

# DGC Magazine

iCoins Creator & CEO Adriaan Brink In A Revealing Interview

**iCoins**

The Currency of the Internet



- P** • Making Waves With Ryan Fugger
- L** Architect of the Ripple Monetary System
- U** • Legendary Old School Exchange Agent
- S** Graham Kelly From GoldNow.st

May 2008

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*“If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around them will deprive the people of all property until their children will wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.” -Thomas Jefferson, 1791*

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# COMMERCE VERSUS STATE

BY PAUL ROSENBERG

*Government never furthered any enterprise but by the alacrity with which it got out of its way. -- Henry David Thoreau*

The battle between government and commerce has been raging since the beginning of the agricultural revolution. It is a marathon struggle of Politics versus Market. Some happy day the market will win, but that day, alas, may be a long way off.

It is in the crossfire of this battle that the digital gold business finds itself. If we succeed, the market gains important territory from the state.

No, most of us didn't particularly choose to be in this battle, we were merely trying to improve our lives. But, by reason of being at the forefront of commerce, we find ourselves at the forefront of this battle. God help us.

## **UNDERSTANDING THE BATTLE**

The most basic reason for commerce-state animosity, of course, is that Politics and Market

have completely different operating principles. Markets operate on the principle of choice: People are convinced to trade. States operate by coercion: People are forced to pay and to obey.

Of course, there are traders who bring coercion into the marketplace, and there are politicians who wish to minimize it. It is quite possible to have an individual market player who loves coercion or a politician who hates it. Nonetheless, there is no real argument to be made regarding the basic operating principles – they are what they are. And they are most definitely at odds.

The more interesting question is this: What goes on in the minds of individuals, to make them sanctify either market or state?

Politicians are programmed by both psychology and experience to believe in the need for control. Even when they privatize and deregulate, politicians want to be sure that the ability to “reign it back in” remains.

Small business people are just the opposite. They have learned to believe in spontaneous order. It works. It has always worked... and it always scares the hell out of control-biased people.

But try, for a moment, to see it the politician's way: Statist types see commerce as an essentially amoral activity, and they see politics as a Heaven-ordained forge of morality. To them, markets are purely a trading center for quasi-thieves; necessary, perhaps, but morally inferior. Politics is, to them, the temple of higher morality; where Chosen Ones make decisions based upon the principles of righteousness: Equality, Sacrifice, and Unity.

Realize that we in the digital gold arena are the few who believe in the morality of the marketplace. For reasons too long to explain in this article, the virtuous image of commerce died in the popular mind a hundred years ago, and was replaced by statist images.

Never forget that the popular mind – currently committed to finding “the good” in politics – is a powerful enforcer. You've doubtless noticed this when discussing the digital gold business. The price of agreement – leaving the majority – is too high for people who seek comfort in normalcy. This precludes them from considering your arguments. They may nod their head and ask questions, but they've already decided that they will not agree with you.

## COMMERCE VERSUS WAR

*War is the health of the State.*

-- *Randolph Bourne*

The quote above is widely known, but is commonly taken to mean that evil government bosses purposefully stir up wars in order to have more power. This is true far less often than people suppose.

Most political leaders are no less confused than other people. They struggle to attain a place at the forefront of the masses, but once there, they soon realize that the office does

not come with any magic wisdom. They look out upon a supremely complicated world and know that it is beyond their understanding. Why do you think so many of them act aloof? It's a defense mechanism. And why else would so many of them run to fortune-tellers of various sorts? They know they are out of their depth. Politicians are overrun by great events far more often than willing them into existence.

So, what should Bourne's statement mean? It means this: War is the health of the state because it makes the state necessary.

(I know that the above statement is not absolutely true: mankind could defend itself effectively without states. But, until men develop the courage to take responsibility for their own safety, the statement more or less stands.)

In times of peace, the state is commonly resented; after all, they do forcibly remove money from the people in their control, and that does engender bad feelings. In time of war, however, people are willing to forget about such matters: It is better to be a serf than to be a corpse.

In times of war, or of serious threat, the state will gain on commerce, often dramatically. But, even here, things have improved somewhat. Modern states have learned not to intrude too deeply upon commerce, since war materiel must be produced in abundance, and the state alone fails miserably in such attempts.

War economies are strange, mixed-up things, with twisted moralities. Commerce is challenged and abused at such times, but it is never extinguished.

## RECENT MARKET SUCCESSSES

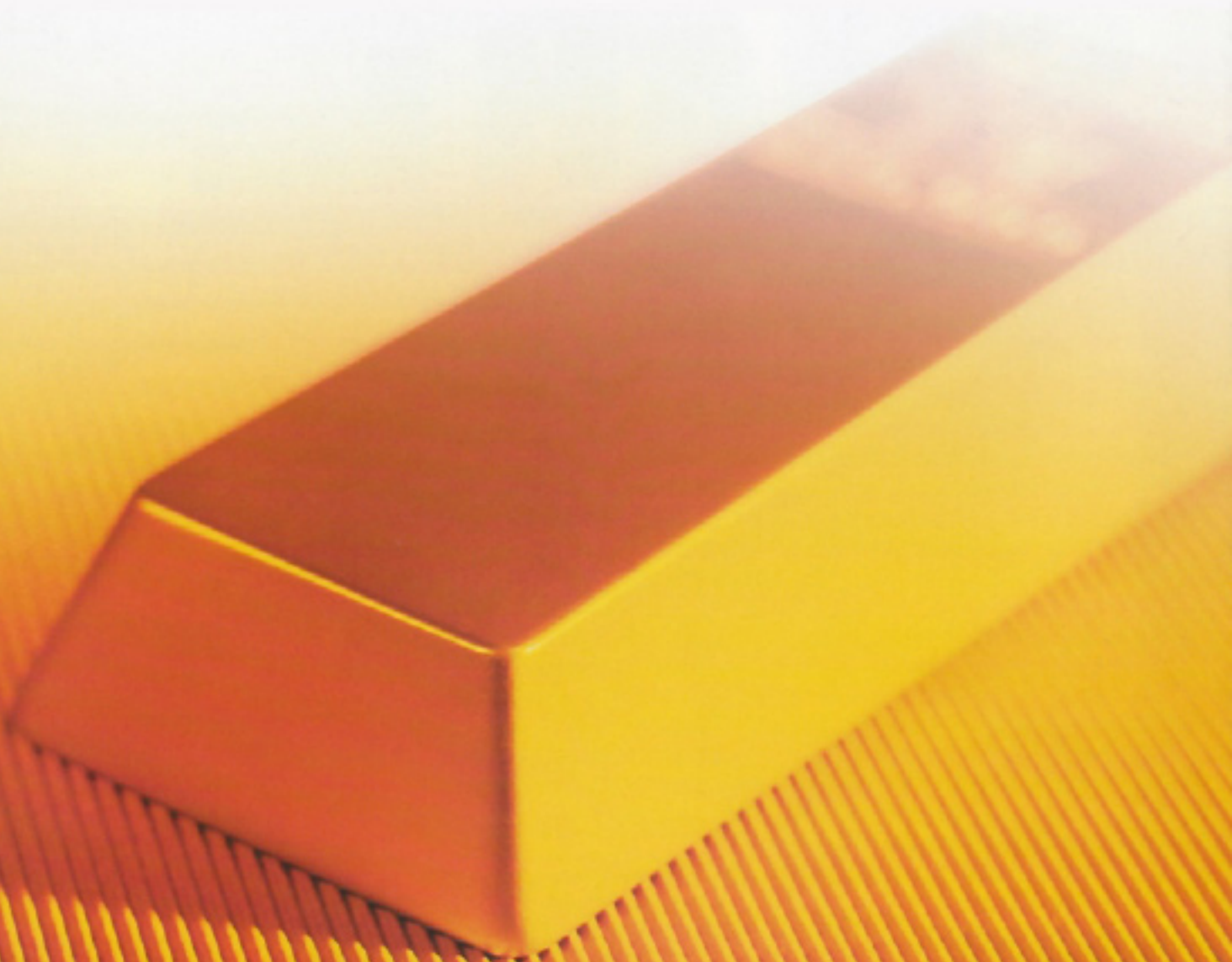
As I've noted previously, the past few decades have been a wonderful time for economic education. Even ex-commies are buying in to the free-market philosophy! Keynes is dead and Hayek rules the roost... at least for now. Here are a few good signs (and this will be US-centric):



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It used to be that offshore drugs were strictly forbidden by US law. I'm not sure if jail time was ever imposed, but it could easily have been. With the Internet as a catalyst, however, Americans began to see that the same drugs were available in Canada at a much reduced price.

A critical feature in this was that Canada is not a scary place. Less expensive drugs were also available from places like India, but Joe American was afraid of those places. Canada, on the other hand, is held to be almost the same as the US.

People without an understanding of markets can certainly understand cheaper prices, but they are also easy to intimidate. This time, contrary to what would have happened twenty or thirty years earlier, those who understood economics gave a boost of confidence to the others, and the market trumped the FDA.

A second good sign has been the lack of regulation for new utilities. The older utilities, such as electricity and gas, are all government-protected and government-regulated monopolies. Regulatory bodies are the size of small armies and require similar budgets. The next utility to come along was cable TV, which is partly regulated. Cable TV monopolies are small, and are being broken by satellite television and Internet delivery anyway. The newest utility, Internet access, is definitely not monopolistic and is lightly regulated, and as an after-thought at that.

## WHERE TO NOW?

War and threats are now on the march and the gains of commerce are under threat. GW Bush and other Western leaders are endeavoring to build a Protector-State in response. "We'll see everything and protect you from everything." This may not long endure, but how much damage will be done along the way is anyone's guess.

The next major battle between commerce

and state could be currency. It's still a bit early to tell, but with many fiat currencies headed toward what may be a terminus, it is a distinct possibility.

It seems that the digital gold market has absorbed the most serious blows of the Bush Protector-State. There has been pain aplenty and serious damage, but the market yet stands. Now that the G7's currency and debt schemes are unraveling, it is likely that control types will have better things to do than harass us. That may give our industry some space to mature and grow in something that resembles a natural, healthy manner.

