



## SUCCESS STORY

# A reliable payment solution

### CHALLENGES

- No multi bank solution in use
- High maintenance costs and partially lack of expertise in the Treasury and the IT departments concerning the numerous connections
- Inefficient working procedures and increased risk of error due to manual processes
- High security requirements for the new solution

### PROJECT GOALS

- Automation and standardisation of payments processes
- Straight-Through-Processing (STP) of all payments transactions
- Elimination of communication channels disruptions
- Minimisation of governance and compliance risks
- Increase in efficiency

### WHY TIS?

- Fulfil all Swiss payments requirements: Formats, connectivity, STP and electronic delivery of account statements
- SEPA-ready solution
- Seamless SAP/ERP integration
- Rapid integration of new banks and new formats
- Low maintenance costs thanks to web-based technology
- High security, availability and stability of the solution
- Domain expertise in payments and future-proof partner

### BENEFITS

- Greater efficiency due to new, simplified and structured processes
- Real-time status overview of the entire payments processes
- Transparency, traceability, control and compliance
- Rapid implementation
- Constant adaption to new conditions in the Swiss market

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## PAYMENTS AUTOMATION AT SWISSGRID

Swissgrid is the national grid company in Switzerland, and in its capacity as owner of the transmission system, it ensures the secure, reliable and cost-effective operation of the Swiss high-voltage grid. At seven sites in different regions of Switzerland, the medium-sized company employs over 400 people.

All offices corporate-wide have SAP as ERP system, with the modules TR and CFM in use. The company is operating with around 50 bank accounts and performs all payment transaction with various different national and international banking institutions, each with specific formats and requirements.

Evolved historically, in the past Swissgrid made payments over various, proprietary web solutions. Due to this fact, the company was dealing with high maintenance costs and efforts within IT, as well as the problem of partially lacking know-how and expertise of the historically-grown numerous connections. In the treasury department and in accounting, the manual processes made an efficient and structured working method difficult. "We realised that the numerous manual steps in the payments processes were not only inefficient but also contained potential source of risk and error due to communication disruptions. This is where we wanted to counteract", explains Andreas Lützelschwab, Head of Corporate Finance, Treasury & Tax at Swissgrid.

Swissgrid decided to implement a new system, which fully automated their payments, standardise their procedures as well as achieve Straight-Through-Processing (STP) of the entire payments. At the same time the maintenance costs and the management of the interfaces should be reduced. As a result, efficiency should be increased and compliance risks minimised.

## NEW STANDARD IN SWISS PAYMENTS WITH ENHANCED SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

The new solution Swissgrid was looking for, should meet the various requirements for Swiss payments: the format conversions should be completely retained by the provider, all salary, supplier and treasury payments should be completely mapped within the system and seamless STP achieved for all payments with complete integration from the SAP ERP system to the banks. In addition, the new solution should enable the electronic transmission of bank account statements and have low maintenance costs.

Furthermore, the new solution had to meet the company high security requirements. "After a critical internal examination, we were convinced that we had found the right partner and outsource our interfaces and systems to safe, professional specialist.", says Andreas Lützelschwab.

With the introduction of the Enterprise Payment Optimization Platform by TIS, the company succeeded in automating and standardising the entire payment transactions as well as significantly increasing efficiency. Thanks to the complete integration of their SAP ERP systems and their banks, the company achieved the complete elimination of communication disruptions as well as the complete payments STP. The risks in manual operations are nowadays eliminated thanks to documented and verifiable processes. The comprehensive mapping of all payment transactions, allows an up-to-date status overview of all payment processes at any given time, which leads to the desired transparency, traceability and control.

Andreas Lützelschwab: „The high degree of commitment and expertise of the whole TIS Team has made it possible to implement the specific requirements of the Swiss market, within a reasonable period of time. With the introduction of the TIS Platform, we have reached a new standard in the Swiss payments space.”

## FUTURE-PROOF PARTNER DUE TO CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOLUTION

„The web-based architecture of the TIS cloud solution has convinced us. SaaS solutions can be implemented much faster than traditional IT projects. Moreover, the TIS Platform provides high stability, availability as provides future sustainability by changing conditions in the Swiss market.“ highlights Andreas Lützelschwab. Now, the newly simplified and well-defined processes have established themselves; the new solution found large acceptance among users, IT and Management.

As a next step, the company plans to implement SEPA Business Direct Debit. The replacement of an outdated solution of direct debits through the use of the SEPA-ready TIS solution will allow the company to succeed with minimum effort. The service provided by TIS ensures, through the continuous development of the TIS Platform, the adjustment to further future regulatory changes in national and international payments, of which all TIS customers will benefit equally. For this reason, Swissgrid sees TIS as a valuable expert in payments and future-proof business partner at their side.



In the past, the diverse manual steps presented a potential source of risk and error. Since we introduced TIS, our entire payment runs are fully automated and standardised, which makes our work much easier and increases efficiency. Given that Swissgrid is a system-relevant company in Switzerland, for us the security aspects of an Electronic Banking solution is relevantly high. TIS completely fulfils these requirements.

**ANDREAS LÜTZELSCHWAB**  
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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR: TIS

TIS is reimagining the world of enterprise payments through a cloud-based platform uniquely designed to help global organizations optimize outbound payments. Corporations, banks and business vendors leverage TIS to transform how they connect global accounts, collaborate on payment processes, execute outbound payments, analyze cash flow and compliance data, and improve critical outbound payment functions. The TIS corporate payments technology platform helps businesses improve operational efficiency, lower risk, manage liquidity, gain strategic advantage – and ultimately achieve enterprise payment optimization. Visit [www.tispayments.com](http://www.tispayments.com) to reimagine your approach to payments.

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