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HSBC Launches Contactless

HSBC will start to roll out Contactless cards this month, enabling customers to pay for items up to the value of £15 with just a single 'tap.'

HSBC will be replacing those debit cards which are due to expire from June 2012 onwards with new cards containing the contactless technology enabling customers to swipe for goods in time for the Olympic Games.

Barnaby Jenkins, Head of Cards for HSBC, said: "Contactless technology is an efficient and secure way for customers to pay for goods, with a clear time saving advantage over alternative forms of payment. By starting to issue cards now customers will be able to take advantage of the contactless payment pads that are being installed in Olympic venues.

"Security is an important consideration for us too with customers enjoying the same protection against fraudulent transactions as with the existing chip and pin system."

The technology is being rolled out to HSBC customers from May onwards.

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Notes to editors: For further information please contact:

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HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 7,500 offices in over 80 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, North and Latin America, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2,691bn at 30 June 2011, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.