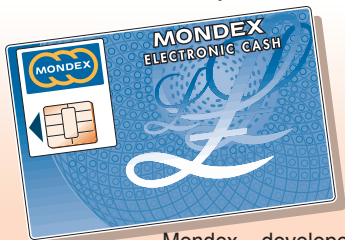


E-cash is a success

The Mondex smart card – which has been on trial in Swindon and attracted more than 10,000 users over the last two years – has been a success. A national launch is expected in 1998



Mondex – developed by BT, and NatWest and Midland Banks – stores electronic cash units

Goods: Most Mondex purchases are under £5.00 – newspapers, sweets, snacks, parking, bus tickets

Users: 21% of NatWest and Midland customers used the card – this would translate nationally to 2.5 million users

Satisfaction: 85% of users claimed to be very satisfied with the card – finding it safer than cash, easy to use, and a quick way to pay