

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer implemented method for automated payment processing, comprising:
 - receiving a transaction request from a purchaser to transfer a payment amount from a purchaser account of the purchaser to a supplier account associated with a supplier, wherein the purchaser account is linked to a transaction card and a transaction account number;
 - in response to the transaction request:
 - debiting the payment amount from the purchaser account;
 - identifying the supplier account based on a supplier identification number;
 - generating a virtual supplier account with a virtual supplier account number unique to the transaction request responsive to the supplier account not being identified;
 - specifying a first list of purchasers, a second list of purchasers, and a third list of purchasers based on a preference of the supplier, wherein the first list of purchasers is associated with the supplier account, the second list of purchasers is associated with the virtual supplier account, and the third list of purchasers is associated with a combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, and wherein the preference of the supplier is identified based on at least a relationship between the supplier and the purchaser or a type of the transaction request;
 - selecting, as a new supplier account, the supplier account, based on the specified first list of purchasers, or the virtual supplier count, based on the specified second list of purchasers, or the combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, based on the specified third list of purchasers;
 - crediting the payment amount to the new supplier account associated with the supplier, the supplier account being a first bank account that allows the supplier to accept payments from transaction cards; and
 - periodically reconciling the new supplier account to deposit a balance of the new supplier account into a second bank account of the supplier,

wherein the transaction request enables the automated payment processing without transmission of the transaction account number associated with the purchaser account to the supplier.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - notifying the supplier of the crediting of the payment amount to the new supplier account; and
 - notifying the purchaser of the debiting of the payment amount from the purchaser account.
3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining whether the supplier account is enrolled in the automated payment processing;
 - in response to the supplier account not being enrolled in the automated payment processing:
 - generating a virtual account number unique to the transaction request; and
 - transmitting the virtual account number to the supplier to enter at a point of sale.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein periodically reconciling the new supplier account comprises:
 - automatically settling the transaction request after a predetermined period of time.
5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
 - determining that the new supplier account is enrolled in the automated payment processing.
6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the transaction card is a credit card with credit card purchase protection.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the transaction card is a closed-loop card that limits the transaction request to be between the purchaser and a predefined list of suppliers.
8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the transaction request comprises transmitting, to the purchaser, an invoice from the supplier, the invoice specifying the payment amount and the supplier identification number identifying the supplier.
9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the transaction request comprises allowing the purchaser to select, from an interface, the supplier or supplier account to credit the payment amount.
10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the automated payment processing is configured to execute a plurality of transaction requests simultaneously.
11. The method according to claim 10, wherein periodically reconciling the new supplier account comprises:
 - automatically settling the plurality of transaction requests through one notification.
12. A system for automating payment processing, comprising:
 - a memory; and
 - at least one processor coupled to the memory and configured to:
 - receive a transaction request from a purchaser to transfer a payment amount from a purchaser account of the purchaser to a supplier account associated with a supplier, wherein the purchaser account is linked to a transaction card and a transaction account number;
 - in response to the transaction request:
 - debit the payment amount from the purchaser account;
 - identify the supplier account based on a supplier identification number;

generate a virtual supplier account with a virtual supplier account number unique to the transaction request based on the supplier account not being identified;

specify a first list of purchasers, a second list of purchasers, and a third list of purchasers based on a preference of the supplier, wherein the first list of purchasers is associated with the supplier account, the second list of purchasers is associated with the virtual supplier account, and the third list of purchasers is associated with a combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, and wherein the preference of the supplier is identified based on at least a relationship between the supplier and the purchaser or a type of the transaction request;

select, as a new supplier account, the supplier account, based on the specified first list of purchasers, or the virtual supplier account, based on the specified second list of purchasers, or the combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, based on the specified third list of purchasers;

credit the payment amount to the new supplier account associated with the supplier, the supplier account being a first bank account that allows the supplier to accept payments from transaction cards; and periodically reconcile the new supplier account to deposit a balance of the new supplier account to a second bank account of the supplier,

wherein the transaction request enables the automated payment processing without transmission of the transaction account number associated with the purchaser amount to the supplier.

13. The system according to claim 12, further comprising:

notification circuitry configured to

notify the supplier of the crediting of the payment amount to the new supplier account; and

notify the purchaser of the debiting of the payment amount from the purchaser account.

14. The system according to claim 12, wherein the at least one processor is further configured to:
 - determine whether the supplier account is enrolled in the automated payment processing;
 - in response to the supplier account not being enrolled in the automated payment processing:
 - generate a virtual account number unique to the transaction request; and
 - transmit the virtual account number to the supplier to enter at a point of sale.
15. The system according to claim 12, wherein the transaction request comprises transmitting, to the purchaser, an invoice from the supplier, the invoice specifying the payment amount and the supplier identification number identifying the supplier.
16. The system according to claim 12, wherein periodically reconciling the new supplier account comprises:
 - automatically settling the transaction request after a predetermined period of time.
17. The system according to claim 12, wherein the at least one processor is further configured to:
 - determining that the new supplier account is enrolled in the automated payment processing.
18. A non-transitory computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed by at least one processor, cause the at least one processor to perform operations comprising:
 - receiving a transaction request from a purchaser to transfer a payment amount from a purchaser account of the purchaser to a supplier account associated with a supplier, wherein the purchaser account is linked to a transaction card and a transaction account number;
 - in response to the transaction request:
 - debiting the payment amount from the purchaser account;

identifying the supplier account based on a supplier identification number;
generating a virtual supplier account with a virtual supplier account number unique to the transaction request based on the supplier account not being identified;

specifying a first list of purchasers, a second list of purchasers, and a third list of purchasers based on a preference of the supplier, wherein the first list of purchasers is associated with the supplier account, the second list of purchasers is associated with the virtual supplier account, and the third list of purchasers is associated with a combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, and wherein the preference of the supplier is identified based on at least a relationship between the supplier and the purchaser or a type of the transaction request;

selecting, as a new supplier account, the supplier account, based on the specified first list of purchasers, or the virtual supplier account, based on the specified second list of purchasers, or the combination of the supplier account and the virtual supplier account, based on the specified third list of purchasers;

crediting the payment amount to the new supplier account associated with the supplier, the supplier account being a first bank account that allows the supplier to accept payments from transaction cards; and

periodically reconciling the new supplier account to deposit a balance of the new supplier account to a second bank account of the supplier,

wherein the transaction request enables the automated payment processing without transmission of the transaction account number associated with the purchaser account to the supplier.

19. The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 18, the operations further comprising:

notifying the supplier of the crediting of the payment amount to the new supplier account; and

notifying the purchaser of the debiting of the payment amount from the purchaser account.

20. The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 18, the operations further comprising:
- determining whether the supplier account is enrolled in the automated payment processing;
 - in response to the supplier account not being enrolled in the automated payment processing:
 - generating a virtual account number unique to the transaction request; and
 - transmitting the virtual account number to the supplier to enter at a point of sale.