

# Worldline and Equens intend to join forces to create the new pan-European leader in payment services

## Worldline and Equens have reached an agreement\*

### In Commercial Acquiring:

Worldline will acquire PaySquare, Equens commercial acquiring subsidiary.

### In Financial Processing:

Worldline will merge its current Financial and Acquiring processing activities in Germany, France and Benelux into Equens, creating the Equens Worldline company where Worldline will have a majority of 63.6% and current Equens shareholders (ABN AMRO Bank, DZ Bank, ICBPI, ING and Rabobank) the remaining 36.4%. The Equens Worldline company will be consolidated to form an enlarged Worldline group.



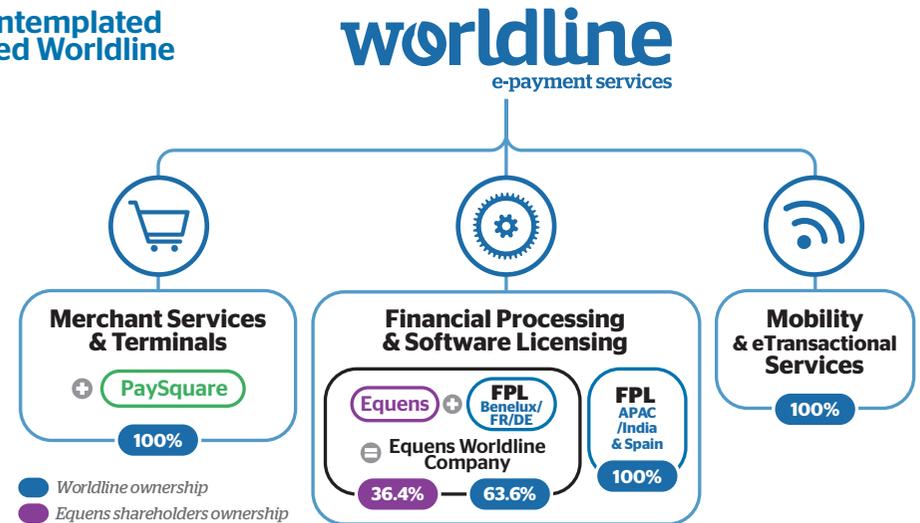
## The enlarged group: Your unique partner to get your business ready for the new payment landscape

### Equens Worldline Company will become the largest pan-European financial processor For our customers, the enlarged group will also mean:

- **Best-in-class service portfolio and expertise** in both non-Card and card-based payments
- **Ambitious R&D activities** to accelerate innovation and better support their time to market & digital transformation
- **Even stronger reliability, robustness and security** for processing services thanks to scalability and further industrialization of our platforms and solutions
- **Economy of scale** providing more cost efficiency and price competitiveness

**worldline**  
e-payment services

## The contemplated enlarged Worldline group



“ This industrial transaction with Equens is a decisive step reflecting our strategic ambition to be one of the leading consolidators of payments in Europe. This merger and the combination of our strengths will allow us to provide to our respective customers even more efficient, reliable and highly innovative payment services to face the new challenges of the European payment landscape. I am particularly pleased that Michael Steinbach, Equens CEO, will lead our new financial processing champion, Equens Worldline Company. ”



**Gilles Grapinet,**  
Worldline CEO

“ Joining forces with Worldline is a major milestone in consolidating the European payments market. This step follows consequently the proven strategy of Equens since our foundation in 2006. Because of the complementarity of the service portfolios of Worldline and Equens, current clients from both companies will substantially benefit from an enlarged, state-of-the-art product portfolio and time-to-market. I am very excited about this joint future with new and innovative business opportunities and look forward to jointly grow our Equens Worldline Company. ”



**Michael Steinbach,**  
Equens CEO

**EQUENS**

\* The transaction is expected to close during the second quarter of 2016 and is subject to work councils' information and consultation processes in Worldline and Equens, as well as regulatory and antitrust authorities' approvals.



## About Worldline

Worldline [Euronext: WLN] is the European leader in the payments and transactional services industry. Worldline delivers new-generation services, enabling its customers to offer smooth and innovative solutions to the end consumer. Key actor for B2B2C industries, with over 40 years of experience, Worldline supports and contributes to the success of all businesses and administrative services in a perpetually evolving market. Worldline offers a unique and flexible business model built around a global and growing portfolio, thus enabling end-to-end support. Worldline activities are organized around three axes: Merchant Services & Terminals, Mobility & e-Transactional Services, Financial Processing & Software Licensing. Worldline employs more than 7,300 people worldwide and generated 1.15 billion euros revenues in 2014. Worldline is an Atos company.

For more information visit: [worldline.com](http://worldline.com)

Contact: [infoWL@worldline.com](mailto:infoWL@worldline.com)



## About Equens

Equens SE is one of the largest payment providers in Europe, processing 9.7 billion payments and 5 billion POS and ATM transactions each year. The company's core business consists of connecting payers and payees by offering services that enable them to make and receive payments in a seamless, secure and efficient manner. Building on more than 50 years of experience in the payments industry, Equens offers modular, customisable and future-proof solutions covering the entire payments value chain. Besides traditional payments, its platforms are also geared for e-payments, m-payments, e-mandates and e-identity transactions. With offices in five countries, the company services a broad, international client base in numerous countries across Europe. The way Equens combines scale and European market coverage with local presence and expertise gives the company a unique ability to improve its clients' competitive edge.

For more information visit: [equens.com](http://equens.com)

Contact: [sales@equens.com](mailto:sales@equens.com)

