



## **Amegy Bank Develops Collections Web Delivery For Oil & Gas and Automotive Industries**

HOUSTON (April 11, 2005) ... Companies faced with the challenge of processing large quantities of payment items can now view and pay those items online through *Collections Web Delivery* offered by Amegy Bank N.A, a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest Bancorporation of Texas, Inc. (NASDAQ: ABNK). This recent innovation by Amegy Bank's Treasury Management division has proven to be a particularly valuable resource for companies in the oil and gas and automotive industries.

Within hours of receiving payment items, Amegy Bank's *Collections Web Delivery* images the data and sends it online where a company can view, return or schedule a payment from their desktop. For companies like Anadarko Petroleum, an additional benefit includes the ability of its landmen to review the accuracy of leases or land drafts online, often in remote areas.

"From a logistical standpoint, energy companies rely on their landmen to stay many steps ahead of their drilling rigs," said Steve Kennedy, Senior Vice President and Manager of Energy Lending for Amegy Bank. "Having lease and land drafts available online gives landmen the ability to schedule projects that are thousands of miles, days or months away."

By imaging the lease and land draft together, payments can be made instantly or scheduled for a later date. This eliminates the trust receipt process that takes days and involves sending hard-copy documents via fax and courier between banks, oilfield companies, and individual land owners.

"We were well aware of Amegy's Treasury Management expertise and capabilities when we invited them into our bank group," said Al Richey, Vice President & Treasurer of Anadarko Petroleum Corporation. "We later approached Amegy looking for a solution to automate and expedite our manual drafting process used in lease acquisitions. Amegy recognized the opportunity to apply their imaging technology which

now allows us to reduce payment cycle times from days to hours. This project helps us keep our landowners happy and allows us to focus on our core business."

In addition, the new product provides several administrative capabilities such as a historical database and search tools that provide instantaneous imaged document retrieval of records and data for the past 24 months. The Dual Control Feature enhances the security of payment processes by only allowing designated users to make payment decisions.

"We have products and services to help solve any company's cash management challenges – regardless of their industry," said Debbie Innes, Executive Vice President and Manager of Treasury Management for Amegy Bank. "If no such product or service exists, then we will take the time to build it for our clients."

Amegy Bank's *Collections Web Delivery* also brings many of the same efficiencies to companies in the automotive industry. In addition to the benefits described above, car dealerships can review auto drafts online, without going to a banking center or collections window for payment decisions. They can also review the accuracy of the title work and have quick access to a summary of their incoming and outgoing dollars.

"We began innovating for our clients in the healthcare industry years ago by creating a technology that improves collections from insurance companies," said Myra Caldwell, Senior Vice President, Product and Strategy Development Manager of Amegy Bank. "By listening to what our customer wants and working with our operations team to make it happen, we have developed a resourceful technology for clients in the energy and automotive industries"

Amegy Bank's *Collections Web Delivery* is the most recent expansion of its NetST@R Treasury Management product line. Future product expansion plans include Vault and Account Analysis enhancements. For more information, please visit [http://www.amegybank.com/commercial\\_banking/treasury\\_management.aspx](http://www.amegybank.com/commercial_banking/treasury_management.aspx).

Southwest Bancorporation of Texas, Inc., the parent company of Amegy Bank N.A., is the largest independent bank holding company headquartered in Houston, Texas. The Bank focuses on commercial lending, treasury management, and investment services for businesses, private financial management, and trust services for families and individuals, and retail and mortgage banking services. The Company has \$7.51 billion in assets, deposits of \$5.6 billion and more than 75 full-service banking centers located throughout the Houston and Dallas metropolitan areas.

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