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Credit Union 24 Hosts Costa Rican Delegates from World Council of Credit Unions for EFT Roundtable

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – September 21, 2009 – Credit Union 24, the country's largest credit union-owned ATM and point-of-sale (POS) network, is collaborating with delegates from the World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) to share best practices and help develop effective EFT strategies within the Costa Rican market.

"We explored many issues within the EFT arena, all of which resulted in both parties learning valuable information and best practices," said Jaime Castro, CEO of Coopeorotina, which is based in Costa Rica. "Credit Union 24 is an expert in this industry and has member touchpoints throughout the world in the form of ATMs and POS locations. The organization has extensive experience that we can hopefully share with all of our credit unions in Costa Rica and implement similar solutions. It is through collaborations like this that we can truly benefit all credit union members around the world."

While ATMs are common in Costa Rica and throughout Latin America, POS is in the beginning stages of infrastructure development. The goal of both organizations was to share ideas and best practices that can enhance the value received by credit unions and their members in the EFT environment. Topics explored during the initial meeting between Credit Union 24 and Costa Rican delegates included POS processor and merchant relations, POS interchange income and interchange income models, the current EFT landscape in Costa Rica, and fee-free ATM terminals and POS locations.

"Credit unions around the world are experiencing very similar opportunities and challenges as countries' economies become more dependant on each other, presenting the chance for all of us to learn from each other," said Jim Park, president and CEO of Credit Union 24. "The credit union-owned Credit Union 24 network offers services that are not yet introduced in Costa Rica, so we are thrilled and honored to collaborate and create an open forum to discuss these topics."

WOCCU is the global trade association and development agency for credit unions. WOCCU promotes the sustainable development of credit unions and other financial cooperatives around the world to empower people through access to high quality and affordable financial services. WOCCU advocates on behalf of the global credit union system before international organizations, and works with national governments to improve legislation and regulation. Its technical assistance programs introduce new tools and technologies to strengthen credit unions' financial performance and increase their outreach.

WOCCU delegates that attended the first collaborative meeting at Credit Union 24's headquarters on August 18, included Jaime Castro, CEO of Coopeorotina; and Alvaro Vargas, Chief of Manager Compliance, Milton Sancho, IT Manager, and Carlos Zamora, Marketing Manager, from Coopenae in Costa Rica.

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About Credit Union 24, Inc.

Credit Union 24 is a flexible, member-owned, full-service, deposit-taking ATM and POS network with multiple processor links, hundreds of thousands of POS locations at national retailers and local merchants, and more than 100,000 ATM terminals across the country. Credit Union 24's CU HERE surcharge-free programs combine to create the largest surcharge-free ATM presence in the country. Headquartered in Tallahassee, Fla., the Credit Union 24[®] Network is a strong, growing and independent EFT cooperative and is the largest credit union-owned ATM and POS network in the U.S. For more information about Credit Union 24, please visit www.cu24.com.

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