And, frighteningly enough, it is at times like these that the proud predators of the world see opportunities to grab territory here and there. The other nations being busy with internal troubles much reduces the chance of violent response to a quick, contained aggression.

The next few years look scary, but the more legitimate threats appear, the less attention is likely to be directed at us. (At our small size, however, we do remain vulnerable.)

So, the worst may be over for the digital gold marketplace. However, it will never really be over until we win the memetic war: We must make the case that honest money is both morally and practically superior to fiat, and we must make it widely and benevolently.

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This article contains excerpts from a book Paul is working on now, entitled *The 21st Century: What Will Happen and Why*. You can find Paul's work at [www.veraverba.com](http://www.veraverba.com)

## **e-gold Wins Appeal in D.C. Circuit for Hearing on Asset Seizure**

On April 20th, e-gold Ltd. announced that they have won a favorable ruling from The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in the matter of whether e-gold Ltd., Gold & Silver Reserve, Inc., and Directors of both corporations are entitled to a hearing in the Federal District Court regarding whether there was sufficient probable cause to justify seizures of assets from the corporations in December 2005 and April 2007.

If you recall, in April of last year, a number of government agencies raided the e-gold business and some criminal charges were filed against the operators. Many people at the time were shocked and surprised by the government's excessive actions. In early May, MoneyNetNews reported on the seized accounts. \* <http://www.moneynews.com/articles/54/1/US-Government-Forces-E-gold-Redemp>

***"...the United States of America has forced Omnipay et al E-gold to redeem all the gold backing the 58 previously frozen accounts owned by e-gold, 1mdc, icegold and a handful of other exchangers and customers to be liquidated effective immediately to a us dollar account owned by the federal government."***

The vaulted gold bullion was sold and the funds were then turned over to the Federal Government. Following this action in June of 2007, Judge Rosemary Collyer denied a Motion to Vacate the Seizure

Warrant Restraining Order and the Request for an Evidentiary Hearing.

Today's new information from e-gold Ltd, shows that the higher court has rightfully concluded that like any good American business, e-gold Ltd. deserves their day in court to be heard on this matter,

***"In short, we hold that where the government has obtained a seizure warrant depriving defendants of assets pending a trial upon the merits, the constitutional right to due process of law entitles defendants to an opportunity to be heard at least where access to the assets is necessary for an effective exercise of the Sixth Amendment right to counsel."***

This ruling will ultimately prove to be beneficial to the rights of all Americans whose Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights have been increasingly encroached upon in the name of fighting domestic wars du jour whether or not they use e-gold. e-gold Ltd, Gold & Silver Reserve, Inc., and their Directors believe there was insufficient probable cause for the seizure warrants at issue and look forward to finally having their day in court on this matter.

From day one, ALL of these charges have been vigorously denied by the e-gold camp [<http://www.e-gold.com/letter3.html>] and the day to day business of e-gold, a leader global on-line payments backed by gold, continues to be strong.

The complete text of the Order is available in its original format attached to the back of this DGCmagazine issue. (the last 19 pages)

*Article by Mark Herpel*



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(Actual PaysGold Debit Card Pictured Above)

## INTERVIEW:

# ADRIAAN BRINK

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# iCOINS



Here is my very informative interview with Adriaan Brink, CEO of iCoins. This is a Gibraltar registered company and new to the Internet in 2007.

### **(Q) What is or what are iCoins?**

iCoins is a system designed to provide a link between disparate wallet systems in much the same way that SWIFT/IBAN provides for conventional banking, but with real-time funds transmission (from the consumer's point of view). The goal is to break down barriers between the many competing services, and provide an easy way for new wallets or accounts within merchants to integrate with others. The system is modeled on a digital representation of cash.

### **(Q) What is an iCoins Wallet and what can it do?**

There is no such thing. There is an iCoins enabled wallet – that would be your account at Paypal (for example) integrated with iCoins.

### **(Q) What does this mean (from your web site)**

**“iCoins provides a global addressing system whereby all these diverse eWallets can be associated with the an iCoins Wallet Address (much like an IBAN number in the banking system) and then transfer funds between their wallets.” I have PayPal, Moneybookers and e-gold accounts...how can they all be used with iCoins?**

If we were integrated with all 3 of those entities then your account at each entity would be assigned an iCoins Account Number. This is a glob-

## ***'The Currency of the Internet'***

ally unique number, but each eWallet or Account Server cannot tell where the remote account is. So you could then issue an instruction through your interface within Paypal to send money to (say) account 1234567890123456 which is your iCoins Account Number at Moneybookers. The funds would flow instantly between the two at no cost to you and Paypal would not know that they had gone to Moneybookers (and vice versa).

### **(Q) How did you come to end up as iCoins CEO?**

I invented the concept and put it together.

### **(Q) What is your business background?**

I have been writing computer software for 25 years. During this time I have written software and launched companies for Charity Lotteries (International Lottery in Liechtenstein Foundation), Payments (Earthport PLC) and recruitment (Peoplebank).

**(Q) With a DGC system like e-gold, all accounts are the same and there is no distinction between a merchant or customer account. When describing iCoins, are there separate and distinct 'customer' and 'merchant' accounts that act differently depending on the transaction?**

No – in that respect it is similar to DGC system.

### **(Q) Is iCoins 100% anonymous for the user?**

Yes.

### **(Q) When funding iCoins, do I send money**

**directly to iCoins?**

No – you deal through Account Servers and they deal with Treasuries.

**(Q) Compare and contrast your payment system with all others now out there such as PayPal, Webmoney and e-gold...why should I be using iCoins instead of these other popular systems? What's the big iCoins advantage here that all my readers should know about?**

Most payment systems set out to be the “biggest wallet around”. We are not a wallet, in fact our intention is never to operate a wallet (although Coinjars is a wallet in a sense). Our intention is to integrate with as many disparate payment systems/wallets as possible and provide the glue between them – all secured and underwritten by a strong Treasury network.

**(Q) Comparing iCoins to a PayPal type merchant transaction, which is cheaper? Is iCoins a better deal?**

Yes – as long as the coins stay digital transfers are free of charge.

**(Q) What characteristics do iCoins and regular cash dollars share?**

They move instantly, are only ever owned by a single person at an instance in time and there is no cost associated with them changing hands. Transfers are anonymous (from the consumer's perspective).

**(Q) Where do iCoins and cash differ?**

iCoins provides a full audit trail for AML purposes, but only where required by an authority investigating a crime in the jurisdiction of the Treasury.

**(Q) You have a popular application on Facebook named CoinJars, what does that allow Facebook users to do?**

It provides a mechanism for the free movement of funds down to as little as 1c (US) between users and to merchants.



**(Q) Do you have any specific target markets for your products such as online gambling or un-banked Net users without a credit card?**

Clearly this is of more use to users where a conventional credit card system does not work well. We are integrating at the moment with some great non-credit card systems such as direct to bank. Our target markets are Social Networks (we are on Facebook with Coinjars and will launch on Bebo very soon, hopefully MySpace not long after that).

**(Q) Is there a mobile iCoins application?**

Not at this stage.

**(Q) If I had a web site selling retail merchandise online, can I accept iCoins**

Yes.

**(Q) Do you offer an API?**

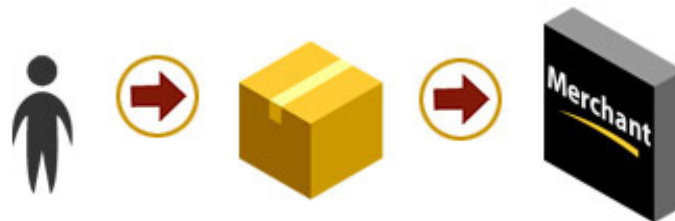
iCoins offers an API to all Account Servers. I also anticipate that some Account Servers will offer their own APIs for merchants (Coinjars will

# iCOINS IN ACTION

The following scenario depicts the use of iCoins to pay a merchant who has its accounts for customers.

1. Certified Wallet is a Wallet that can Create or Redeem iCoins. It has a contractual agreement with a Treasury to exchange cash for iCoins and vice versa, and procedures for settlement through the normal banking network. Any other wallets have to act through the Certified Wallets to Create and Redeem iCoins.
2. Once an iCoin exists it can change hands with no intervention from the Certified Wallet. The Face Value of the iCoin is secured and guaranteed by the Treasury.
3. Treasuries have contractual relationships between one another to exchange iCoins and settle the value.
4. A Wallet Server takes care of the technical integration with the Treasury and authentication of the consumer. It has a contractual relationship with a Treasury for trust delegation and transaction verification.

## Customer wishes to purchase at Merchant



A customer wishes to purchase at a merchant but is not able to use any of the merchant's other supported payment mechanisms. He selects "Pay with iCoins" and is given an iCoins Wallet Address by the merchant.

## Customer gets iCoins from Wallet Server Provider



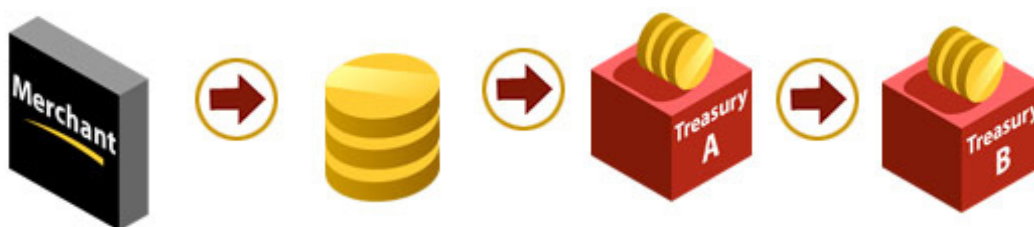
Customer purchases iCoins from Wallet Server. This can be done with cash, credit card or any other payment mechanism. Wallet Server creates the iCoins by interfacing with its parent Treasury, and the iCoins are stored in the customer's wallet.

## Customer Pays Merchant



Customer sends funds directly to their Wallet at the Merchant by making the transfer within the Wallet Server system to the iCoins Wallet Address earlier provided by Merchant. In this example the merchant is a customer of a separate Treasury, although this will often not be the case.

