



Accelerate the transition to real-time payments

Banking customers today expect services to be available anywhere, immediately and on-demand. With payments sitting at the heart of the customer relationship, the move to real-time payments is essential to provide the level of service that customers increasingly demand.

Change is now

Real-time payments is, above all, an exciting opportunity to launch game changing new products with value added services – to not only retain the customers you have, but to also attract new lines of business. Long term it could also help create more and more cost efficiencies for banks driven by automation and the simplification of operations.

There is no question of the benefits real-time payments deliver – the real question is how can you transition to real-time payments quickly and gain market share against fast-moving competitors?

The platform for the future

At Icon, we believe that to achieve this, you need to harness comparable technology to the new market disruptors, not systems and technology designed at the turn of the century.

You need technology that has not only been designed specifically for real-time payments but also:

- Complements your existing IT infrastructure
- Leverages cutting-edge, future proof technology
- Provides the flexibility to deliver innovations of the future

IPF key features



Faster time to market

Rather than 'rip and replace', IPF complements and integrates seamlessly with institutions' existing infrastructure, accelerating time to market by streamlining system set-up, eliminating bespoke development, and enabling one-click testing.



Improved agility

Multiple APIs and communications protocols ensure simple integration with internal and external systems. The pre-built components can be easily extended and customised by the institution rather than Icon. IPF is constantly being updated to offer further capabilities, services and opportunities.



Reduced TCO

Total cost of ownership is reduced through an open source software stack, small hardware footprint, and lower professional services fees. The release cycle is accelerated by graphical design and automated testing, while operations are simplified by maximising straight-through processing and providing rich monitoring, control and query functionality.

Complexity simplified

Instant Payments Framework – meeting the challenges of real-time payments

Icon Solutions has developed just this kind of solution – the **Instant Payments Framework (IPF)**. IPF is a ground-breaking solution which codifies global instant payments experiences and learnings from the industry within open source technology. **IPF** accelerates the time to market, dramatically reduces total cost of ownership, and drives the development of compelling new digital services.

IPF was created as a result of our front-line experience gained from real-time payments implementations around the world, such as **UK Faster Payments** (in fact, Icon Solutions team was involved in the design of the UK Faster Payments over a decade ago), **Singapore G3 FAST** and Europe's **SCT inst scheme**.

IPF embodies expertise which enables you to avoid many of the common pitfalls and bumps in the road associated with real-time payments adoptions, whilst also providing a future-proof underpinning of your architecture:

- **Extends legacy payment systems allowing incremental change:** IPF includes a range of interface adaptors to simplify connectivity into your existing infrastructure
- **24x7 always-on availability:** IPF ensures compliance with scheme rules by monitoring response times from legacy systems and dynamically providing stand-in responses when necessary
- **Real-time fraud prevention:** IPF includes predefined integration for the best fraud solutions using adaptive behavioural analytics technology.
- **Understanding and interpreting scheme rules:** IPF comes with a pre-built TCH RTP scheme pack, providing default workflows, formats, and business logic. Importantly, our implementation builds on the non-happy-path logic not specified in the rules but gained through experience.
- **Go-to-market speed:** In addition to the RTP scheme pack, IPF comes with a comprehensive set of functional test cases that can be run in minutes at the press of a button
- **Scaling:** IPF uses containerisation and a DevOps toolset for easy deployment and scaling
- **Availability and low latency:** Adopting the best industry frameworks for highly available, highly concurrent processing as used by internet-scale providers.

Ready for TCH's real-time payments scheme

In response to US demand, **IPF** now also offers a faster and more cost-effective path to accessing The Clearing House's real-time payments system.

Our US customers will now be able to accelerate the adoption of real-time payments and adapt quickly to changes in the payments landscape and keep ahead of the competition. We are looking forward to supporting our clients in this journey.

What difference could IPF make to your real-time payments transition?

Banks making the business case for real-time payments frequently face high costs to implement traditional heavy-weight payment hubs. This can tip the balance, delaying implementation until a future point and allowing competitors to erode your market share.

This doesn't have to be the case. **IPF's** approach not only provides the platform for the future, it also provides it with an overall cost of ownership that enables your business case.

We would welcome the opportunity to share more of our real-time payments experience and the capabilities of **IPF**.

IPF key functionality



Gateway Connectivity

Pre-configured gateway to access TCH's real-time payment scheme



Integration

Connect easily thanks to a library of over 100 industry-standard protocols



Transformation

Convert between standard and proprietary messages



Stand-in

Supports 24x7 availability even when legacy systems are unavailable



Integrity

Ensure completion of processing and the graceful handling of exception conditions



Operational Monitoring

Tools to monitor the system health and diagnose and react to operational incidents



To find out more



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