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This Day in History: 1998

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Trending This Week...

This week, TSG has released a new data to [illustrate the performance of public payments companies.](#)

Processor	Processor	Processor	Processor	Processor	Processor
Processor	Processor	Specialty Processor	Merchant Acquirer	Merchant Acquirer	POS Equipment Provider
POS Equipment Provider	Software Provider	Hardware/Software Prov.	Technology Provider	Technology Provider	Technology Provider
Technology Provider	Technology Provider	Technology Provider	Technology Provider	Data Security VAR	Network/Brand
Network/Brand	Network/Brand	Network/Brand	Network/Brand	Technology Provider	Direct Billing
Money Transfer	Loyalty Solutions Prov.	Prepaid Issuer	Prepaid Issuer	Prepaid Solutions	ATM Operator

The 'TSG Payments Index' (TSGPX) is calculated on a value weighted basis using market capitalization and is compared to the S&P 500 which is also calculated using the same methodology. A \$100 investment in the TSGPX in Q1 2011 would now be valued at \$294, as compared to \$154 if invested in the S&P 500.

Other highlights this week include:

- [Jack Dorsey Has A Lot of Work To Do](#)
- [Something Rotten in the State of Bitcoin](#)
- [Stolen Uber Accounts Worth More Than Stolen Credit Cards](#)
- [EMV Update: The Rise of Mobile Payments](#)

Ted Kaczynski Pleads Guilty to Bombings

On this day in 1998, in a Sacramento, California, courtroom, Theodore J. Kaczynski pleads guilty to all federal charges against him, acknowledging his responsibility for a 17-year campaign of package bombings attributed to the "Unabomber."

Born in 1942, Kaczynski attended Harvard University and received a PhD in mathematics from the University of Michigan. He worked as an assistant mathematics professor at the University of California at Berkeley, but abruptly quit in 1969. In the early 1970s, Kaczynski began living as a recluse in western Montana, in a 10-by-12 foot cabin without heat, electricity or running water. From this isolated location, he began the bombing campaign that would kill three people and injure more than 20 others.

The primary targets were universities, but he also placed a bomb on an American Airlines flight in 1979 and sent one to the home of the president of United Airlines in 1980. After federal investigators set up the UNABOM Task Force (the name came from the words "university and airline bombing"), the media dubbed the culprit the "Unabomber." The bombs left little physical evidence, and the only eyewitness found in the case could describe the suspect only as a man in hooded sweatshirt and sunglasses (depicted in an infamous 1987 police sketch). [Click here to read more.](#)

New eReport

ISV Directory: Stand-alone Residential Property Mgmt

This eReport identifies 39 independent software providers (ISVs) that serve the stand-alone residential property management space. [Download a sample.](#)

In addition to the ISV directory, the report provides an overview of the property management market, with estimates on market size and the share attributed to the rental housing sector. The report also includes valuable data on the average ticket for rent transactions by state. This data is focused on SIC 6513 and is sourced from TSG's database of 3.3 million U.S. merchants.

[Click here to purchase.](#) Priced competitively at \$1,745.



Featured

Jack Dorsey Has A Lot Of Work To Do

1/20/16 Tech Crunch

Twitter stock saw a mini-rally today after hitting an all-time low on rumors that News Corp was eyeing a tie-up with the company. Twitter didn't comment on the report, and News Corp said the rumor is untrue, but the fact that the rumor surfaced and picked up speed so quickly points to just how precarious the company feels right now as a public stock and perhaps as a business, too. More broadly, since Jack Dorsey took over as CEO of Twitter, the company's shares have fallen more than 40 percent. And Square's stock has dipped below its IPO price briefly. Granted, some of this is due to a larger selloff in the market, but given the extended decline for both Twitter and Square, things are not going well for Dorsey.

Related: [Dorsey Juggles Twitter/Square, Both Caught in Downdraft](#)

Something Rotten In The State Of Bitcoin

1/18/16 Forbes

Are you ready to see over \$5.7 billion go up in a puff of smoke? Well, stay tuned. That number is the market value of all the Bitcoin in circulation today. But according to at least one Bitcoin insider, the entire Bitcoin house of cards is about to collapse. The insider with the courage to go public about Bitcoin's impending doom: Mike Hearn, who wrote a scathing farewell message to the Bitcoin community - as well as everyone else - just last week. Hearn's concerns for Bitcoin's prospects are both technical and political. Bitcoin's technical challenges are reasonably straightforward: the blockchain - Bitcoin's underlying framework and associated protocols - is experiencing growing pains.

