AS ACQUIRER SYSTEMS

ASTREX
FOR VENDORS

ASTREX is a comprehensive, end-to-end card payment simulation platform which runs on a standard Windows PC.
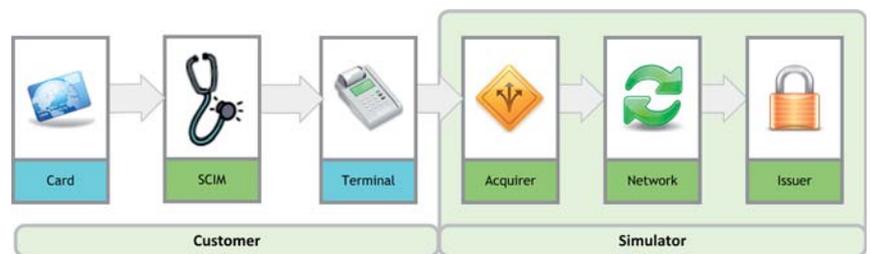
ASTREX provides you with an holistic view of your payment environment, and helps you to create an exhaustive testing regime which can be implemented easily and rapidly.

Vendors use ASTREX to emulate acquirer and issuer host systems. It enables you to execute continuous pre-certification testing (ADVT, ETEC, JIT) throughout your product lifecycle, radically reducing both your time to market and your certification costs.

Vendor Testing

As a terminal vendor or an acquirer developing for its own terminal estate, you need to ensure that each terminal release fully supports your expanding range of payment products and services, while maintaining multiple levels of card, network and scheme compliance.

A comprehensive terminal test and certification strategy helps you to publish your releases sooner, and to a higher quality, ensuring that you can maintain your market advantage. ASTREX creates and sustains this test and certification framework.

Testing Requirements
- Reduce your time-to-market by a strategy of continuous testing
- Focus internal development and testing resources with greater efficiency
- Reduce cost and schedule overruns and save yourself time and money
- Eliminate interoperability issues through focused testing effort
- Implement a regime of comprehensive positive and negative testing
- Radically reduce the time taken for ETEC and ADVT certification runs

Benefits

» **Speed!** ASTREX uses a production-switch architecture which provides you with the speed and performance of a real-time transaction processing system.

» **Flexibility!** ASTREX decouples protocols from test cases, allowing you to run the same test cases over multiple interfaces.

» **Up to date!** ASTREX is always up to date with the latest network and scheme compliance requirements.

» **Modular!** ASTREX supports multiple interfaces simultaneously, allowing you to emulate the most complex acquiring configurations with ease.

Features

ASTREX simulates every component in a card payment network, starting from the card and terminal up through to the merchant, acquirer, network and issuer.

It provides you with a comprehensive testing environment that can be leveraged throughout your product and project lifecycle, from development through to test, certification and ongoing support.

With unparalleled audit and diagnostic output capability, analysis of the most complex problems can be carried out with ease, accelerating your support and development response times

By allowing you to develop a regression database, ASTREX can help you define a framework of transactions or transaction responses which comprehensively exercises the reliability and resilience of your terminal software releases.

In addition to positive testing, ASTREX also lets you perform a wide range of negative and other boundary condition testing, so that you can make sure that when things get difficult, your software keeps working.

ASTREX comes with ETEC and ADVT databases as standard, allowing you to carry out pre-certification runs in hours with immediate and detailed output reports and analysis.

Acquirer Systems

Founded in 1997, Acquirer Systems provides leading-edge software, services and consultancy encompassing all areas of payments processing. We operate from board-level decision-making and recommendation, through to system development, testing, implementation and roll-out.

With experience in over twenty countries worldwide, our products, services and consultancy cover the following areas:

» **Payment systems testing and certification**

» **Staff training and development strategies**

» **Evaluation of secure payment technologies**

» **Advice on reducing transaction processing charges**

» **Development and execution of system stress tests**

» **Management of payment systems**

» **Outsourcing of payment testing and certification services**

» **Acquiring and issuing host system analysis**

In any areas related to the testing, capture and processing of electronic payments, Acquirer Systems can help you to run your business more effectively.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do you support Triple DES?
Yes! We support both single and triple DES with single and double-length keys.

And online PIN and MAC'ing?
Yes! We suppport a variety of common online PIN block formats, as well as all of the common MAC algorithms.

And EMV?
Yes! We support EMV data in Data Element 55 and in the third bitmap, where that's possible.

What protocols do you support?
We currently support APACS 30 and APACS 40, SPDH and a wide range of ISO 8583 formats, as well as a number of custom protocols for specific customers. Contact us for details and we'll be happy to talk you through what we have.

Can I use real cards?
Yes! ASTREX has its own EMV-compliant issuing module which can deliver cryptographically valid EMV responses to your terminal device.

Do I need additional hardware?
No! ASTREX provides its own security services and does not need to connect to a HSM or other security device.

How do I connect up?
The simulator supports TCP/IP and regular modems and serial communications devices, and we can deliver any protocol over any transport. Where it's appropriate we also support multiple connections and round-robin delivery. We've designed the software to be easy to install and configure, so that from a standing start at a clean PC, we can usually deliver our first transaction in under thirty minutes.

What standards do you support?
We support Visa's VSDC and Wave, together with MasterCard's M/Chip and PayPass programs.

Can you monitor the interface between the card and the terminal?
Yes! Our patented SCIM device monitors and analyzes the terminal to card interface, allowing the overall test environment to provide complex EMV messaging into the terminal on one side, and verify that the data is correctly delivered to the card on the other side.

Contact Details

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