## Merchant Settles iCoins



At any point Merchant can settle its iCoins by redeeming them at its Home Treasury in return for cash. It may also hold some in order to return them to customers (for example as affiliate payments) and thus avoid the redemption fees. Treasuries settle their liabilities between one another on a regular basis.

have some for Social networks soon).

**(Q) If I am shopping online and buy something with e-gold and it never gets delivered (I get scammed), there is nothing I can do to chargeback or reverse that purchase. If I am shopping online with iCoins and get scammed can I reverse the transaction? Is it like a PayPal transaction where I can complain and the funds get pulled back from the merchant account?**

iCoins Transfers can be reversed, but this does not imply an automatic reversal by the originating Account to the form of payment.

**(Q) Your iCoins tagline is, "Currency of the Internet" is the online payment system considered a 'currency' by local regulations? As an example, in an area such as the UK, is iCoins registered with the FSA and an emoney issuer? Would a UK Treasury in London, need to register?**

Treasuries are licensed in the jurisdiction where they operate. Certainly a Treasury in London would need to comply with FSA regs.

**(Q) If I have cash, is there currently any way for me to fund my iCoins account?**

Very soon there will be.

**(Q) Are you partnered with Ukash, cashU, paysafecard or anyone else yet?**

Hope to soon.

**(Q) Could a Treasury separately partner with any of these services?**

Absolutely – that is how it would happen.

**(Q) Can I integrate iCoins into my existing shopping cart as another payment method?**

Not directly.

**(Q) Can I use iCoins to sell digital content like software downloads?**

Yes – but probably through an eWallet or Account server (unless the merchant has its own accounts system in which case it can integrate directly)

**(Q) How does any iCoins user know their funds are safe?**

Account servers (servers that interact with the user

and are integrated with iCoins) provide a link that invokes a page from the Treasury confirming the validity of the iCoin.

**(Q) Is each iCoin different from one another and is each coin unique?**

Yes – a coin is always unique, can be any amount in any currency and is ever only owned by a single party. When a coin is transferred the original is destroyed and a new one owned by the new owner created.

**(Q) When an iCoin is used is it destroyed? An example of this question would be...if I have \$100 iCoin in my iCoin Wallet and receive from another user a \$50 iCoin, do I then have two iCoins in my wallet or are those two destroyed in favor of a newly issued \$150 iCoin?**

They are both destroyed and a new one for \$150 is created.

**(Q) Is there any case where that original \$100 and \$50 iCoin would be used again? Can these codes ever be recycled?**

No.

**(Q) Are there any restrictions on whom I can send my iCoins to? Are there any limits on how much I can transact?**

Not restrictions. There are limits depending on the level of the Account.

**(Q) Would iCoins work in an online casino? Is gambling permitted?**

That is a matter for the Treasuries. Gambling is not illegal in much of the world. At this stage the Isle of Man Treasury has elected not to integrate with gambling businesses.

## TREASURIES

**(Q) What is an iCoin Treasury and is there more than one?**

A Treasury is an organization that securitizes and guarantees the value of coins on issue. There can be any number of treasuries, although I don't anticipate the number growing to more than a few hundred. Treasuries are integrated within the system only having satisfied us that they are properly licensed and controlled. There are currently two treasuries.

**(Q) I read, "...iCoins are only available through its eWallet partners." is a Treasury the same thing as an eWallet partner?**

No – an eWallet partner is a customer of a Treasury.

**(Q) What is the incentive for a Treasury to operate....how do they make money?**

The make money from the difference between the Redemption Fee (8.8%) and the Creation Rebate (7.2%). They also earn on the interest and from dormant/lost coins.

**(Q) Are there capital requirements to start and operate an iCoins Treasury?**

Yes.

**(Q) Where are the servers located?**

That depends on the Treasury. We maintain servers on behalf of the Treasuries in the jurisdiction of their choice. Treasuries are licensed organizations (where appropriate) that manage the assets behind the digital cash.

**(Q) Are the 'Treasuries' operated separated and independently from iCoins.com ? Are they separate businesses and or separate companies?**

Yes – they are independent entities although we are very careful who we license.

**(Q) Can I start my own iCoins Treasury tomorrow in whatever jurisdiction I like?**

If you have the requisite credentials.

**(Q) If I started a Treasury in Panama, and my office and all my business developed and filtered through Panama, would I have to abide by US rules?**

That would be a question for a lawyer in Panama. So far as we are concerned, as long as you are abiding by Panama law and not contravening the system wide restrictions there would be no issue.

**(Q) So my new iCoins Treasury would have to comply with eMoney regulations in the jurisdiction where it is incorporated and or operated?**

Yes.

**(Q) How many iCoins Treasuries are then today and where are they located?**

Two – one in the Isle of Man and one in Singapore.

***Example: An agent accepts an incoming \$1000 bank wire transfer into their exchange bank account, and then transfers in e-gold digital currency \$950 directly to that client's e-gold account. Keeping a small fee \$50 (or large) for his risk and work.***

**(Q) Is this the same type of operation of an iCoins Treasury?**

That is the job of an Account Server (a customer of a treasury). The Treasury runs the systems and settlement between other Treasuries and also with all it's Accounts.

**(Q) Do you allow any high yielding investment web sites (HYIP Ponzi schemes) to use your product? Why or why not?**

Not at this stage, although we have not been approached by any yet. As long as an activity is legal it would be considered, but the eventual decision on whether or not to do business with any entity is for the Treasury. As long as they don't contravene the central list that all Treasuries agree to then each Treasury is independent and free to take its own decisions on who it does business with.

**(Q) I have a new product out now, which cures all forms of cancer with just two months of taking the pill....can I accept iCoins to sell this product on my new big money web site?**

Sounds great! You would have to go through due diligence with a Treasury and they would make the decision.

**(Q) Would you like to see more of these iCoins partners [treasuries]?**

No doubt they will come. I anticipate that some of the larger eWallets (such as Paypal) would want to run their own treasury. We would not have an issue with that.

**(Q) Is is possible for me to swap e-gold for iCoins or vis versa?**

Not at this time.

## BWIN ONLINE GAMBLING GRANTED UK E-MONEY LICENSE

**Europe's biggest Sports Betting and Gaming company, bwin Interactive Entertainment, has achieved an industry first after receiving a license from the UK's Financial Services Authority as an e-money provider.**

The license, which is subject to stringent regulations, was awarded last month for the UK and is currently undergoing the 'passporting' process which will enable it to be recognized in other European countries. In acquiring this license, bwin will be able to offer payment options, such as credit card as well as prepaid card, and cooperate directly with other issuers such as MasterCard or VISA. Through its wholly owned subsidiary, Vincenzo Payment Solutions Ltd, the company intends to market its online account and payment options to its own customers as well as to other merchants, opening an entirely new revenue stream for the online gaming company. Speaking to Gaming Intelligence Group, bwin likened their entry into financial services to that of US retailing giant Sears and the launch of the Discover card. Like the Discover card, bwin's offering will be integrated with a loyalty scheme whereby users will earn points on money spent with participating merchants, which may then be instantly redeemed at other merchants. Kevin O'Neal, Press Officer at bwin, said: "The move into financial services represents a new revenue stream for us and is a first in our industry, a fact we are very proud of. "The plan is to launch the product in the UK where the FSA is based. From there we will roll-out internationally, beginning with the thirty countries that cooperate with the FSA."

Source: April 2008

<http://gamingintelligencegroup.com/>

**(Q) That sounds like a pretty good online business, would you allow that type of exchange business?**

I don't see why not, but that would be up to the Treasury.

**(Q) Do you classify your company as a online payment system?**

In a way, although not the same as Paypal.

**(Q) Who is Walmint ([www.walmint.com/](http://www.walmint.com/)) ?**

Walmint is an eWallet that is one of our early adopters. It is a customer of Mintflow (the Isle of Man Treasury).

**(Q) Is there any big news on the horizon for iCoins such as additional products ready to roll out? What's next for iCoins?**

More integration. We will bring local banking in a huge array of countries complete with near-instant purchases from countries where this is possible (Netherlands, Poland, Australia amongst others).

I'd like to thank Adriaan for taking time to answer my questions.



**SPORTSBOOK  
POKER  
CASINO  
GAMES**

# GATA WENT TO WASHINGTON

by Alex Stanczyk, Editor and Author YFF  
<http://www.rapidtrends.com/blog/2008/04/21/gata-went-to-washington/>

*Alex Stanczyk is Editor & Author of "Your Financial Future" an exclusive limited distribution newsletter, with an emphasis on Gold and Silver Investing, Retirement, Commodities, and Global Economics. April 19th and 20th, he attended the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA) conference in Washington, DC. He was kind enough to share his thoughts and insight on the conference through his blog and allowed us to reprint the post in DGCmagazine. Mr. Stanczyk is also a broker for Anglo Far East Bullion Co.*

As many of you know, the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA) just had a conference in Washington DC. For those of you who follow GATA's work, you know that they have accumulated an overwhelming body of evidence that points to the 'management' of the gold price.

I have had mixed feelings over the likelihood of such a conspiracy, and until I can prove something or at least be able to use available evidence to form an educated opinion I tend to dis-believe such things. However, one thing I can say after attending the conference this weekend, is that there are some very suspicious interactions on the part of the Fed, the Treasury, and the IMF when dealing with GATA.

Specifically, GATA has requested through the Freedom of Information Act, information that supports the governments' claims of the current physical gold reserve of the United States. One thing that I find very

curious is that to date the Fed, and Treasury have failed to produce any materials in response to this request.

Now, maybe I am just being cynical here, but I think most folks who have any common sense would agree that if the government does not want the public to have transparency into an issue, it is usually because it is being naughty, and there is something that they don't want the public to know. For the life of me I cant see why there would be anything to keep secret, even if it is a National Security issue, unless of course the gold isn't there anymore, in which case it would very well indeed be a National Security issue. Now of course if the gold IS gone, then it just supports GATA's assertion that it has been used to suppress the gold price for decades.

