

*Enhancement Offers Protection and Time/Cost Savings*

## DDA Check Blocking Option Helps Fight Fraud

Demand Deposit Accounts now have a check blocking option that enables customers to authorize Mellon to block all checks that are presented against a specified account. The enhancement is presently available in Pittsburgh, Boston and Philadelphia, and is available to customers at no fee.

Check blocking can benefit your organization in several ways, including striving to ensure that your paper and electronic transactions are handled in separate accounts to streamline posting and to assist with fraud mitigation.

To aid in fraud protection, this service enables the client to designate an account as a "no check" account. Any checks received by Mellon that are drawn on a designated "no check" account are

immediately rejected and returned to the presenter before they can post to that account, potentially reducing the possibility of fraudulent transactions.

Blocking checks before they are posted saves the time and cost associated with having to debit accounts and then credit non-authorized amounts back into an account. Also, all checks presented against a blocked account will be returned without notice to the presenter.

*For more information on how the DDA Check Blocking Option can help your organization, call our working capital management experts at 1 800 424-3004 or e-mail us at [wcs@mellon.com](mailto:wcs@mellon.com).*

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*Expanding Business-to-Consumer Solutions*

## Mellon Acquires ClearTran

Mellon Financial Corporation recently acquired ClearTran, a leading provider of electronic and online consumer bill payment solutions designed to improve cash flow and efficiencies. The acquisition will enable Mellon Working Capital Solutions (WCS) to offer more fully-integrated, electronic payment acceptance solutions for billers to facilitate payments from the Internet, automated voice systems, call centers, kiosks and recurring debit programs.

As part of Mellon's comprehensive Automated Clearing House origination services, our clients will be able to implement a powerful electronic payment solution in just a few weeks and with very low upfront costs.

"Like Mellon, ClearTran focuses on helping companies identify and implement solutions that will accelerate their cash flow, while promoting quality, customer service and reliable process control," said Greg Cicero, senior vice president and head of Mellon WCS. "This is a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to assist clients who want to employ a variety of elec-

tronic alternatives to move their money and receive their funds faster and more efficiently, while providing their customers with the convenience of electronic bill payment."

According to Joseph Gage, ClearTran chief executive officer, "Joining Mellon will allow us to offer our proven solutions to a broader marketplace. Mellon's broader, well-established distribution channels will help increase awareness of our capabilities and enable Mellon to introduce their customers to a wider portfolio of easily accessible, easily implemented electronic payment alternatives."

The solution is designed to benefit both businesses that are collecting funds and their consumer customers who demand convenient electronic bill payment methods. By reversing the traditional payment transaction billing mechanism, customers pay directly for the convenience of making an immediate payment, while businesses and organizations capture and process these payments without transaction fees.