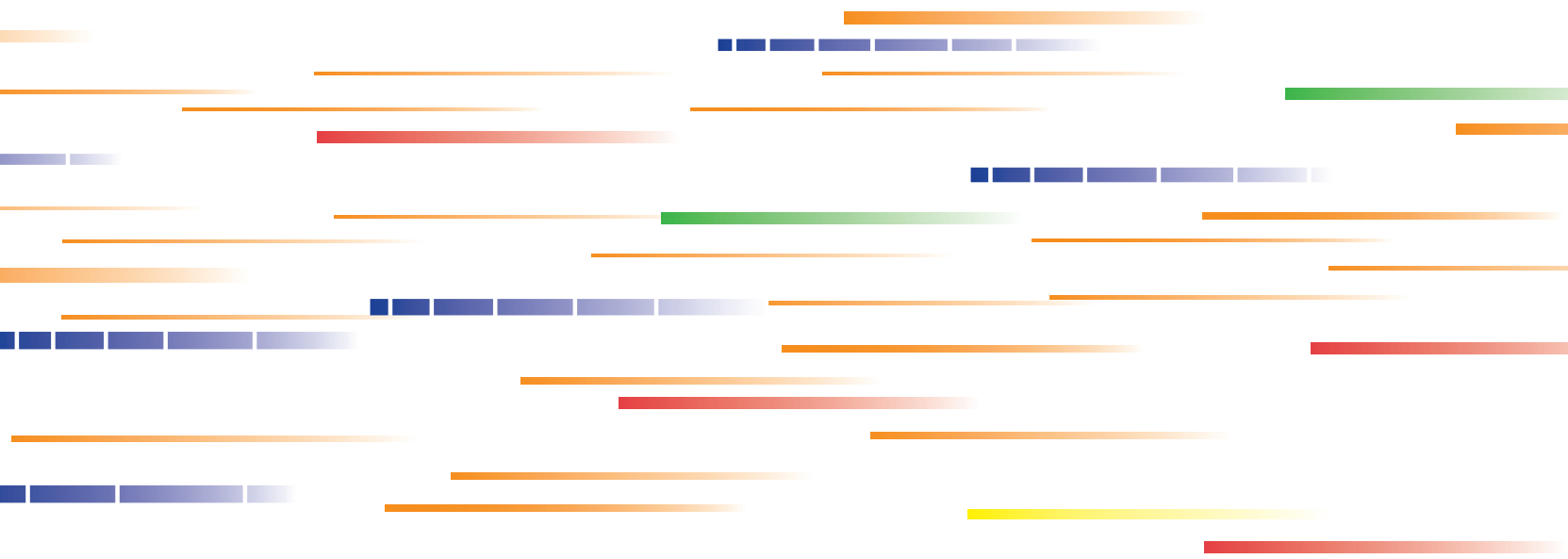


Payments



Payment systems: a continuous evolution

2008 marked the launch of important projects of European integration for money systems and securities settlement: TARGET2 has replaced TARGET and joined EURO1 and STEP1, becoming the European gross settlement reference system. In the area of retail settlement, the introduction of SEPA, the Single Euro Payments Area, establishes significant changes in retail transfers, commercial direct debits, payment cards and cash transactions.

To achieve harmonisation in the use of payment instruments and the standardisation of banking transactions requirements, banks and market operators are called upon to redesign their strategies in terms of organisation, processes and systems.

TAS Group supports its clients in meeting these changes, through solutions and products that guarantee effectiveness and the efficient use of time and resources.

A technological partner to develop business

Know-how, research and expertise, acquired working alongside major Italian and foreign institutions, have enabled TAS to develop a **high quality offer** that makes TAS Group a dependable reference point for banks and corporates.

For payment systems, TAS has created the **GARI GOLD Transaction Flow Manager (GG TFM)** suite of products, which consolidates the management of all messages exchanged on the interbank network in a single workstation.

The **GG TFM** solution range has been designed and created to enable banks and business customers to:

- simplify the evolution of services and the integration of information processes in accordance with regulatory changes and compliance requirements
- shorten time-to-market for the introduction of new business solutions
- flexibly manage the evolution of technological infrastructures.

GARI GOLD TRANSACTION FLOW MANAGER

GARI GOLD Transaction Flow Manager is a product suite consisting of a series of independent software modules based on the same architectural philosophy, thus ensuring their compatibility and easy integration.

Products use the same database architecture, but differ according to the specific business needs to which they respond. The solutions, which are positioned between back office applications and interbank networks, translate and organise information based on the payment channel. They manage and control the exchange of all types of messages and message files with interbank networks (SWIFT, RNI, Internet, proprietary).

The GG TFM architecture permits traffic distribution (messages and files) over parallel processing channels, with independent resources to guarantee scalability, high performance levels and reliability.

