

Canadian Payments Association

New Cheque Standards! Effective July 1st, 2007

What do you need to know?



Canadian Payments Association

CPA introduces “grace period”
until September 2nd, 2008

What do you need to know?

Why did the standards change?

❖ The cheque face and back will now be digitally scanned by the clearing houses

- Cheques will no longer be physically transferred between banks or returned to clients
- To allow for the scanning process, CPA mandated “Areas of Interest” must meet certain standards

THIS CHEQUE CONTAINS A MICR LINE BORDER AND SECURITY FEATURES.
DOCUMENT HAS LIMITED™ LINES IN THE PAPER THAT CHANGE FROM LIGHT TO DARK IN REFLECTED TO TRANSMITTED LIGHT

ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

DATE MM/DD/YYYY

1 PAY TO THE ORDER OF

2

3 \$

4 :@0000*** 0000*00000000 0000001*

5 PER ABC Company

6 BACK/ENDOS

SECURITY FEATURES
This document contains the following security features:
WARNING BAND: Notice document borders that security features are present.
WATERMARK: Consistent pattern on the paper. Hold up to a light source to view.
INVISIBLE FIBRES: Coloured fibres in the paper only visible under black light.
MICROLINE PRINTING: Tiny type in a border or line that can't be read if scanned or copied.
CHEMICAL REACTANTS: An attempt to chemically alter the document will generate a chemical reaction that appears as a stain on the paper.
TONEFIBER: A coating that bonds by laser energy to the paper, forming a barrier by bonding or other way without without showing fibre bar on the paper.

1. “Pay To” Information Field
2. “Numeric Date” Field
3. “Amount” Field - Written/Numerical
4. MICR Numbering - Consecutive/Static
5. Signature(s)
6. Backprinting

What's Changed?

- ❖ No printing in 5/8 MICR band

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ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

DATE

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y
M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y

PAY TO _____
THE ORDER OF _____

\$

100
DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

ABC Company

PER _____
PER _____

FOR _____

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆00000000 000000⑆*

What's Changed?

- ❖ No printing in 5/8 MICR band
- ❖ Adoption of numeric date field
- ❖ **A printed \$ symbol must appear - (Pre-printed or software driven)**

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ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

DATE

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y
M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y

PAY TO _____
THE ORDER OF _____

100 **\$** _____
DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

ABC Company

PER _____
PER _____

FOR _____
CMA 98 99 018

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆00000000 000000⑆

What's Changed?

- ❖ No printing in 5/8 MICR band
- ❖ Adoption of numeric date field
- ❖ A printed \$ symbol must appear - (Pre-printed or software driven)
- ❖ **Mandatory MICR consecutive numbering**

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ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

DATE

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

PAY TO _____
THE ORDER OF _____

\$ _____
100 DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

ABC Company

PER _____
PER _____

FOR _____
CFM 92 99-07B

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆00000000 000000⑆

What's Changed?

- ❖ No printing in 5/8 MICR band
- ❖ Adoption of numeric date field
- ❖ A printed \$ symbol must appear - (Pre-printed or software driven)
- ❖ Mandatory MICR consecutive numbering
- ❖ **Standardized positions for key information**

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DOCUMENT HAS LineMark™ LINES IN THE PAPER THAT CHANGE FROM LIGHT TO DARK IN REFLECTED TO TRANSMITTED LIGHT

ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

DATE M M D D Y Y Y Y

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

\$

100 DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

PER. PER.

FOR

CHEQUE 993 0718

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆00000000 000000⑆

What's Changed?

- ❖ Security features not to interfere with “Areas of Interest”

THIS CHECK CONTAINS A MICROLINE BORDER AND SECURITY FEATURES
DOCUMENT HAS LineMark™ LINES IN THE PAPER THAT CHANGE FROM LIGHT TO DARK IN REFLECTED TO TRANSMITTED LIGHT

ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____

DATE

M	M	D	D	Y	Y	Y	Y

\$ _____

100 DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

FOR _____

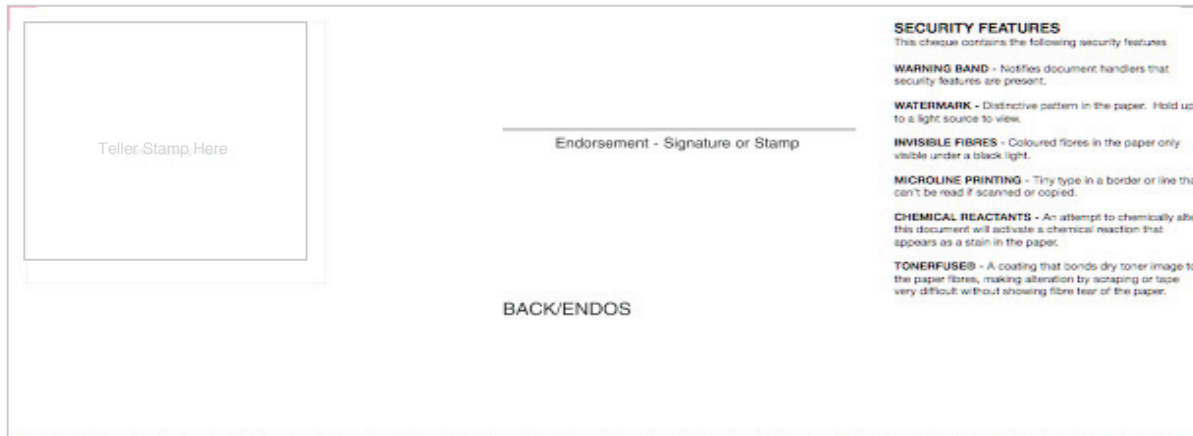
PER _____
PER _____

ABC Company

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆000000000 000000⑆*

What's Changed?

