

# Mastercard makes a smart move

Mastercard International has acquired a majority stake in Mondex, the leading developer of smart cash-cards. The move could allow Mondex to expand worldwide distribution of its electronic purse, putting them head-to-head with rival Visa, for a share of \$8.1 trillion of cash spending each year

## Smart cards accepted here:

Although well established in France, most smart cards are still on trial

**Canada:** Mondex, Visa

**Denmark:** Danmont

**Russia:** Various

**UK:** Mondex

**France:** Various

**Portugal:** PMB

**Spain:** Visa

**U.S:** Mondex, Visa

**Colombia:** Visa

**Brazil:** Visa

**Argentina:** Visa

**Zambia:** Various

**S Africa:** Various

**Asia:** Mondex

**Australia:** Mastercard, Mondex, Visa, others

**China:** Mondex

**Hong Kong:** Mondex, Visa

**NZ:** Mondex, Visa

Key



## Types of stored-value cards

### Rechargeable – card-to-card

Closest to cash in its features. Cards can be recharged at cash machines, or – using calculator style ‘wallets’ – from other cards

Mondex leads the field in terms of usage.

Part-owned by a consortium of 17 banks worldwide



### Disposable fixed value

Fixed units like a phone card. Can be used like cash at shops with card readers. Popular as gifts in Japan

### Rechargeable via bank

Transactions must be returned to bank for clearing. Cards can be recharged at cash machine

### Citicorp digital banknotes – a new concept in security

Card recharged with electronically-tagged digital banknotes

Tag remains as money is split into smaller denominations



Money can be identified, reducing disputes over Internet purchases