I will recap what I got from each speaker in brief:

## **Dr. Edwin Vieira Jr., The Foremost Authority in the United States on Constitutional Money**

- **Only a return to Gold and Silver can stabilize our currency.**
- **Desperate people start to ask questions, and shortly thereafter that, assign blame. If our politicians want a long and successful career ( or life ) they should be aware of this.**

## **Reginald Howe, Golden Sextant Advisors LLC**

- **Out of all commodities, gold is the one best suited for use as money**
- **The 'gold price', should actually be termed 'exchange rate' as with all currencies**



- Central Banks are now lending gold at negative lease rates, effectively paying institutions to sell gold into the market
- Since the day the gold window has been closed, the Supreme Court has refused to hear any case challenging the current monetary system

#### James Turk, Goldmoney

- The Chinese are indeed buying gold, using intermediaries and proxies to do so
- Chinese Proverb: Wisdom begins by calling a thing its proper name. Gold is not an investment, it is money.
- Do not put dollars into gold expecting a return, expect preservation of purchasing power. To get a return, it implies there must be a risk, and gold has held its purchasing power better than anything else in history.
- We are looking at huge problems, possibly as soon as this summer.
- Be prepared for Capital Controls in the US soon.

#### Peter George, Trinity Asset Management

- Many hedge funds are having liquidity issues right now, when they see a bid, they are hitting it.
- It will take 10 years to bring new ultra-deep mining operations at 5000meters or deeper online.
- Since 1994 virtually all commodities have gone vertical and pulled away from gold.
- Goldfields has the largest unhedged position in the WITS Basin, which holds an approximately

40,000 more tons of gold.

- Anglogold Ashanti is hedged \$7Billion
- Barrick is hedged \$9Billion
- Oil will go to \$500 a barrel in time

#### Adrian Douglas, Market Force Analysis

- Gold is the investment opportunity of a lifetime.

#### John Embry, Sprott Asset Management

- This is the best opportunity I have seen in 45 years in the investment business

In summary, by hearing views from almost every sector that touches the gold and silver markets such as mining, fund managers, analysts, attorneys, constitutional law experts, private bullion custodians, it appears obvious that there is indeed something fishy going on with the price of gold. The only players that affect the gold markets who didn't have anything to say was the Fed, the Treasury, and the CFTC. How curious.

This is all fine and good of course, because I own gold and silver, so when this whole thing does come unglued and make the Enron scandal look like romper room on Paxil in comparison, some of us will be getting quite rich.

### *Got gold yet?*

Join Our Newsletter, FREE Report:  
10 Reasons Gold Has Farther to Run  
<http://www.rapidtrends.com>



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## E-gold Updates Their Account Data Requirements

Recently, there have been two 'notable' changes in the account creation process on all new e-gold accounts. First - the potential new account owner needs to verify a valid email address before they can proceed with opening the new account.

To begin the process of creating your new **e-gold®** account, entry of a valid email address is required.

**Email address:**

**Turing Number Entry**  
The e-gold system utilizes "Turing Number" verification as a security measure. The number is presented in both a visual and audible form.

**3 1 8 1**

Enter the sequence of random numbers displayed above:

[Audible Turing Number](#)

Requiring this number entry prevents other sites from submitting your information to e-gold automatically. It also prevents certain Denial of Service attacks.

The future e-gold user then receives an email with the code and enters it to continue the sign up.

A verification code has been sent to your email address.  
This code is valid for 15 minutes.

**Yahoo!/Live/GMail users:**

The verification email may be inadvertently placed in your "Junk E-Mail" / "Bulk" folder.  
Check that folder for the message if it is not appearing in your InBox.

### 1. Email Verification Code

Code from Email:  (sent to example@dot.com)

The second change which is showing up on all existing and new e-gold accounts, is the requirement for the contact person to enter a date of birth. All existing accounts are showing this screen when the account holder logs in...

### e-gold Account Access

[Account](#) | [Contact](#) | [Passphrase](#) | [AccSent](#) | [Control Panel](#)

**Point of Contact for Account: 4567331**

It is important that this Point of Contact information be correct and up to date.  
It is the only way that e-gold Ltd. has of contacting you regarding your account.

Name:

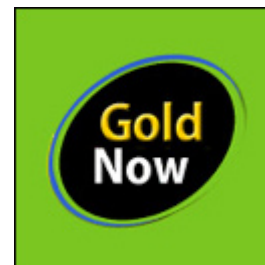
**Date of Birth:** 4 | July | 1957

Address:

**INTERVIEW:**

# GRAHAM KELLY

## Goldnow.st



### **'Legendary Digital Money Exchange Agent'**

***e-funds exchange provider, Christian man, government witness, infamous e-money agent, scoundrel, father of 9, best friend..... he holds has many titles.***

***Graham has seen an industry born and almost a decade of intense change. Today, he is looking ahead at a few millions more digital money transactions and a POG of almost \$1000 USD an ounce. Now more than ever, Graham see's a bright future ahead for DGCs.***

***Here is my interview is with Graham Kelly, operator of [GoldNow.st](http://GoldNow.st), one of the oldest continually operating digital currency exchange agents in the world.***

**(Q) Graham, when did you get started with GoldNow?**

March, 1999, in Australia, 3 weeks after Parker Bradley started Gold Age, quite independently of each other. As you know, Gold Age was raided by the Feds, and the business closed. It was later sold, opened, then raided AGAIN by the Feds, and closed. If nothing else, those Feds are a persistent lot. GoldNow is now owned by a christian charitable trust called Golden Life Ministries.

**(Q) What attracted you to the business at that time?**

I was working at an overpaid job in a Telecom

company in Australia at the time. Had been there for 6 or so years, and was weary of working 6 days, 60 hours a week, plus 2 hours commuting daily, plus the stupid office politics. What a grind. I admit the \$\$\$ was fabulous. I needed to work for myself, and maintain my income (well, that was the PLAN!). I had stumbled across e-gold, so I decided to sell it, so set up a web page. I had 14 customers on the first day (which blew me away), and 29 on the 2nd. I had NO idea about credit card fraud, or ANYTHING like that. Gladly, the crooks also didn't know about e-gold either. It was virgin territory, for all players.

**(Q) Back when you first got started, how many Digital Gold Currencies were available to buy and sell?**

One, e-gold. At the time, PayPal wasn't even a twinkle in the eye of their founder.

**(Q) At that time what was the most popular? ....And today, 2008, what is the most popular now?**

e-gold, then and now, at 50% of our business, this month, for sales. Been #1 for ~100 months in a row.

**(Q) Since you began in the business, e-gold has grown from a handful of active customers to over 4 million accounts. In your opinion, why has e-gold seen such strong consistent growth over the years? What does that product offer that people like so much?**

Simply as an alternative payment system, nice to have in Western Countries, essential to have in socialist, despotic and other less desirable regimes (I'd simply leave... err, I DID! LOL). Plus, the fact that e-gold is BACKED with gold, which the US founders demanded in their Constitution. People want to know that their payment method is sound, not just pretty (or green) printed paper.

**(Q) I occasionally interview DGC users, heavy daily users that avoid banks & credit cards, so they pay their bills and transact their business exclusively in digital currency. Its not many, but there is a noticeable trend in this direction. Over the past two years have you seen any evidence of a move away from online credit card use and towards alternative payments?**

Sad to say, the credit card industry is growing massively, compared to the Digital Gold Currency market. My opinion is that e-currencies are treated like a weird "out there" but not real alternative, by most. That's my opinion, I don't have facts & figures. But, gold currencies are here to stay. And there is a market niche for both. Until the fiat fails. (Gold never has since Jesus was a boy)

**(Q) Most of the heavy daily users I meet tell me that an ATM debit card, for the conversion of digital to cash is a 'Must Have' for them. Are ATM cards the most popular way to turn digital into cash?**

Yes. We are having good growth in that department.

**(Q) Do you offer any debit cards or card loading services?**

Yes, we do, very popular with our non American customers. See the [www.GoldNow.St](http://www.GoldNow.St) site for basic details.

**(Q) What digital currency does your business buy, sell or exchange?**

e-gold, Pecunix, c-gold, e-bullion, Liberty Reserve, and GoldNowBanc gold grams. When e-gold finally shrug off their indictments, we will make a market in their other metals.

**(Q) What was the craziest thing you have seen**

**in all your years as an agent?**

I've seen a lot of crazy bad, mostly fraudsters attempts at stealing our customers' gold. Attempts to steal ours as well. Some smarter than us crooks DID get away with some, but I thank them now (seriously); turned out it was cheap lesson on security.

**(Q) Which ones are most popular with your customers?**

e-gold (this month) 50% (up from 38% last month), Pecunix 28% (down from 33%), LR USD 10%, c-gold 9%, e-bullion ecurrency 3%

**(Q) In percentage of orders over the past year, what is the most popular methods customers use to fund their accounts? Wire, Western Union, Moneygram or some others?**

The majority prefer a cash deposit at their local bank (that's simply quicker, and usually less fees, and safer), followed by money orders, wire or IBAN (in Europe), then Western Union or MoneyGram.

**(Q) Webmoney is gaining in popularity around the globe, do your customers request Webmoney often? Do you transact in Webmoney?**

No, I have had almost no requests to buy or sell Webmoney. So I don't deal with them. Some fellow exchangers had bad issues a number of years ago, so I decided to stay away. If they're honest, I wish them well. Recently, I opened a WebMoney account... along with which came a virus/trojan. Not happy, it took massive action to get rid of it. TrustPort.com was the only anti-virus program that could do the job. Speaking of programs, I also use Ccleaner.com, and Defraggler.com, both free (Windows), and marvelous products. Ccleaner also has a registry cleaner. Our anti-DDoS is supplied by a new company, [www.symntec.net](http://www.symntec.net). Simply, it works.

