Nacha and PCI Payment Security

Navigating the Crossover in Compliance with 2021 Nacha Data Regulations

How does the Nacha Data Security Policy Statement to protect ACH Account Numbers apply to you and what does this mean when handling ACH transactions? What are the timelines for enforcement, and how do they apply to your organization? How do the Nacha rules compare to PCI requirements, and how can you best address these rules and requirements while leveraging the best security technologies available? If you have any of these questions, here are the most relevant things you should know.

The new dates for ACH Originators and Third-Parties:

Phase 1 – June 30, 2021 with over 6 million ACH payments annually

Phase 2 – June 30, 2022 with over 2 million ACH payments annually

On these dates, the new Nacha Rule states that you will need to protect Account Numbers when at rest (stored electronically). Nacha allows for several approaches to do this, but they do point to PCI's protection for Cardholder data as a guide for how to protect ACH Account Numbers. One common and solid security approach is to tokenize the Account Numbers, which will meet the requirements and allow for functionality at the same time.

Navigating the Data Security Rule in the context of the Nacha Operating Rules and Guidelines may appear complex at first glance. The information in this summary is fully explained in our new white paper so that you can know what you need do to comply with the Rule and how a planned approach to leveraging the right Tokenization solution can go beyond the Rule to protect your business.

Regardless of when the requirement to meet the new Nacha rule applies to you, now is the time to generate a realistic and manageable plan to protect ACH Account Numbers. The Nacha Operating Rules and Guidelines apply to much more than just Account Numbers at rest, so leveraging the right Tokenization and/or Encryption solutions to match your business needs is critical. This along with sound security knowledge is the best approach to manage your business to ensure longevity and success.at Second Bank – the ODFI. Second Bank sends this ACH file to its Operator, which then sends the transaction to Alex's bank, Final Bank – the RDFI.