

# FACT SHEET

# Visa Small Business

Visa recognizes that small businesses are the backbone of local economies around the world. We provide small business owners with tailored payment products and services that increase efficiency and help them grow and compete in a dynamic marketplace. Our suite of small business payment products, information and services benefits small businesses by providing them with spending control and visibility, tools to improve cash flow, purchasing convenience, and access to money-saving offers and rewards.

Small businesses that accept Visa benefit from faster payments and an immediate connection to hundreds of millions of accountholders worldwide. Accepting Visa payments also streamlines back-office processing which can lower cash- and check-handling costs.

## **SMALL BUSINESS BENEFITS**

## Visa Small Business card products and services help small businesses

- Better manage cash flow
- Control and track spending
- Conveniently accept and make payments
- Access reporting and analysis tools to support better-informed business decisions
- Streamline accounting processes
- Manage payment acceptance costs
- Extend purchasing power with rewards and discounts
- Connect with expertise from other small business owners
- Receive valuable cost savings with access to discounts on goods and services

## Accepting products helps small businesses grow

- Increasing customers, whether through traditional brick and mortar or online sales
- Increasing speed and customer convenience at point of sale
- Enhancing record keeping
- Providing greater risk management protection

## Visa SavingsEdge

Visa SavingsEdge provides enrolled Visa business accountholders access to discounts on business services and goods typically only available to larger companies. Discounts on qualifying purchases at participating merchants are applied automatically.

## **Online small business management tools**

Visa provides small businesses with an array of online reporting tools to help manage and grow operations. Visa Information Source Select (VIS Select) is a user-friendly reporting and analysis tool designed to help simplify Visa Business card expense management. With flexible reports, spending alerts and custom reminders – all automatically sent via email or accessible online – VIS Select allows business owners to spend less time on their accounting and budgeting process so they can focus on running their businesses.



#### Visa Business Network (VBN)

Visa Business Network (VBN) is a free online community with more than 150,000 members, providing small business owners with a one-stop resource to help them grow their customer base, manage their business more effectively, and connect and exchange ideas with other business owners and trusted advisers.

## Recent small business data (2Q12 Visa Small Business Spend Insights)

Small business owners' economic outlook appears to be changing based on responses to the most recent Visa Small Business Spend Insights. Confidence in greater profits is at its highest level since 2Q08 and the number of business owners reporting concern about attracting new customers is at its lowest level since 4Q07. Additionally, concerns over managing cash flow and staying in business are both at all-time lows. The overall outlook, however, remains guarded. Confidence in the strength of the economy dipped slightly, and some of the shifts in other categories moved from positive to neutral.

| Individual Small Business Concerns     | 3Q11 | 4Q11 | 1Q12 | 2Q12 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| Cost of Health Insurance               | 63%  | 60%  | 61%  | 61%  |
| Attracting New Customers               | 61%  | 61%  | 62%  | 59%  |
| Rising Taxes                           | 50%  | 57%  | 58%  | 53%  |
| Retaining Customers                    | 52%  | 47%  | 51%  | 47%  |
| Managing Cash Flow                     | 49%  | 44%  | 47%  | 44%  |
| More Restrictive Government Regulation | 37%  | 43%  | 41%  | 40%  |
| Staying in Business                    | 44%  | 38%  | 39%  | 37%  |
| Keeping Good Employees                 | 36%  | 35%  | 33%  | 34%  |
| Finding and Hiring the Right New       | 32%  | 30%  | 27%  | 30%  |
| Employees                              |      |      |      |      |
| Finding Quality Suppliers              | 20%  | 20%  | 21%  | 23%  |

#### Cost of health becomes top concern again

## Concerns about consumer confidence jump dramatically

| Small Business Macro-economic Concerns | 3Q11 | 4Q11 | 1Q12 | 2Q12 |
|--|------|------|------|------|
| U.S. Recovering from the Recession     | 36%  | 43%  | 35%  | 35%  |
| Change in Consumer Confidence          | 18%  | 15%  | 11%  | 20%  |
| Continued Increase in Energy Prices    | 12%  | 12%  | 26%  | 12%  |
| Possibility of Increasing Inflation    | 9%   | 7%   | 10%  | 12%  |
| Falling Value of the Dollar            | 13%  | 11%  | 8%   | 9%   |
| Declining Housing Market               | 8%   | 8%   | 7%   | 8%   |
| Rising Interest Rates                  | 4%   | 4%   | 3%   | 4%   |

For more information, please visit: www.visa.com/smallbusiness