**(Q) In the past two years, there has been an exodus of exchange agents from the United States along with a huge expansion in Asia. Is it safe to still do e-currency business in the US?**

Absolutely not. The US government (or more ac-

## INTERVIEW: GRAHAM KELLY

curately, some bureaucrats) have taken a dislike to DGC's and have been involved in massive multiple actions against numerous digital gold currencies and exchangers. This is more than just "writings on the wall". This is massive attack action. Indeed, we lost our credit card merchant facility (in NZ) based on advice directly from the Federal Reserve. The bank involved (ANZ NZ), were also threatened that they would lose their US assets, if they continued to deal with me. Well, I'm just a merchant; how could I possibly deal with that? We lost our credit card facility after dealing with them for many many years successfully, had up to 2500 transactions per month, had less than 12 chargebacks per year.

Plus, a number of US exchangers have been targeted over the years (so much for American free enterprise) and closed down, In addition, it's legally impossible for Australia based exchangers to operate in Australia without an ASIC license. Which they are not handing out. So, being an exchanger in the US and AU is not viable, at present. I believe that will change, at least in the US, at least in my lifetime.

Solution: If you want to run an exchange, and you currently live in the US or AU, move elsewhere. My travelling has shown me that there are many places in the world as good as, or better, than the US or AU.

**(Q) Do you work with any partners? I would think that after so long in this business you have formed alliances or partnerships with other agents for mutual benefit? Or do most larger agents so it alone and keep to themselves?**

I have agents in the US (Bob), Canada (Denis), Australia (ANON!), Denmark (Bo), and the Cy-frocash company in SE Asia. I did have an agent once in South Africa, but somebody shot him, I think. I'm not joking.

**(Q) Does GoldNow.st accept credit card payments?**

At present, no. But we darn well WILL again.

**(Q) I know from using your service, that you**

**have a very strong fraud procedure to identify your customers and fight fraud. Today, do you see more attempts to scam purchase e-currency as opposed to two years ago? Would you say that part of the business is growing or shrinking?**

Growing. It's very difficult to become a new exchanger, and survive the apprenticeship. But it can be done. The security needed just to safeguard and maintain is phenomenal.



**(Q) From your web site, what is a "GoldNowBanc account" and why should I have one?**

Mark, It's simply a gold storage facility. The asset is 100% gold backed, stored in a vault not near you. We have arranged an auditor, but haven't needed his services, yet. The trade in GoldNowBanc gold grams is small, but brisk. But I ain't in ANY hurry to grow it. In that respect, I have no competition. In fact, nearly 100% of my competitors who started back in 1999, or just after, are gone. Mostly due to the fraudsters taking them out, or not charging enough in fees, or both. (I did warn them, but I don't bother anymore)

**(Q) I'm frequently on the Loom Wallet web site and I see, GoldNowBanc GoldGrams. I also have a reader who informs me he uses them all the time, what are these things?**

Gold Grams, which today, (according to <https://secure.goldnow.st/calc.php> ? ) are worth GAU 1.00 = USD 29.74. Just gold...

**(Q) How can I get some GoldNowBanc GoldGrams and what can I do with them?**

Enter an order at my site for some. Most people just use their savings and store their gold there. But once you have it, you can easily spend the gold to whomever you like. In fact, I'm buying it myself from customers.

**(Q) In a recent radio interview, you eluded to the fact you had recently been in touch with some Homeland Security gentleman helping them to fight cyber crime. Can you comment on that issue?**

Yes, BIG subject. Last month, I was flown to the US to testify at a court case, involving one of my customers who allegedly used his e-gold for the purchase of child porn. Can't say much more; the case is ongoing.

**(Q) I know you have a large family or as you call it a 'klan'. Do other members of your family also work in e-currency?**

I have 9 children, most of whom have worked in the business at various times. None now do. Just my lovely wife Kay and I!

**(Q) What was the largest order you ever processed? (no names please just numbers)**

\$300k, into Canada. Took 10 days to process. We have had many +\$100k orders, both purchase and redemption's. But the average orders are the ones we rely on.

**(Q) What geographic regions around the world, now look like major growth centers for the use of digital currency such as digital gold?**

Most of Asia (they are smart with gold, c-gold is well positioned), and any where where folks want value in their currency, and freedom in their financials.

**(Q) I know that Commerce Gold (c-gold.com) has shown some large growth in the past year. I like c-gold very much, is it catching on with your customers?**

Yes, becoming very popular. The owners are proven honest.

**(Q) What do you see as the biggest advantage of digital currency? Why do people use it?**

You got a week? LOL Basically, it gives people a viable choice, to use a valued currency, stan-

dardized on gold, and free enterprise at work. It CANNOT fail. Certainly suppressed, depressed, oppressed, and treated shabbily by most governments, despots and military overlords, but all the people are not ignorant (in the real sense of the word) all the time. Most have access to the internet, even in developing countries (what the heck is a developing country? Developing into what?) I would far rather take a liquid gold payment than cash any day.

**(Q) I know from buying and selling e-currency over the years, not all exchange providers will use the voice line to reach customers, but my first transaction with you I had to get on the phone and chat with you to confirm facts about the order and myself. At the time, since I was not used to that call, it seemed a bit awkward. However, since then I always Skype you about orders and would pick up the phone for your call anytime. In fact the two way communication with GoldNow is simply an excellent way to do safe business. Your skills and services are a lot stronger than many other companies. Why do you feel its important to speak to your customers before doing e-currency business?**

Frankly, I don't get more than 6-8 calls per day. From all countries. But the calls we do get are important to us and the customer. It mostly establishes a good rapport for doing business. Absolutely essential for new web based businesses. These days, its supremely easy (and cheap) to get VoIP services out of the major 20 countries, and use a phone adapter connected to your internet router. In fact, its a point of major negative for me now; I will not deal with any web based business if I don't have a valid phone number to call them on. That policy has saved me a bunch of money.

**(Q) If you had the option today of changing anything about the e-currency business, what would you change?**

Nothing. I love it as it is. Let the market decide. Free enterprise roolz!

**(Q) Do you feel that companies like e-gold,**

**c-gold, Pecunix and e-bullion help us all to establish better global trade and borderless relationships?**

No question. Its a great leveler. Gets rid of lots of government added inhibitions and agenda's. Before I went to live in Latvia in 2002, the Australian government listed serious problems (in their opinion) about LV, about why we shouldn't go there. It was all ABSOLUTE RUBBISH! I found it quite a gentle country, pleasant to live, and a calm place. The banking used to be excellent there. Apparently, it has changed since they joined the EU.

**(Q) Would you recommend the exchange business to a newbie who is looking to make it big in online business?**

If he has \$100k and be willing to lose it all by building experience, by all means.

**(Q) What is the saddest thing directly related to your e-currency business that you have encountered over the years?**

Western Government intervention into DGC's. I could well imagine despotic and socialistic governments clamping down, but whatever happened to free enterprise?

**(Q) How much gold do you carry with you in your pocket?**

None! LOL Too heavy! Besides, I would be mobbed, not by crooks, but by honest citizens wanting to get in on the real currency action!

I'd like to thank Graham for taking time to answer my questions and wish him the best.

## Q & A with the Architect of Ripple

# Ryan Fugger

***“A bank account is really the bank’s IOU, or obligation to you. And if you think about it, paper money is just the government’s obligation to you, redeemable as payment for taxes.”***  
***“Is it any wonder that our economic lives are so out of balance? That what we feel we must do for money so rarely seems to be in harmony with what we truly want to do? That the more successful we become economically, the more the fabric of our communities seems to break down?”***

[\\*http://ripplepay.com/essay/](http://ripplepay.com/essay/)

The original proposal of Ryan Fugger for his trust-based Ripple money system is explained in his paper: Money as IOUs in Social Trust Networks & A Proposal for a Decentralized Currency Network Protocol (PDF)

[\\*http://blog.hasslberger.com/docs/decentralized-currency.pdf](http://blog.hasslberger.com/docs/decentralized-currency.pdf)

Ripplepay.com is an Open Source payment system. This is a system where anyone can be their own bank, transferring digital money online, make loans and a host of other features which will definitely impress you. Anyone, in any country around the globe can log in and use Ripplepay and the more users, the more of a functioning real currency is created. What's innovative about Ripple is dynamic real-time multi-hop payment routing.

One user online sending just one other user digital units does not amount to much commerce, however, Ripple engages participants to network with others and create working currency systems. It is an excellent piece of software and concept. Ryan is a very intelligent accessible guy who seems to work tirelessly to help others expand on this idea. I first meet him through the Ripple Users' Google group, Visit this group at

<http://groups.google.com/group/rippleusers?hl=en>



- Anyone can run a Ripple server.
- Anyone can write Ripple server software.
- Software created by the project will be released as free open source software.



**(Q) When did you first create the Ripple system?**

The idea occurred to me in 2004.

**(Q) When did RipplePay.com go live?**

Spring 2006.

**(Q) For the average user, what does it mean when they hear ‘credit limit’? ...and does the ‘system’ grant credit to users?**

Users grant credit to each other. The system itself grants no credit. It simply routes payments between users over the network created by their credit relationships.

**(Q) In my reading, I have found this statement, “... someone may become indebted to you not just for what you or they have done on the system, but also for what others have done through the connection between you!” How is this possible if I never did business with anyone, they could end up owing me?**

Ripple participants act as payment intermediaries, meaning they transfer value from one user to another. Since “value” in Ripple means obligations, or debt, being a payment intermediary means accepting obligations from one user, and issuing your own obligations in turn to another user.

This is in fact exactly how banks issue currency: they take borrower obligations, in the form of loan agreements, and issue their own obligations, in the form of an account balance, which can be transferred to whoever the borrower wishes to pay.

**(Q) I’m familiar with digital currency like Pecunix. When a new digital gram (unit) is formed, its a highly secure procedure because there is always gold backing that unit and management has three separate parties that sign off on each digital unit. They call it ‘minting’ of a digital gram**



**and not just anyone can do it. How are new digital units formed in Ripple?**

Value in Ripple is stored as obligations between two participants. What those obligations mean is up to those participants. For example, it could mean that we have to settle in a currency like pecunix at the end of the month, or even the end of every day. Or it could be like a friendly IOU.

