



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

The Bankcard Association of Australia has decided to suspend all Bankcard merchant floor limits from **1 August 2006**, and, commencing from that date, **all Bankcard sale transactions must be authorized.**

Bankcard cardholders have been responding very positively to the Bankcard Member banks' offers to transfer their Bankcard card accounts to other branded credit card products. Accordingly, it is anticipated that this change will have a low impact on merchants as, by 1 August 2006, there will only be a relatively few active Bankcard credit cards remaining in circulation.

Merchants using EFTPOS terminals to process Bankcard sale transactions will only need to seek telephone authorization for transactions accepted when the terminal is inoperable as terminal captured transactions are already authorized.

However, those merchants that are still using card imprinters to record Bankcard card numbers will need to seek telephone authorizations for all Bankcard card sale transactions accepted.

Merchants that make use of Standing Authorities for the drawing of direct debits for the payment of goods, services, subscriptions or donations on Bankcard accounts will need to implement procedures to obtain authorizations prior to lodging transactions with their bank.

Declined authorizations could mean that the Bankcard accounts have been closed and merchants using standing authorities should contact their customers to arrange for alternative payment arrangements.

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