

Regulation: an opportunity for change

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An evolving regulation can be a formidable opportunity to transform. From Europe to Asia, let's take a look at what's next.

A number of leading companies operating in the Eurozone that have implemented SEPA see it as a laboratory for further enhancing their payment and collection systems. Quite a number of them have opted for payment and collection factories facilitated by a more standardised European market.

The implementation of Basel III will also have an impact on how corporates manage their liquidity and the return they can expect from the introduction of the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR). Even though the LCR will first impact on the banks' liquidity, the new regulation is designed to improve the stability of the global financial system, and that will undoubtedly be taken into account to build more ambitious cash strategies.

Looking east, regulation is changing fast and will continue to do so. No doubt that corporates, supported by banking partners with a thorough local knowledge and footprint, will grasp the opportunities that will stem from the regulatory changes to come.

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SEPA promised to turn Europe into a domestic market for cash management, and it is only a matter of time before it does. In order to unleash SEPA's full potential, SEPA-compliant corporations and public bodies should address a number of critical challenges; then -and only then- will SEPA foster a true framework for working capital innovation.

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