There already exist payment networks that prescribe particular settlement arrangements between participants. Ripple allows those to be linked up in a natural way via entities that participate in more than one such network. In this sense Ripple can be thought of as a routing system overlaid on existing payment networks. But it also supports ad-hoc settlement arrangements between any two participants, and in fact doesn’t care about the details of the settlement arrangement at all.

**(Q) So, is it “Ripple” that issues the units, like Pecunix? Is it a central entity in control of them?**

No, “Ripple” issues no units itself. Only participants issue units to each other. There is no central entity in control of this process. The Ripple system itself

## RYAN FUGGER INTERVIEW

just finds payment routes and follows instructions for moving these obligations down those routes.

**(Q) Is there any national currency or valuable commodity backing these units?**

That is completely up to the participants.

**(Q) In your FAQ (<http://ripplepay.com/faq/>) section online, it asks, “Why would I want to use Ripple when I can use regular money?” and your response is, “In short, because it is cheaper to use and because your friends are a more wholesome source of credit than banks.” Well, all I can say is you have never met MY friends! Are RipplePay digital units essentially electronic IOU’s between account holders?**

That’s right. The original idea was to try to individuals to issue currency and be intermediaries in the system because they will charge lower fees to their friends than banks to their customers, as well as treating them better. But as you point out, that’s not everyone’s experience with their friends. But the core concept is no different if your “friends” on the system are banks. A bank account balance is a bank IOU after all.

**(Q) I see some stats on the index page showing over 1100 users, are there currently any groups I might know or recognize using the RipplePay system? Is there any web or blog you can point me to where it says, “We accept RipplePay” ?**

No. What I have found with Ripplepay is that it is difficult to create large connected networks of individual Ripple users. So Ripplepay use has been limited to tracking debts between groups of friends. The next steps are to get existing currency issuers, like banks, private currencies, and community currencies, participating in Ripple, as well as to build a marketplace to allow users to advertise and see what they can purchase with their Ripple credits.

**(Q) Is there now or should there ever be a RipplePay directory of goods and services?**

There should be, yes. Without that, it is very difficult to bootstrap a payment system, because it is difficult to know what you can buy with your available credits.

**(Q) Webmoney Transfer, the largest and most popular digital currency in the world, started out as a simple P2P online payment system. The niche it filled with non-credit card users**

**has catapulted them into everyday e-commerce between many countries. Was RipplePay originally started as a P2P network or something better?**

Ripplepay’s focus is on person-to-person payments, yes. But the core Ripple dynamic payment routing concept would apply equally well to any type of payment.

**(Q) Does the system offer an API for automated transactions?**

Not yet.

**(Q) Have you had any abuses to this system, where one or several users maliciously worked against others?**

No. Ripple is quite secure in this sense because you only ever accept obligations from those you have indicated you trust, up to a limit you prescribe. The obvious attack is to gain someone’s confidence, make payments using the credit they offer you, and then default on your obligations to them, leaving them on the hook for your purchases. But every payment system is vulnerable to that attack, in one form or another: gain someone’s confidence, borrow money, and don’t repay.

**(Q) What is the process of creating a new digital unit? Can anyone do it? How do you keep track of the total number of units?**

The actual currency units are limited to what the administrator enters. I accept requests for new units to be added to the system as needed.

**(Q) If I owe a friend \$100 on the RipplePay system, and I meet her for dinner and settle the debt is there a simple method for me to also then dispose of that digital IOU? Can I zero out the books as it may be?**

Sure. Technically, she would make a \$100 payment to you on the Ripple system to balance your account. As this is confusing, a good improvement to Ripplepay in particular would be to just allow users to record IOUs and settlements directly, instead of framing everything as a payment.

**(Q) What is the single best innovation that RipplePay brings to the online payment table?**

Dynamic payment routing, which means the ability to find multiple potential settlement paths at transaction time, choose the cheapest one, and clear the payment along that path. I wouldn’t characterize this

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By DGC Readers!



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**Because gold has an internationally agreed value, Pecunix is a system that is perfectly suited to the specific demands of e-commerce.**

**Pecunix is an extraordinarily safe system to use because it is one hundred percent underwritten by gold at all times. In other words, every currency unit in the Pecunix system is supported at all times by an equivalent amount of gold, which itself is stored in an independently monitored, internationally approved storage vault.**

**<http://pecunix.com>**

Republic of Panama

## RYAN FUGGER INTERVIEW

as an “online” innovation”. To my knowledge, no conventional payment systems do this yet either.

**(Q) Is it free to sign up and begin using RipplePay?**

Yes.

**(Q) Are there any limitations to how many accounts a user can have or how many transactions anyone can do?**

Not at the moment.

**(Q) What do you mean “Ripple is more community-oriented than regular money.”?**

That reflects a potential benefit of the idealized version of Ripple that operates between individuals based on their trust in one another as human beings. Issuing currency based on that trust surely would result in a monetary system that supported human communities more than a monetary system based on trust in a central bank to issue the correct amount of money to maximize production.

**(Q) Is it fair to say that RipplePay is an electronic version of a complementary currency like**

**Ithaca Hours? Are they similar enough in their concepts to make a statement like that?**

No. Ripple is a routing system, Ithaca hours is a currency issuer. Ithaca Hours could be a Ripple participant.

**(Q) What makes Ripple different from a barter system?**

Value transfer in Ripple, like in every modern payment system, is a transfer of obligations, or promises, not a transfer of literal goods and services, and enjoys all the flexibility, as well as risk, that that entails.

**(Q) Can you define for us how the Ripple system of payments is different from LETS (<http://www.gmlets.u-net.com>)?**

In a LETS, participants accept obligations from each other on behalf of the collective system -- if I accept someone's obligations and they don't ultimately contribute that value to the system, everyone in the system shares in that loss. In Ripple, I only accept obligations from others on behalf of myself -- if I accept someone's obligations and they don't contribute that value to the system, it is my loss alone. You

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could say that each participant in Ripple operates their own LETS, and Ripple allows payments to be routed through this network of LETSs.

**(Q) Could RipplePay be easily adopted and used on a social network web site like Facebook or MySpace?**

Yes.

**(Q) Does the RipplePay system charge users a monthly service fee or transaction fee? How does the operator make money?**

I operate Ripplepay at a small loss, largely as a demonstration of the Ripple concept, although it is a fully functioning payment routing system.

**(Q) What do you see as the ideal business or community which could benefit from using RipplePay?**

The dynamic payment routing concept would benefit those in the business of routing payments: namely, banks. I'm coming to believe that Ripple for individuals, and even for private currencies, is putting the cart before the horse somewhat. The evolution of networks usually starts by autonomous systems created ad-hoc gateways between each other before there is a demand for standard systems for routing along these gateways. That seems to be the state of the banking system at the moment, so that is where Ripple might find purchase most easily. Certainly I don't see a great demand for interpersonal payment routing in the near future. Routing payments between private currencies may start to happen more and more quite soon, but until those currencies are more widespread, they may have to rely on the banking network to interconnect. Ripple would make that simple.

**(Q) I have a lot of friends who do business in Euros and I prefer gold, are RipplePay accounts denominated in one specific currency and are changes in currency from gold an option?**

Ripple let's you keep account in any currency unit you like, and have payments be automatically converted. It does not require that buyer and seller have accounts in the same units, or even that either one of them have an account in the unit of payment.

**(Q) How many developers or programmers have worked to created this project?**

It has mainly been just myself over the years, although I have had contributions from many people. At the moment there is a team of four people working on writing code and organizing the project into a self-sustaining form.

**(Q) The RipplePay online payment system is very ingenious and takes into account a real community view of the payments business. Its very nice, however what need does it fill for any group that does not require a real totally new 'banking and payments' system? In other words I hear a lot, well its not broken so why are you fixing it? I already have a bank. What is the collective incentive for groups to use it and when would a group need this as apposed to just signing up for PayPal?**

You're right, which is why we're increasingly focusing on how dynamic payment routing can connect, improve, and open up existing payment networks.

Please visit the Ripple Project's Home page for more information <http://ripple.sourceforge.net/> or you can read Ryan's original paper, "Money as IOUs in Social Trust Networks & A Proposal for a Decentralized Currency Network Protocol".

There is also a Wiki with a ton of good information: <http://ripple2p.com/wiki/Main/HomePage>

## GLOBALCOLLECT EXPANDS BY OPENING AN OFFICE IN SINGAPORE



**Next to its European headquarters in the Netherlands and its US office in San Francisco, the world's premier full-service international payment service provider of local e-payment solutions now has a presence in the Asia-Pacific region**

Amsterdam -- April 24, 2008 (PR) -- In response to continued growth opportunities and increasing demand for e-payment solutions across the Asia-Pacific region, GlobalCollect recently opened its office in Singapore. It will serve as the regional headquarters for GlobalCollect's further expansion across this thriving region where e-commerce is growing steadily.

Jan Manten, CEO of GlobalCollect said: "In a strategic decision to better seize opportunities emerging across the Asia-Pacific region and to be able to move quickly in an extremely dynamic and promising ecommerce environment, we decided to establish a local presence. With online payment acceptance and customer preferences varying greatly from country to country in this region,

GlobalCollect is ideally suited to offer full service solutions for processing local e-payments to merchants here. Plus, we can leverage our solid experience in setting up online payment processing platforms across Europe and more recently in the US."

The Singapore office will also serve as a local presence to support GlobalCollect's growing portfolio of existing clients across the Asia-Pacific region which already includes Air China, PC Tools, StrawberryNET and Nespresso Asia.

