PRESS RELEASE

BPCE Merchant Services and EPI (Wero) join forces to help e-merchants adopt Wero for year-end shopping

Paris, 25 November, 2026

BPCE Merchant Services is helping merchants activate Wero in their e-commerce websites so more consumers can choose EPI's sovereign European payment solution for online purchases. By waiving fees on Wero transactions in France until 31 December 2026, BPCE Merchant Services is committed to encouraging rapid adoption of this payment method during the busy year-end shopping season.

Groupe BPCE supports Wero's e-commerce rollout on two fronts

Wero now has more than 75 million users in Europe, giving the sovereign European payment method therefore a broad consumer base to support its expansion into French e-commerce.

Groupe BPCE is supporting Wero's e-commerce rollout on two fronts. Firstly, its banking networks are making it available to their customers. Secondly BPCE Merchant Services is equipping merchants to offer it to customers on their e-commerce websites through its omnichannel payment solution Payplug.

Making it easier for merchants to adopt Wero

From Black Friday through the year-end holidays, a busy period for merchants, BPCE Merchant Services will be able to offer them Wero giving customers an additional payment option at a key time of year. To help merchants seize this opportunity and adopt Wero more easily, BPCE Merchant Services is offering two ways of support:

- Fees waived on all Wero transactions made by French consumers and processed through the Payplug platform until 31 December 2026, to encourage erchants to enable Wero
- A ready-to-use Wero communications kit to help merchants introduce this new payment method to consumers on their e-commerce websites.

"BPCE Merchant Services supports one in five merchants in France. This gives us a responsibility to drive innovation and be among the first to roll out new payment methods such as Wero. We have been preparing for its large-scale e-commerce rollout for several months: more than 100 Payplug clients, including Besson and the "École du Ski Français (ESF)"*, have already activated Wero in Belgium and Germany, and another 200 are awaiting activation in France. Our role is to make this rollout as simple as possible for merchants. Through our support program, we are giving them the means to meet consumers' evolving payment expectations at a key time for their businesses,"* **explains Antoine Grimaud, Director of BPCE Merchant Services.**

"Making Wero accessible to French consumers for online shopping is something we have been working on with our partners for months. We are delighted to see our independent European payment solution, which has already attracted more than 75 million users, reach a new milestone as 2026 draws to a close. BPCE Merchant Services' initiative is a significant step forward and will enable many merchants to offer this new use case with Wero in France starting now, ahead of the next milestone in 2027 with the rollout of in-store payments," **says Laetitia Dorla, Director of Business Acceptance France at EPI.**

"Being among the first to offer Wero is an opportunity to give our customers a new way to pay that reflects their changing shopping habits. This choice also aligns with our commitment to more sustainable fashion: offering a sovereign European payment method from its launch makes sense for Besson Chaussures. We are delighted to be taking this step before the end of the year thanks to our partner Payplug," **adds Sébastien Bonnet, Chief Information Officer at Besson.**

About BPCE Merchant Services

BPCE Merchant Services brings together all of Groupe BPCE's expertise in payment services for merchants, from local retailers to the largest retail networks. It offers a comprehensive range of acquiring, payment acceptance and transaction management solutions for in-store, online, mobile and omnichannel commerce. By combining the strength of a major banking group, the local presence of Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Epargne, the agility of its fintechs—with Payplug as its technological and commercial driving force—and an ecosystem of more than 800 partners, BPCE Merchant Services delivers payment solutions that are easy to use, effective and sovereign by design. Its ambition is to become merchants' trusted partner and support one in four merchants in France by 2030.

About BPCE

Groupe BPCE is the second-largest banking group in France and the fourth-largest in the euro zone by capital. A cooperative group serving the real economy, it supports 36 million clients worldwide, backed by the commitment of its 110,000 employees.

In France, Groupe BPCE relies on its major local banking networks, Banque Populaire and Caisse d'Epargne, both deeply rooted in their regions, as well as with Palatine. It operates across the full spectrum of banking and insurance activities. In Europe, it supports its clients through novobanco, the fourth-largest bank in Portugal, through BPCE Equipment Solutions, the European leader in equipment leasing, and through Oney, a major player in retail consumer finance. Internationally, the Group leverages its expertise in corporate and investment banking through Natixis CIB and in asset management through Natixis IM.

Groupe BPCE draws on its diverse business lines to provide local, accessible solutions for all and to help deliver a lasting positive impact. Its financial strength is recognized by four credit rating agencies: Standard & Poor's (A+, stable outlook), Fitch (A+, stable outlook), Moody's (A2, stable outlook) and R&I (A+, stable outlook).

About EPI

EPI (or European Payments Initiative) is supported by 18 European banks and payment service providers. Beyond the shareholders, over 50 institutions in Europe are now members of EPI. They have joined forces with a common goal: to offer a unified mobile payment service, Wero, to all European companies and citizens. EPI intends to enable European consumers and merchants to carry out all types of retail transactions simply, via a resolutely sovereign digital wallet.

About Wero

Based on instant account-to-account (A2A) payments, Wero further streamlines payments in Europe by eliminating intermediaries in the payment chain and the associated additional costs. Wero already supports payments between individuals, and progressively unveils payments to professionals (P2Pro). Wero is live for P2P payments in Belgium, France, Germany and Luxembourg, currently serving 75 million users. Wero also plans to expand into Austria.

For retail payments, Wero is live in Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg with progressive roll-out in France throughout 2026. Point-of-sale payments are already live in Belgium and Luxembourg with further rollouts planned across other markets. The migration from iDEAL to Wero in the Netherlands is expected to involve around 15 million consumers by 2027. Additional value-added services will include merchant loyalty programmes, recurring payments and subscription management.

EPI/Wero is also a founding member of the European Network for Payments (ENP), which aims to progressively connect payment solutions collectively serving around 130 million users across 13 European countries. Find out more at wero-wallet.eu and follow us on Instagram, Facebook and Wero's LinkedIn.

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