



**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL BANKCARD  
CREDIT CARD ACCEPTING MERCHANTS.**

The Bankcard Association of Australia has decided to close down the Bankcard credit card scheme in 2007 after more than 30 years of successful operation in Australia.

It is anticipated that, by 31 December 2006, all Bankcard credit cards will have been withdrawn and merchants should not have any Bankcard cards presented to them for the payment of goods and services after that date.

Merchants will have up until **19 January 2007** to lodge any residual Bankcard **Sale or Sale Return** transactions with their bank for clearance.

Merchants are reminded that all Bankcard Sale transactions, including those initiated by merchants under Standing Authorities to meet regular bill payments, must be **Authorised**. This process will help merchants identify those Bankcard accounts that have already been closed prior to the lodgement of the transactions and reduce the risk of any of the transactions subsequently being returned to them.

Merchants using Standing Authorities for the drawing of direct debits for the payment of goods, services, subscriptions or donations should search their current records to identify any residual Bankcard accounts on their billing files.

Please contact **all** remaining Bankcard account customers to make alternative ongoing payment arrangements.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the closure of the Bankcard Scheme, please contact your Bankcard bank.