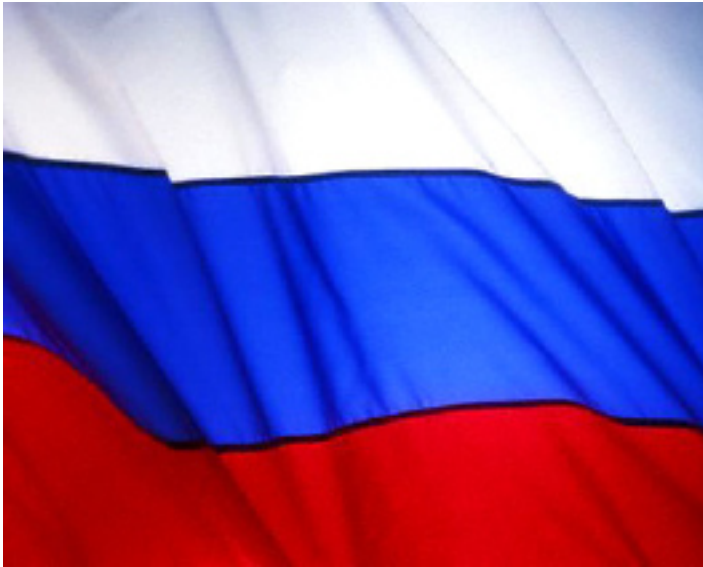
### ABOUT GLOBALCOLLECT

GlobalCollect is the world's premier Payment Service Provider of local e-payment solutions for international Customer Non-Present (CNP) businesses such as internet, mail and telephone order and specializes in a wide range of industries such as travel, ticketing, telecommunications, retail, publishing, portals, online games and digital content. While most providers are limiting their payment services to a technical link with payment acquirers, GlobalCollect is a full-service partner providing a comprehensive service portfolio from contractual and technical connections to local payment processors worldwide, bank account network management, matching, reporting and finally fund remittance.

Through one single web-enabled technical and administrative interface, our online payment platform offers the largest range of local e-payment methods and currencies in over 200 countries, including all major credit and debit cards, direct debits, bank transfers, real-time bank transfers, e-Wallets, cash at outlets, prepaid methods, checks and invoices.

<http://www.globalcollect.com>

## YANDEX EXPANDS PAYMENT SYSTEM WITH BANKING



by Nick Wilsdon

Yandex has announced a partnership with the Russian Development Bank (RBR) to expand their online payment system. Now payments to and from Yandex Money can be made from any of the ATMs belonging to the bank. As usual payments onto the system are free but withdrawals attract a 2% commission.

Web Money is still the most popular payment system in Russia with 2m registered users at the end of last year but Yandex Money is quickly increasing their user base. Yandex reports that 3000 new accounts are opened each day and more than 20,000 payments are made for various goods and services. Unfortunately only merchants registered in Russia can use the system as monies



would need to be transferred to a local bank account.

Online payment method in Russia are far more complicated than in most European countries and this presents a considerable problem when selling to a Russian audience. Although credit cards are starting to be more widespread, the majority of cards distributed are barred from online transactions by the banks. This point especially applies to students and workers, who had started to be given the cards to handle student payments and salaries respectively.

To plug this gap, more elaborate methods on online payment have sprung up, from payments through the bank (and faxing the bank receipt to the online retailer) to WebMoney and Yandex Money. In the cases of these online payment accounts, the problem has been transferring money onto the accounts in the first place. Dedicated payment machines have been installed in most supermarkets which help Russians place money on a range of services, from WebMoney/Yandex Money to their mobile telephone. Yandex has now taken this one step further, and increased coverage by partnering with the bank ATMs.

Although these methods work - they are far from convenient. It's hard to imagine that Russians, shopping online in the evening after a hard day at work, are thrilled by the prospect of walking to the nearest ATM or supermarket to place cash onto their account. Impulse buys, one suspects, are out of the question. However the number of online sales in Russia is increasing year on year. Partly this is due to the rise in availability of 'unrestricted' credit cards but also internet deals and discounts seem to have compensated Russians for the inconvenience of the process.

<http://www.russianmarketer.com/yandex-expands-payment-system-with-banking-partners/2008/04/02/>

## RECOMMENDED READING

### Blog Favorites

#### Amy Kirschner's The Evolution of Money

<http://evolutionofmoney.typepad.com/main/>



There are a lot of people out there doing things to make our world a better place - teaching, protecting the environment, helping families, fighting for justice, building strong communities.... What's the one thing that would make all of that easier and put their goals within reach? Money. There is a growing group of people working to better the ways we use money and exchange resources...building the systems that will allow all the other dreamers and doers to make our world better. Join me as I take a look at The Evolution of Money. --Amy

#### Digital Money World

<http://www.digitalmoneyworld.com>



Originally started by Mark Herpel in 2006, DMW has a ton of great news and info plus online payments stuff. Benson Koh blogging does a great job and keep us all on our toes. This blog is part of the monster b5media network.

#### Truth is Treason in the Empire of Lies

<http://freethemarketman.wordpress.com/>



This is perhaps one of our favorite blogs. The owner continually posts money topics and other 'stuff' which we find of great interest. Don't miss these guys.

#### Mish's Global Economic Trend Analysis

<http://globaleconomicanalysis.blogspot.com/>



This is a no nonsense blog containing all the stories and information that should be on the nightly news...but isn't. No fluff, no long boring article, its right to the point. Thoughts on the global economy, housing, gold, silver, interest rates, oil, energy, China, commodities, the dollar, Euro, Renminbi, Yen, inflation, deflation, stagflation, precious metals, emerging markets, and policy decisions that affect the global markets.

#### My Panama Lawyer Blog

<http://mypanamalawyer.blogspot.com/>



Quality information right from the source. MyPanamaLawyer is a blog for discussion of issues of interest to foreigners relocating to Panama.

#### Vera Verba Blog

<http://www.veraverba.com/blog/>



The Vera Verba Blog exists as an ongoing attempt to decipher and defuse the doublespeak, dogmatic rhetoric, and mindless slogans that often stop people from thinking. Additionally, this blog is a vehicle for whatever barstool rant one of our authors happens to be on about at any given moment. Editors are Sean Hastings and Paul Rosenberg. Authors are (in alphabetical order):

- *Rick Chappelle*
- *Grandpa*
- *Sean Hastings*
- *Paul Rosenberg*
- 

Paul is the primary author and co-author of several of the books in the Vera Verba catalog and writes an article each month for DGCmagazine.



# MALAYSIAN ISLAMIC FINANCE SCHOLAR ADVOCATES USING DIGITAL GOLD

**'Bakar did advocate the use of gold being used as a means of exchange in a virtual transaction'**

Malaysian Islamic finance scholar Mohammed Daud Bakar spoke this month at the International Islamic Finance Forum in Dubai along side Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus.

Bakar spoke about his views regarding the "gold standard" being used as medium of exchange in the Islamic world today.

"I don't believe in the gold standard for currency," said Bakar. "For me it's not practical... there could even be wars over gold - it's just creating another issue." However, Bakar did advocate the use of gold being used as a means of exchange in a virtual transaction, as is currently done by sites such as

[www.e-gold.com](http://www.e-gold.com) and [www.igdexchange.com](http://www.igdexchange.com)

It was just a brief sentence in a recent issue of ArabianBusiness.com but a very powerful statement about the global nature of the world in which we now live.

Although the article's focus was centered around the still controversial issue of a, "...universal financial standard which is Sharia compliant", after seeing the e-gold domain mentioned, its easy to understand how trade between different countries, different languages, currencies or religions can all be connected through the one common denominator - GOLD.

Source: <http://www.arabianbusiness.com/516581-scholar-urges-islamic-finance-standardisation>

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*Article by Alen Smithee*

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# GOLDMONEY CHANGES THEIR FEE

## STRUCTURE ON GOLD HOLDINGS

(London & Zurich)

GoldMoney has changed their fee structure for all existing and future accounts. While this is technically a large shift in their decade old policy it should not effect your wallet too much.

This is a move away from their old 'fixed standard' monthly fee to a variable fee based on the total value of precious metal (gold) in a customer's GoldMoney account. This new expense is termed a 'storage' fee based on the account weight, similar to the e-gold agio fee. However, the new percentage amount charged is very low so it should not effect anyone's bottom line ---too much (see below). No reason on what caused their change of heart, but we still love 'em.



The changes made to the Fees Schedule are:

- **After 30 April 2008, the gold account fee will be replaced by a gold storage fee for gold held in London.**
- **After 30 April 2008, the gold storage fee will be lowered to 0.18% per**

**annum, or only 0.15% per annum for each Holding with an average monthly balance of more than 50,000 goldgrams. The gold storage fee will apply to gold held in both the London and Zurich vaults. See the Fees Schedule for details.**

Gold Account fee — 100 mils (about US\$2.94) per month Applied only to gold stored in the London vault, the account fee is charged only if there are goldgrams in your Holding. You pay only 100 mils per month, regardless how many goldgrams you own. The account fee may vary for large accounts.

**After 30 April 2008, the gold account fee will be replaced by a gold storage fee for gold held in London (see below).**

Gold Storage fee — 0.24% per annum. Applied only to gold stored in the Zurich vault and charged only when you own gold there, it is deducted monthly (0.02% per month) from your Holding with a minimum fee of 100 mils per month.

**After 30 April 2008, the gold storage fee will be lowered to 0.18% per annum, or only 0.15% per annum for each Holding with an average monthly balance of more than 50,000 goldgrams. The gold storage fee will apply to gold held in both the London and Zurich vaults.**

*Article by Alen Smithee*



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Today's new ePassports contain a wireless chip that transmits your personal data. As with any personal data you need to take precautions to keep this data safe so that you do not become a victim of identity theft. These beautiful Italian leather wallets feature our exclusive DataSafe Technology.

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- 7 Travel and Credit Card Slots
- Slot for Boarding Pass or Ticket
- Secure-Access Pocket for Passport
- Additional Pocket for Receipts or folded Cash
- Lifetime Warranty



***fips 201 - gsa approval*** / Kena Kai's DataSafe® Wallets are the FIRST, and currently the only RFID blocking wallets approved as "Electromagnetically Opaque Sleeves" for contactless Smart Cards approved by the Government Services Administration (GSA). This exclusive designation makes these RFID blocking wallets the best protection against identity theft and tracking.

