

Electronic Check Service

Retail Check Acceptance Solution



Reduce costs, minimize risk and get faster access to your money by converting paper checks into electronic transactions right at the point of sale.

It's Your Money... Why Wait for It?

If you're like most retailers, check acceptance is a necessary – but burdensome – part of conducting business.

Now, thanks to Electronic Check Service (ECS), you can continue offering your customers the option of paying by check, while dramatically reducing the risk and costs associated with handling paper checks.

This exciting service converts paper checks into safe, efficient electronic transactions and processes them with the same speed and ease as credit and debit cards.

End-to-end Processing & Support That You Can Count On.

From risk and underwriting, processing image upload and storage, to exception item handling... you can trust Elavon to handle it all. Unlike other electronic check products, there is no need to purchase and install check imagers in every lane. You can simply use your MICR check reader to scan checks.

Complete Electronic Check Processing Solution

Account Establishment



Relationship Management

Elavon consults with retailers regarding the best processing environment and service level for their business and assists in the implementation and employee training process.

Electronic Check Processing



Transaction Routing and Risk Mitigation

Checks are quickly scanned at the point of sale where they are converted to an electronic transaction and automatically routed through the appropriate rail for realtime authorization, risk decisioning and clearing.



Efficient Image Uploads

At the end of the day approved checks are uploaded in the retailer's back office using a high-speed imager and sent to Elavon's image archive host where they are joined with the original electronic check transaction.

Alternatively, checks can be bundled and sent to a central location for image uploads.

Returns Management



Collections and Exception Handling

Elavon then takes ECS full circle by handling all exception items, including administrative returns and NSF collections, automatically on behalf of retailers, not assessing any hidden fees and keeping them financially whole throughout the entire process.

Elavon's Flexible Service levels

With ECS, you have five flexible service levels to choose from, specifically matched to meet your needs and manage the risk associated with your business.* You will significantly reduce check fraud and collection hassles with any of these service options:

Conversion with Guarantee

The paper check is converted into an electronic transaction, and the check amount is guaranteed. No more paperwork, no more collections. The guarantor assumes the risk for all qualified transactions processed.

*Custom-designed risk programs are also available.

Conversion with Verification

The paper check is converted into an electronic transaction, and ECS verifies that the check is "good." You retain the risk of returned items for all transactions that are processed. Elavon can even handle collections on your behalf.

Conversion Only

The paper check is converted into an electronic transaction with minimal validation or authentication. You retain the risk of returned items for all transactions that are processed.

Only Elavon Delivers A Complete Electronic Check Processing Solution

You will experience improved cash flow through optimized electronic processing and risk mitigation solutions.

Processes Any Type of Check

Elavon can handle virtually all types of checks presented – consumer, business and convenience – reducing the need for “parallel” check acceptance methods.

Routes it Automatically Through the Appropriate “Rail”

Elavon supports multiple processing rails – Direct DDA access, ACH, traditional bank networks – and automatically routes the check according to the type of check and the consumer’s DDA relationship.

Backs it with the Proper Risk Mitigation/Protection

Elavon can map your risk level to the appropriate service level – Guarantee, Verification, or Conversion only, and can even offer collections service on your behalf.

Prices it Inclusively, with No Hidden “Extra Fees”

ECS is an all-inclusive service. You pay per transaction for most items; guarantee service carries a charge based on a percent of the face value of the check. There are no hidden processes or charges related to Direct DDA access, ODFI management, processing methods or exception handling.

Supports it with Fully Automated Processing & Exception Handling

Elavon automatically determines the proper check processing method and handles all returns management processing and exception items.

Delivers Consolidated Funding, Statements & Service

ECS is part of Elavon’s overall electronic payment processing service. Funds are settled with the same speed and ease as credit cards and you only need to call one place for all your service needs.

Offers Robust Reporting & Tracking Tools

With ECS, retailers have easy access to detailed reporting and tracking tools, including an image archive host for research and collections purposes.

“ECS has had a significant impact on our business by reducing the amount of bad checks and increasing our company’s cashflow and liquidity.”

John Swygert, Chief Financial Officer
Ollie’s Bargain Outlet, Inc.

Benefits of Electronic Check Service

With Elavon’s Electronic Check Service, accepting checks has never been so convenient and cost-effective. Gone are manual check reconciliations, time-consuming trips to the bank, and the hassles of check collections.

1 Reduced Costs

ECS eliminates the time, labor and paperwork associated with paper checks and returned items. And because check images are uploaded at the end of the day, you eliminate the cost of installing a check imaging device in every lane.

2 Faster Access to Funds

Checks are automatically converted to electronic transactions. Funds are settled with the same speed and ease as credit card deposits, typically within 24-48 hours.

3 Single Depository Bank Relationship

All check funds are deposited into a specified DDA account, eliminating the need to have multiple banking relationships.

4 Minimized Risk

ECS provides Direct DDA access and flexible verification and guarantee service levels reduce the risks and costs associated with returned checks. Transactions that result in non-sufficient funds will be automatically resubmitted up to two times.

5 Improved Reporting

All electronic payment activity processed is consolidated on reports and statements.



Dramatically Lower Costs

With Elavon's ECS, accepting checks has never been so convenient and cost-effective. Retailers using ECS greatly reduce their costs, as illustrated in the example below from an actual retailer that operates a chain of discount stores.

Retailer Profile

Annual Check Volume	\$20,096,000
Number of Locations	45
Number of Banking Relationships	6
Decline Rate at POS	2.70%
Return Rate	0.63%
Average Check Amount	\$49
Average Returned Check Amount	\$83

Current Paper Check Acceptance Costs

	Per Item	Annual Amt
Risk Mitigation Services		
Check Guarantee Rate	0.61%	\$122,585
Transaction Fee	\$0.10	\$41,012
Bank Fees		
Deposit Fees: Per Check	\$0.13	\$5,188
Deposit Fees: Per Deposit	\$0.30	\$4,914
Return Item Fee	\$2.50	\$3,779
Check Handling Costs		
Check Handling per Deposit	\$10.00	\$163,800
Total Cost to Retailer		\$387,967

Elavon Electronic Check Service Costs

	Per Item	Annual Amt
Check Guarantee Rate	0.54%	\$105,642
Transaction Fee	\$0.21	\$86,125
Total Cost to Retailer		\$191,768

