

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Positive Pay Upgrade- Client FAQ

We've enhanced our Check Positive Pay and ACH Positive Pay (previously ACH Filter) services into one fraud prevention services module within Associated Connect®. This document will aid you in understanding the enhancement updates and provide information about your modernized Associated Connect user experience.

# **FAQ Section Topics**:

- General information
- Upgrade preparation
- Post-launch actions
- Features and services
- Communication and training

#### **General information**

# My company has received a communication about an upcoming platform change. Will this change affect our company and when will it occur?

The fraud prevention services platform is being updated to provide the best banking experience and offer enhancements as the consolidation of Check and ACH Positive Pay into one platform. All of your uploads, exception viewing and reporting needs can be accessed in one centralized location. Migration will begin in September 2025 and conclude by year-end. You will be contacted with your specific migration date via client communication within Associated Connect.

#### Will I be upgraded to the new Positive Pay portal?

All current Check and ACH Positive Pay, Account Reconciliation and Reverse Positive Pay clients will be upgraded to the new portal.

# How will the upgrade benefit my company?

If you leverage both ACH Positive Pay and Check Positive Pay, you will have a combined experience of all fraud services hosted in one system, versus two systems today. In addition, Check Positive Pay clients will have enhanced experience with less exception processing, better read rates and greater feature functionality for alerts and reporting.

#### How will we access Positive Pay after this change?

You will access all fraud services (ACH Positive Pay, Check Positive Pay and Account Reconciliation) by signing into Associated Connect and selecting Account Services and Details. From the Fraud Services Menu option, select Fraud Services and you will be directed to our new Fraud Services module.

# Will fees be impacted by this upgrade?

Yes, some fees will change. Specific details on fee changes will be shared prior to your migration

#### Will the Associated Bank's processing times change?

No, processing times will not change. Check Positive Pay decisions will still be due by 3 p.m. CT and ACH Positive Pay decisions will be due by 5 p.m. CT.

#### **Upgrade preparation**

# What should I do to prepare for the upgrade?

- Decision all exception items for ACH Filter and Positive Pay by the cutoff time on Friday before your upgrade. You cannot hold items over for decisioning on Monday.
- Download any reports or documents your organization may need in advance. Historical documents will not be available post migration, including ACH Filter documentation (audit reports) and paid check reporting files.
- All check issue files must be submitted on Friday by 5 p.m. CT. Please do not submit any issue files until after your migration on Monday. Checks issued during upgrade weekend cannot be cashed at Associated Bank until the following Monday.
- Any edits to account setup need to be completed one week before your upgrade date. Exact dates will be communicated before the upgrade.

# When is the last day Check and ACH Positive Pay users can be created prior to the upgrade?

Users cannot be created or modified **after Wednesday at 5 p.m. CT during upgrade week** to ensure that all of the data is accurately captured and moved over to the new module correctly.

#### What if I have fraud services that are assisted by a third-party vendor?

You will need to inform the third-party vendor of this change, as early as possible.

# Will there be any technical requirements with the launch of the new portal (e.g. Will web browser and version of software on mobile devices affect access to the new portal?)

Technical requirements will remain the same. However, we recommend you use the latest browser version and mobile operating system available for an optimal experience.

#### Will our Positive Pay services be unavailable for a period of time as we prepare for the upgrade?

The accounts details and services section of Associated Connect will be unavailable during the weekend of the upgrade. We will also send reminder notifications in Associated Connect in advance.

#### Will checks that we issue during upgrade weekend be cashed?

No. Checks issued during upgrade weekend cannot be cashed at Associated Bank until the following Monday.

#### Post-launch actions

# What actions will we need to take at the launch of the new portal?

**Check Positive Pay** 

- The company administrator will need to review entitlements for each user to ensure all entitlements are correct for each user.
- All users need to re-establish Check Positive Pay alerts and delivery options, including opting in to new text messages if desired.

#### **Features and services**

#### What new features are we introducing to you with the launch of the new portal?

Enhancements within Associated Connect will include:

- Combined access for a simpler user experience: ACH Positive Pay (currently called ACH Filter) and Check
  Positive Pay will be combined and located under the Fraud Control Services module to make it easier for you to
  manage your banking needs.
- New alert options to receive notifications and make decisions quickly:
  - o An additional reminder to decision outstanding exception items at 2 p.m. CT
  - o Check Positive Pay will now offer optional opt-in text message alerts, like ACH Positive Pay does today.
- **New feature functionality**: Check Positive Pay will provide enhanced technology to assist with read rate accuracy and the ability to adjust encoding errors within the module for some check exception items.
- Automation convenience: Account Reconciliation reporting will include automated retrieval options to easily review, edit and resolve exceptions directly inside the platform.