The web user interface is the same for all products and services. Analogous functions of different products are presented with similar logic, so reducing the training needs of operators to the minimum.

Extensive message management functions are available: searches, access to logs, authorisations, insertions, amendments, cancellations and error management. A simple user profiling tool provides users with functions for assigning operations, configuration and administration, based on the customer company organisation. For example, it is possible to limit the visibility of branch operators to just the transfers

concerning the branch itself, for data entry, amendment, authorisation and result verification operations. Many aspects of the workflow can be configured directly by enabled users, using a Configuration Management tool with a web interface.

Information gathered in the GG TFM database can be used to provide value added services both for internal use and for clients: from reporting to monitoring services and for information distribution of pre-configured events.

The GG TFM suite products are divided into two categories of modules: service management modules and business modules.

Using a “single window” approach, **service management modules** offer message and file management functions in their respective communication channels. Specific business needs can be activated with these modules. GG TFM for File Management, GG TFM for FIN Management, GG TFM for InterAct Management and GG TFM for FileBroker are included in this category.

Business modules use one or more service management modules, integrated to build up a complete package of specific solutions: enhanced user interface, formats and conversions of pre-configured messages, additional archives, interface modules for easy integration with other applications. The business modules are: GG TFM for Cash Reporting, GG TFM for EBA IWS, GG TFM for E&I, GG TFM for Funds, GG TFM for SEPA Credit Transfer, GG TFM for SEPA Direct Debits, GG TFM for TARGET2.

INTEGRATION AND MODULARITY AT THE SERVICE OF CLIENTS

The GARI GOLD Transaction Flow Manager suite is characterised by its modularity and ease of integration, enabling the customers to reduce the financial impact of the change process.

Integration with external applications is made using the Application Adapter and Network Driver, interface components capable of operating with platforms, communication standards

and various formats, for external applications that act in intermediate processing phases. Messages formats are defined in a Data Dictionary, while the rules for conversion are stored in a Business Rules archive.

Integration between suite products is achieved through a common basic architecture, composed of various elements. All data is archived in a single database which stores both

the message content and all workflow information of the message. All process phases are managed by a workflow engine: from acquisition from the bank or network to validations and format conversions, STP enrichment phases, operator authorisations, data entry, error management, to the delivery to recipient application. Each process phase is traced in the GG TFM database, including activities delegated to external applications. In this way, all operations can be controlled by a single workstation, supplying updated and unambiguous information of the status of financial transactions.

GG TFM solutions are **modular**, available in packages that include all functions necessary to manage specific business problems such as connection to a compensation and settlement system or the management of a particular SWIFT messaging service.

The objective is to enable customers to regulate investments based on their own requirements within a strategic vision of the evolution of their application portfolio.

THE BUSINESS MODULES MIXER 2.0 AND CLM

MIXER 2.0 and CLM applications are multi-bank, multi-currency, multi-channel and multi-language and are provided with their own basic functions. They operate autonomously with respect to the GG TFM suite, with which they can be proactively integrated. They can also be integrated with external solutions.

MIXER 2.0

MIXER 2.0 is the software platform which allows banks to quickly and easily deal with issues originating from the merger of banking groups.

The solution is positioned between business applications and the interbank network, and manages the message sorting both within the group and for external networks. Mixer 2.0 can communicate with specialised external applications such as Treasury, Anti Money Laundering, Straight Through Processing and Accounting. It allows complete and effective management of both internal and external messages and provides the following functions to the Back Office: traffic summary, accounts balancing, historical data search, data entry and repair.

With MIXER 2.0 it is possible to deal with complex projects such as: acquiring new banks, selling banks or branches, re-organisation of group branches. MIXER 2.0 is the functional and technological evolution of the application first used by Italian banks in major merger and acquisition operations.

The solution is multi-network and complies with the RNI, SWIFT FIN and SEPA standards.

Equipped with the suitable network drivers, MIXER 2.0 can directly communicate with SIAnet and SWIFTNet. The application is extensively configurable and customisable, both from the

technical and business perspectives, and is particularly user friendly.

CLM

CLM (channel & liquidity manager) is a multi-bank, multi-channel and multi-currency Treasury platform, that monitors and manages liquidity on accounts held at correspondent banks or market infrastructures in real time, streamlining payments flow on different settlement channels. CLM is composed of a set of common functions and modules managing settlement channels. All modules are independent and may be switched on depending on bank requirements:

- **Channeler** - streamlines payments to the appropriate settlement channels
- **TARGET2** - checks the account, payment flow exchanges with the Single Shared Platform and all the ancillary related systems
- **EBA** - controls the payment flow relating to the EURO1 participation, as well as information flows of the STEP1 and STEP2 subsystems
- **Correspondent Banking** – checks relations with the correspondent banks
- **Report** - allows data picking and report creation through quick and simple operations
- **T2S / CCBM2**