Related:

- [Bitcoin is Not Dying](#)
- [Is Bitcoin's Promise Going Up in Smoke](#)
- [RIP Bitcoin](#)

Stolen Uber Accounts Worth More Than Stolen Credit Cards

1/19/16 CNBC

Stolen Uber account information on underground marketplaces sells for an average of \$3.78 per account, while personally identifiable information (PII) was listed for \$1 to \$3.30 on average, oddly down from \$4 per record in 2014, according to data compiled by Trend Micro for CNBC last week. (PII includes any information that can be used to commit identity fraud, like Social Security numbers or date of birth and varies in price depending on the specific information for sale.)

Capital Markets Sector Leads Fintech M&A Activity

1/21/16 Finextra

There were 427 fintech mergers and acquisitions in 2015, worth a combined \$64 billion, double the value of deals the previous year, according to figures pulled together by Berkery Noyes. The number of fintech M&A deals last year was up 14%, from 376 in 2014, with the capital markets segment dominating, accounting for 150, up 42% on the year and including Intercontinental Exchange's \$7.45 billion acquisitions of Interactive Data and SS&C Technologies' \$2.55 billion buyout of Advent Software.

Eye on Subscription Payments: Recurly Cyber Monday Boost; A Simpler ISO Approach

1/19/16 Digital Transactions

Subscription payments, also known as recurring billing, is getting renewed attention in the payments industry from companies that provide direct-to-consumer services merchants use, like Recurly Inc., and some providing merchant services, like Fattmerchant Inc. Merchants selling goods and services paid for with subscription payments likely had a busy Cyber Monday according to a report from Recurly, a payments provider specializing in recurring payments.

NEAA Delivers Again in Boston

1/19/16 The Green Sheet

The Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel set the scene for the Northeast Acquirers Association's annual gathering from Jan.13 to 15, 2016. And Boston's newly developed Seaport district was a fitting backdrop for payments' longest-running regional show, which continues to evolve in response to the ever-changing payments industry. Approximately 90 exhibitors and 575 attendees used the NEAA's mobile app and Twitter hashtag #NEAA16 throughout the event. In its 31st annual conference, the organization furthered its mission to educate and empower merchant acquiring professionals. Established in 1985, the nonprofit, non-membership regional association works diligently to offer vibrant, relevant programs that provide both educational fare and networking opportunities.

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Mobile Payments & Bitcoin

Banks Keep Mobile-Wallet Options Open as Apple Pay Disappoints

1/20/16 American Banker

Apple Pay made a big splash when it arrived in late 2014, but has made few ripples since then, as consumers stuck to their old payment habits and banks in international markets proved reluctant to provide their support. One of Apple's earliest U.S. partners, Union Bank & Trust Co. in Lincoln, Neb., has decided that it's time to take back the reins of its mobile strategy. "Apple Pay works well, but it has been slow with merchants because of the cost and concerns over how to retool to accept the service," said Alan Fosler, a senior vice president at the \$3.2 billion-asset bank.

EMV Update: The Rise of Mobile Payments

1/22/16 Bank Info Security

Because of the U.S. migration to EMV, 2016 is expected to be a watershed year for mobile payment adoption, says Randy Vanderhoof. He's executive director of the EMV Migration Forum, a cross-industry body focused on supporting EMV chip implementation technology and processes in the U.S. But he warns that adoption of mobile payments will be slow, and says the industry should be more focused on the new types of mobile-payment applications that are hitting the market than on the number of consumers that readily adopt them.

IMF Paper On Virtual Currencies Prepares The Industry For Larger Bitcoin Acceptance

1/22/16 LTP

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) staff released a paper that talks about the problems and risks associated with virtual currencies (VCs) and how can the financial industry could benefit from virtual currencies, if it is regulated. For those who might not be familiar, The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an organization of 188 countries, working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world. Created in 1945, the IMF is governed by and accountable to the 188 countries that make up its near-global membership.

Google Trials Rewards Program for Android Pay

1/20/16 Mobile World Live

Google is running a promotion called Tap 10 in the US for Android Pay, which offers inducements to frequent users of the payment service. According to a number of sources, including Android Central, the search giant is giving out rewards including songs, films and subscriptions from Google Play or a free Chromecast if users make ten purchases via Android Pay before the end of February.



Regulation & Security

Online Retail Fraud Attempts Increased by 30% in Past Year

1/18/16 ACI

As retailers and consumers prepare for the holiday shopping season, they should brace for a higher level of fraud online and across all channels, according to new benchmark data from ACI Worldwide. The data*, based on hundreds of millions of transactions from large global retailers,

forecasts consumer behavioral shifts and warnings ahead of this year's holiday shopping season.