#### Will reporting capabilities change?

Yes, you will have access to new robust reporting in the Fraud Services module. Reports will no longer be available in the Document Center, so make sure to run any historical reports you may need for future use in advance. Once you are upgraded to the new portal, you will be able to create customized reports to meet your company's needs. Please note that if you receive Paid Check Reports via SFTP, those will continue as normal.

# Which features and services will carry and won't carry over to the new portal?

Outlined below are key features and services that will and will not carry over for both Check and ACH Positive Pay.

Service	Product	Impact
ACH Filter approved list	ACH Filter (Now ACH Positive Pay)	Will carry over. (Company ID, Company Name, and
		max amounts
Alerts	ACH Filter (Now ACH Positive Pay)	Will carry over.
Alerts	Check Positive Pay	Will not carry over.
Established import	Check Positive Pay	Will not carry over.
formats – tilde and		
asterisk formats		
Established import	Check Positive Pay	Will carry over.
formats – all others		
Existing outstanding	Check Positive Pay	Will carry over.
items and voids		

Reports	Check and ACH Positive Pay	Will not carry over.
Default decisions for	Check and ACH Positive Pay	Will carry over.
exception items		

# Are there any features that will no longer be available on the new portal?

- ACH Positive Pay clients will no longer be able to establish an end date or a frequency date for ACH Positive Pay transactions.
- Account Reconciliation will no longer be available weekly in Check Positive Pay, only daily or monthly.
- Account Reconciliation reports will no longer be available in the Document Center or emailed, and instead will
  be accessed on the Fraud Services module.

# What change is happening with account nicknames?

Both ACH and Check Positive Pay clients will be required to use an established nickname for all accounts, determined by Associated Bank at the time services are established. This nickname cannot be modified without consulting Associated Bank and will likely not match the account nickname(s) in the account services and details module.

#### Are there any other changes I should be aware of?

Check Positive Pay changes:

- Some lights on reporting allowing for reporting on exception items will now be included, which you can export.
- You will be able to self-service correcting encoding errors such as amount or sequence number.
- Account Reconciliation reporting can now be auto-scheduled with increased frequencies (daily, monthly) and additional format options include CSV and Excel.
- Check issue files with incorrectly formatted records will load correctly formatted issue records.
- You will receive reminder email alerts for items that have not been decisioned before 2 p.m. CT.

#### Will I receive reminder notifications if I did not decision an item and it is close to cut-off time?

Yes, one hour prior to cut-off at 2 p.m. CT for Check Positive Pay and 4 p.m. CT for ACH Positive Pay.

# Will there be any change to the exception statuses (Ex: Paid not issued, Payee mismatch, Paid discrepancy, Paid against void, etc.)?

No.

# How will I be notified if my issue file import failed?

You can set up an "issued file processing status" alert via email and/or text to notify you if a file import was successful or not.

# Is there a timeframe from issuance when a check becomes stale dated and creates an exception?

Stale dated exceptions default to 180 days. A different time frame can be selected on your client election document.

# What is the retention period for posted and outstanding checks?

Outstanding checks are available forever by default, but the bank has a way to customize the deletion if desired. Posted checks will be available for 90 days.

# Will my company need to take any action on weekends/holidays?

No.

#### What testing is available for Payee Positive Pay?

We offer MICR testing as part of our onboarding process, but payee testing will no longer be offered at onboarding.

# **Communication and training**

# How is Associated Bank communicating the changes?

You will receive several communications about this change through Associated Connect. You should watch Associated Connect to learn more about key dates, training sessions and helpful resources to prepare for the upgrade. You can also visit the Treasury Management Resources landing page at <a href="AssociatedBank.com/tmresources">AssociatedBank.com/tmresources</a> for Check and ACH Positive Pay resources.

#### Will I have access to resources to learn about our new Fraud Services Portal?

A prerecorded webinar will be available at <u>AssociatedBank.com/tmresources</u> before the migration. User guides will also be available during and after the transition.

# Where should I go if I have questions about this change?

You may review the information on Associated Connect. For additional questions, you may contact your relationship team or Treasury Management Customer Care 800-270-2707, option 2.