Processing, billing and Settlement





# Value of a Single Back Office

- National Interoperability
- Reduced Costs of Operations
- Fewer MVA interactions
- Smoother reciprocal payments
- Lane Technology should be less an issue
- Ability to address new systems requirements once for all





# **Private Toll Account Issuers**

- Already exist in form of Rental Car Service Companies and Fleets
- Handle all customer interaction
- Guarantee Payments
- Acquire and Issue Hardware in conformance with toll operator requirements
- Can provide back office but not required





# Value of HUB's

- Similar to Single Back Office but responsibilities may be limited
- Added value for processing License Plate Tolls
- Ability to bill for multiple agencies at one time
- Can translate transactional data from different sources
- Can process payments and provide other additional services for Toll Operators







- Toll Agency Inertia
  - Existing Investments and systems
  - Desire to control accounts
  - Fear of the unknown/untried
- Building the infrastructure
- Would a single provider hold a monopoly?
- Would multiple providers work together?
- Who has the lead?





#### Conclusion

- Leadership is necessary but must be accommodating
- ATI efforts may lead way
- Vendors looking to "get in the game" may be too late
- National commitment would help
- We need a consensus on which direction the Toll Agencies should take



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#### **Thank You**

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