Critical Technology

In this issue of *Currents*, we explore some of the many facets of technology... from the impact it has made on check cashing historically, to the implications it has for our industry in the future.

For instance, our lead story provides a detailed look at recommended steps you should take to leverage both current and emerging technology if you wish to reach your expansion goals. You can also read about the proper insurance you should have in place to protect your electronic data processing equipment, what technology providers in Illinois have discovered about introducing technology at the window level, and take a lighter look at one owner's solution to implementing technological change in his business (page 33).

Whatever stage your business is in at implementing technological improvements, perhaps Abby Hans sums up the outcome best in his Ask Abby column (page 52), "Once they (owners) started on their computerization journey, there was no turning back."

You'll also find our annual "Who's Who in Technology" supplement in this issue. The supplement has become an increasingly popular addition to our annual technology issue.

Regarding advertisers, I would ask that our members pay particular attention to the advertising messages that appear here in *Currents*. I would urge you to investigate and utilize our advertisers' services whenever possible. *Currents* advertisers are among the finest suppliers in their respective fields of endeavor.

On another note, I purposely did not mention our new cover look, revamped Table of Contents page, and other modifications to *Currents* in my last letter just to see if there would be any reaction among our readers. I'm pleased to report that several of you notified our editors that you liked our new "real people" look to our cover and contents. We will continue this approach in future issues as we try to bring you timely and useful information based on "real life" experiences.

And speaking of experiences, be sure to mark your calendar for the 18th Annual National FiSCA Conference and Exposition, October 7-9, 2006, at the Atlantis, Paradise Island in the Bahamas. We are already hard at work preparing an informative and exciting agenda, and I'm confident that this will prove to be one of the most informative as well as entertaining conferences we have ever staged.

I look forward to seeing you there. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, requests or concerns about *Currents*, please feel free to contact our Managing Editor, Phil La Borie (plaborie@currents-magazine.com) or Cynthia Vega (cvega@fisca.org)

Sincerely,

Gary A. Dachis

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Chairman