- ❖ Security features not to interfere with “Areas of Interest”
- ❖ **Standardized back print**



What's Changed?

- ❖ Security features not to interfere with “Areas of Interest”
- ❖ Standardized back print
- ❖ **Print contrast signal in “Areas of Interest” must meet acceptable levels of compliance**

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ABC Company
Box 000
Edmonton, AB T5A 3J5

PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____

DATE

\$

100
DOLLARS

Bank of Canada
123 Bank Street
Edmonton AB T5A 3J5

ABC Company

PER _____

FOR _____

CMA 00 09 018

⑆0000⑆ 0000⑆00000000 000000⑆

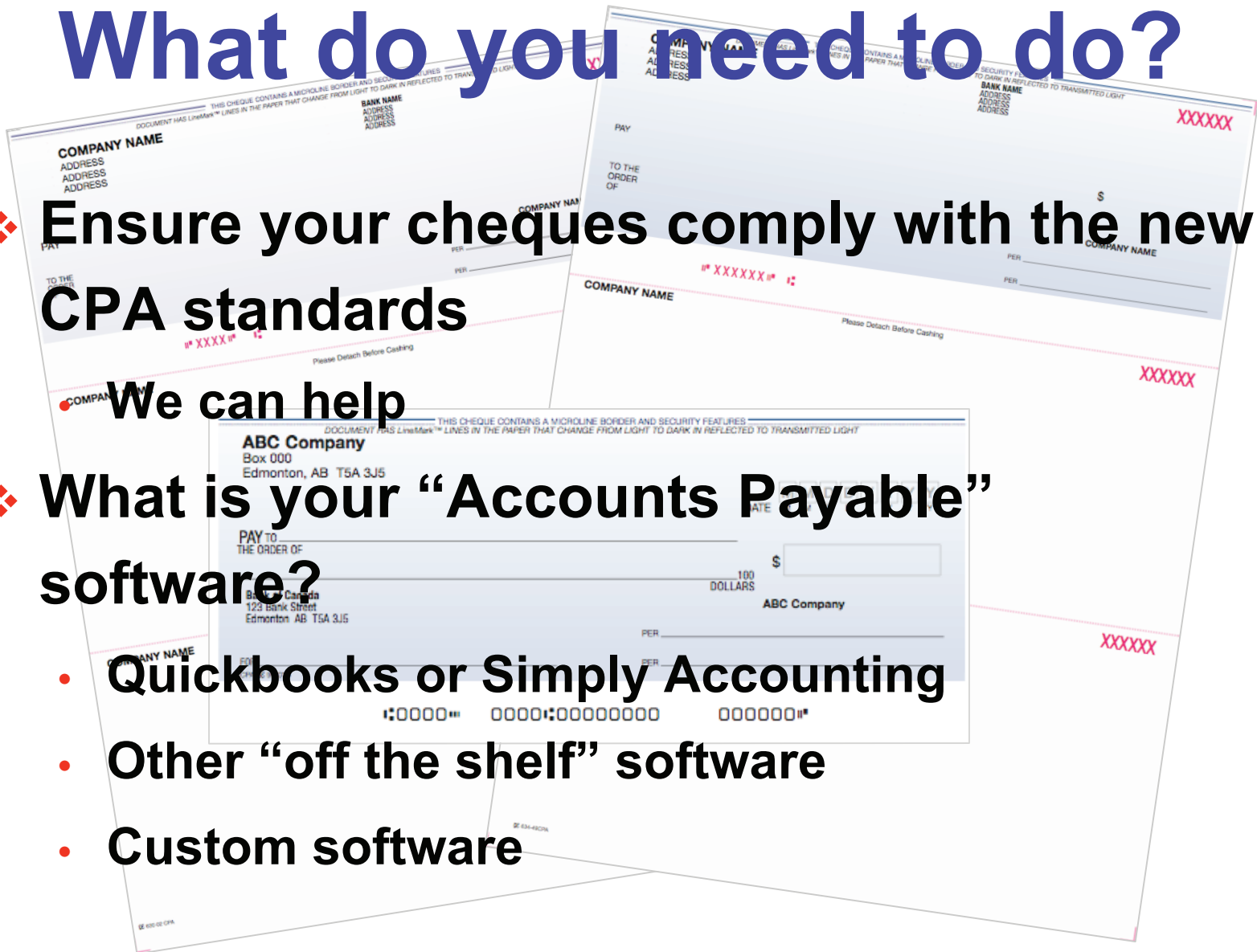
What do you need to do?

- ❖ **Ensure your cheques comply with the new CPA standards**

We can help

- ❖ **What is your “Accounts Payable” software?**

- **Quickbooks or Simply Accounting**
- **Other “off the shelf” software**
- **Custom software**



Guaranteed Compliance

- ❖ Use our RDM Scanner to check print contrast signal compliance
 - Same system/software used by the banks
 - Ensures custom pantographs meet CPA standards

Thank You