Casino Sues Trustwave Over Data Breach

1/18/16 Bank Info Security

A casino operator has sued incident response firm Trustwave, alleging that the security company failed to fully eradicate and "contain" the 2013 data breach and payment card malware outbreak that it was hired to remediate. Security experts say the lawsuit is a reminder to any firm that gets breached to ensure that the incident response team they hire is looking at the full data breach picture.

Dutch Arrest 10 Men Suspected of Using Bitcoin to Launder Money

1/20/16 Yahoo!

Ten men suspected of using the digital currency Bitcoin to launder up to 20 million euros (\$22 million) of criminal money made from online drug deals have been arrested in the Netherlands, Dutch prosecutors said on Wednesday. The men, described as all in their 20s and with Dutch nationality, were arrested on Tuesday in coordinated raids on 15 locations around the country, said spokeswoman Valentine Hoen of the country's Fiscal Information and Investigation Service.

Economy

Online Sales Up 12.7% for the Holiday Season, Says Adobe

1/19/16 MarketWatch

Adobe Systems Inc. said online sales this holiday season were up 12.7% to \$83 billion. More than 31 days during the period between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31 surpassed the \$1 billion mark in sales, a record that exceeds 25 days in 2014. Online sales grew 56% year-over-year on Dec. 23, up to \$920 million from \$590 million in 2014. "It wasn't until the very end of the season that we saw a significant surge in sales, which drove the 12.7% year-over-year growth."

Rise in U.S. Jobless Claims Spurs Labor Market Worries

1/21/16 The New York Times

The number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits rose to a six-month high last week, suggesting some loss of momentum in the labor market amid a sharp economic slowdown and major stock market selloff. Another report on Thursday showed factory activity in the mid-Atlantic region improved in January as shipments rebounded, but still contracted for a fifth straight month. That indicates national manufacturing activity remained in the doldrums at the start of this year.

US Recession Probability at Highest Levels Since Fall 2011

1/18/16 CNBC

The chances of a recession in the United States are at their highest levels since the fall of 2011, according to the CNBC Fed Survey. The survey also showed recession fears rising for the sixth straight time among respondents, and are now sitting at 28.8 percent. One fairly reliable recession indicator, the spread between the 2-year and 10-year bonds has weakened just about to its lowest level since the last recession. But it tends to signal recession at zero... So at 118 basis points, it's softer, but not soft enough to signal recession.

MasterCard: Canadians Break Holiday Online Shopping Records in 2015

1/19/16 MasterCard

Canadians shopped online in record numbers during this year's holiday

shopping season. For the first time in Canadian eCommerce history, the combined online share of sales in November and December 2015 totalled 9.8%, according to MasterCard SpendingPulse, which looks at Canadian retail sales across cards, cash and cheques to offer detailed insight into consumer spending trends. November and December 2015 were both record-breaking months.

Payments Press

First Data to Establish Research & Development Hub in Ireland

1/20/16 First Data

First Data announced that it intends to establish a research and development center in Ireland that will house up to 300 highly skilled employees to centralize work on a number of the company's leading technology platforms. The R&D center will be located in Nenagh, County Tipperary. The project is supported by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation through IDA Ireland.

Sam's Club to Accept Visa Credit Cards

1/19/16 Visa

Visa Inc. and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. announced that the companies have entered into an agreement through which Sam's Club locations will accept Visa credit cards starting February 1, 2016. "Everything we do is in an effort to better serve our members and extend the value of membership. By accepting Visa credit cards, we are giving our members more ways to shop that are convenient for them," says Tracey Brown, chief member officer at Sam's Club.

American Express Reports Q4 Net Income

1/21/16 American Express

American Express Company reported fourth-quarter net income of \$899 million, down from \$1.4 billion a year ago. The current and year-ago quarters included a number of significant items that affected year-over-year comparisons.

Ingenico Group Proudly Announces the Official Launch of Its New Brand: Ingenico ePayments

1/18/16 Ingenico

Ingenico Group's online and mobile commerce division combines the former Ogone and GlobalCollect organizations, merging capabilities and offerings, and providing merchants around the world with enhanced end-to-end products and services. The launch of the Ingenico ePayments brand now completes the integration process and enhances the Group's position within the ePayments industry.

Chili's Guests Will Have 'Plenti' of Ways to Earn Loyalty Points

1/20/16 American Express

Plenti, the first U.S.-based loyalty coalition, announced that Chili's® Grill & Bar, flagship brand of Brinker International, Inc., will join the program as a new partner representing the casual dining space. This marks the coalition's expansion into a new category with Chili's as the latest partner to join the multi-brand loyalty coalition, which currently includes AT&T, ExxonMobil, Macy's, Nationwide, Rite Aid, Direct Energy, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Hulu.

ACI Worldwide Introduces UP Retail Payments-Providing Industry's Most Complete End-to-End Enterprise Payments

Solution

1/20/16 BusinessWire

ACI Worldwide, a leading global provider of electronic payment and banking solutions, announced the UP Retail Payments solution. UP Retail Payments combines the control, choice and flexibility of BASE24 and UP BASE24-eps, ACI's market-leading retail payment platforms, and UP Framework-which orchestrates any payment type, channel, currency or network-into a powerful end-to-end solution that banks and processors can customize quickly and easily to fit their payment needs now and into the future.

FireEye Picks Up Fellow Cybersecurity Intelligence Firm iSight For \$200M

1/21/16 Tech Crunch

Cybersecurity and analysis firm FireEye has boosted its service with the acquisition of competitor iSight in a \$200 million deal. FireEye, which is a member of the billion dollar unicorn club, has come in for a hard time of late around its valuation, with some pundits pointing out that investors were overly bullish on the company and cybersecurity in general following a spate of attacks on corporate companies in recent years.

Moneris Launches B2B Payment Solutions to Optimize Commercial Card Acceptance

1/20/16 MorningStar

Moneris Solutions Corporation, one of North America's largest processors of debit and credit card payments, today announced it will be providing electronic payment processing solutions to the business-to-business (B2B) marketplace in Canada, currently valued at \$2.8T. B2B payments refer to any payment conducted between two companies, rather than between a company and individual consumer.

2016 Pay Awards Winners: Support Your Favorites

1/19/16 Pay Before

Paybefore today announces winners for the 2016 Pay Awards-the most prestigious recognition of excellence in the worldwide prepaid, mobile and emerging payments industry. Our expert panels-focusing on Prepaid, Payments Technology and Retail & Loyalty, respectively-have made their decisions. Now you can weigh in and help your favorites win the coveted Best-in-Category designation, which will be announced along with the Industry Achievement winner at the All Payments Expo in New Orleans on March 21, 2016.

New USAePay POS Payment System iOS App Available Now for Download

1/19/16 KLTv

USAePay released its version 2.0.4 retail POS application called USAePay POS Payment System. Available now on the iTunes Store, the new version includes a new features, improvements in itemized orders, along with managing products, customers, and sale transactions. The application lets you transform any Apple iOS device into a complete point of sale checkout system with diverse payment options, security features, customer database and an order plus inventory management tools.

Cayan's Genius Payments Platform Sees 35 Percent Growth Quarter over Quarter

1/18/16 Cayan

From the shift to chip cards (EMV) to the launch of new mobile wallets like Android and Samsung Pay and mounting security concerns, 2015 saw the payments environment undergo major transformations. With 2016 poised to continue this rapid evolution, Cayan, The Payment Possibilities

Company™, today announced significant continued growth as both large and small retailers integrate Cayan's Genius® Platform to future-proof their payment technology.

[ACI Worldwide Announces Definitive Agreement to Sell its Community Financial Services Business to Fiserv](#)

1/20/16 ACI

ACI Worldwide, a leading global provider of electronic payment and banking solutions, announced today a definitive agreement in which ACI will sell its Community Financial Services business to Fiserv, a leading global provider of financial services technology solutions. Fiserv, an ACI partner and customer, will acquire this business for \$200M in cash. The transaction includes employees and customer contracts as well as technology assets and intellectual property.

[ProPay and Tabs3 Provide Integrated Electronic Payments for Law Firms](#)

1/21/16 TSYS

ProPay®, a TSYS® company, announced that Tabs3 Software has integrated with ProPay to deliver a fully integrated client bill-pay solution for law firms. Law firms can accept debit and credit cards or electronic funds transfers with instant online signup and no need to enter payment data twice. There is no longer a need to wait days for traditional merchant account underwriting. "Client billing is the lifeblood of any law firm," said Ryan Oakes, chief operating officer of ProPay.

[CaixaBank First in Spain to Introduce Samsung Pay](#)

1/22/16 Finextra

CaixaBank launched its first mobile payment service, CaixaBank Pay, based on HCE technology, last September. The bank is an active partner of Samsung, however, running a series of promotional campaigns over the past few years to turn customers on to Samsung products, including tablets, televisions and smartphones.



tsg Payments Experts. Powerful Data.
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