The DataSafe technology built into these RFID shielding wallets has been tested and approved to meet the security protocols set forth by this Presidential directive. This approval assures the highest level of protection against identity theft and unauthorized access to information contained on today's new contactless credit cards, ePassports, and electronic IDs. Lifetime Warranty

**Kena Kai**

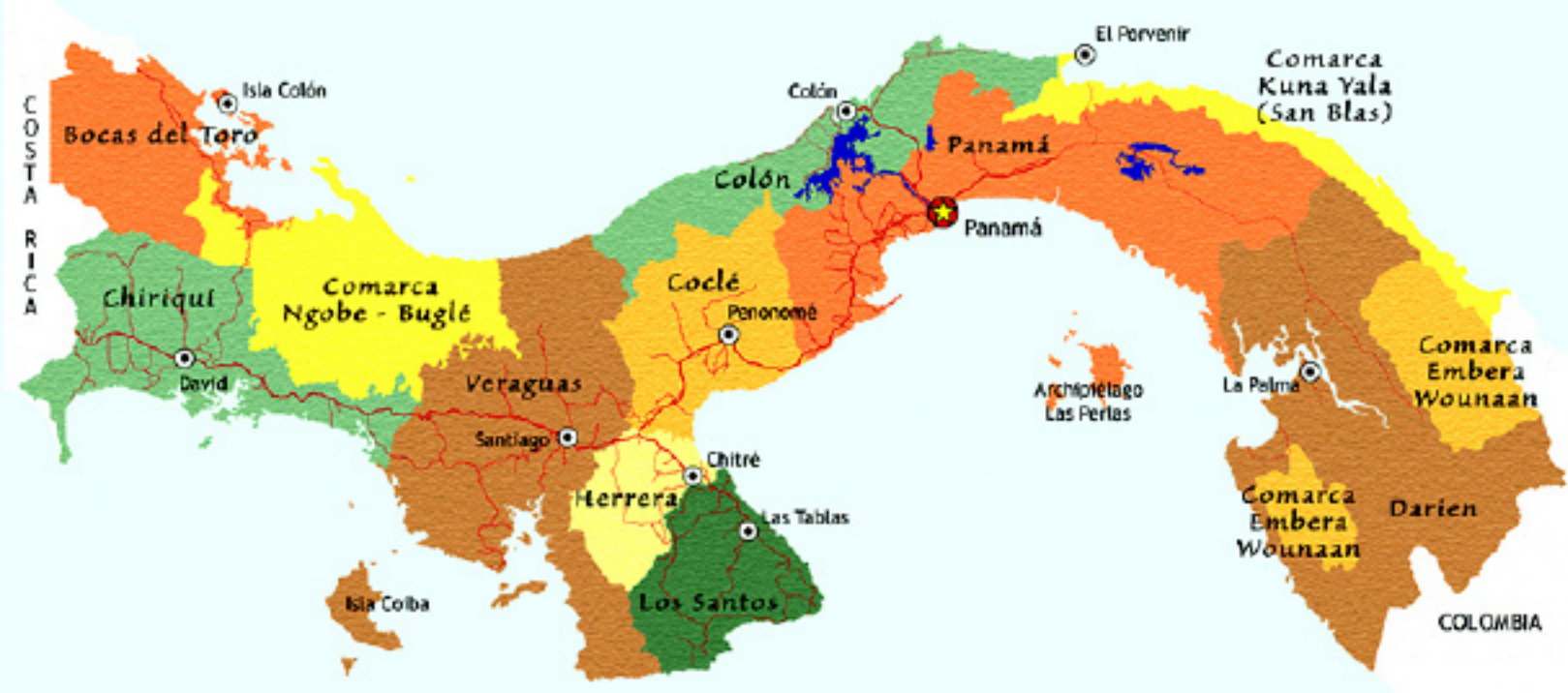
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# PANAMA HAS NO CENTRAL BANK

by David Saied from the Ludwig von Mises Web Site

In this modern, post-Bretton Woods world of “monetary order” and coordinated central-bank inflation, many who are otherwise sympathetic to the arguments against central banks believe that the elimination of central banking is an unattainable, utopian dream.

For a real-world example of how a system of market-chosen monetary policy would work in the absence of a central bank, one need not look to the past; the example exists in present-day Central America, in the Republic of Panama, a country that has lived without a central bank since its independence, with a very successful and stable macroeconomic environment.

The absence of a central bank in Panama has created a completely market-driven money supply. Panama’s market has also chosen the US dollar as its de facto currency. The country must buy or obtain their dollars by producing or exporting real goods or services; it cannot create money out of thin air. In this way, at least, the system is similar to the old gold standard. Annual

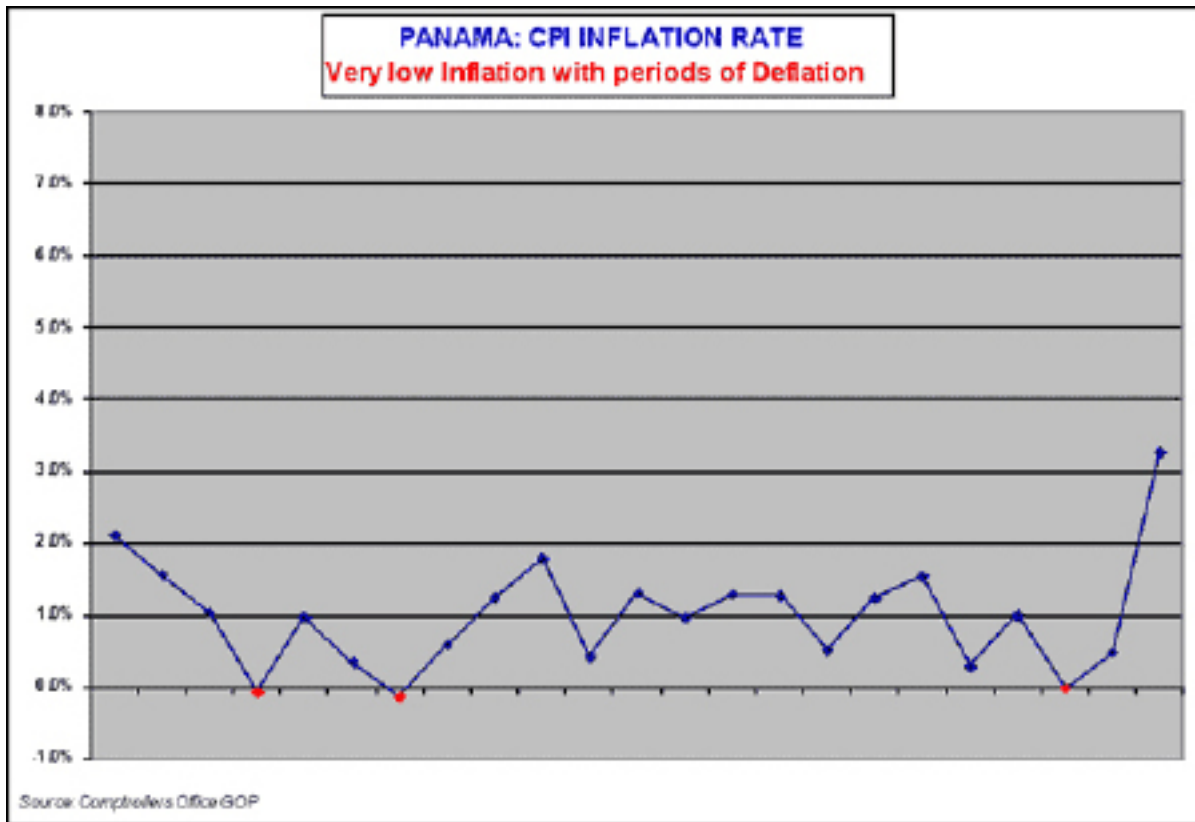
inflation in the past 20 years has averaged 1% and there have been years with price deflation, as well: 1986, 1989, and 2003.

Panamanian inflation is usually between 1 and 3 points lower than US inflation; it is caused mostly by the Federal Reserve’s effect on world prices. This market-driven system has created an extremely stable macroeconomic environment. Panama is the only country in Latin America that has not experienced a financial collapse or a currency crisis since its independence.



As with most countries in the Americas, Panama’s currency in the 19th century was based on gold and silver, with a variety of silver coins and gold-based currencies in circulation. The

Silver Peso was the currency of choice; however, the US greenback had also been partially in circulation, because of the isthmian railroad — the first railroad to connect the Atlantic to the Pacific — that was built by a US company in 1855. Panama originally became independent from Spain in 1826, but integrated with Colombia; however,



being a small state, it was not able to immediately secede from Colombia, as Venezuela and Ecuador had done. In 1886 the Colombian government introduced several decrees forcing the acceptance of government fiat paper notes. Panama's open economy, being based on transport and trade, plainly could not benefit from this; an 1886 editorial of its main newspaper read:

"there is no country on the globe, certainly no commercial center, in which the disastrous consequences of the introduction of an irredeemable currency would be felt as in Panama. Everything we consume here is imported. We have no products and can only send money in exchange for what is imported."

In 1903, the country became independent, supported by the United States because of its interest in building a Canal through Panama. The citizens of the new country, in distrust of the 1886 experiment of forced fiat Colombian paper notes, decided to include article 114 in the 1904 constitution, which reads,

"There will be no forced fiat paper currency in the Republic. Thus, any individual can reject any note that he may deem untrustworthy."

With this article, any currency in circulation would be de facto and market driven. In 1904 the Government of Panama signed a monetary agreement to allow the US dollar to become legal tender. At first, Panamanians did not accept the greenback; they viewed it with mistrust, preferring to utilize the silver peso. Gresham's Law, however, drove the silver coins out of circulation.[1]

In 1971 the government passed a banking law that allowed for a very liberal and open banking system, without any government agency of consolidated banking supervision, and confirmed that no taxes could be exacted from interest or transactions generated in the financial system. The number of banks jumped from 23 in 1970 to 125 in 1983, most of them being international banks. The banking law promoted international lending, and because Panama has a territorial tax system, profits from loans or transactions made offshore are tax free.

This, and the presence of numerous foreign banks, allows for international integration of the system. Unlike other Latin American countries, Panama has no capital controls. Therefore, when international capital floods the system, the banks lend the excess capital offshore,

## PANAMA BANKING

avoiding the common ills, imbalances, and high inflation that other countries face when receiving huge influxes of capital.

Fiscal policy has little room to maneuver since the treasury cannot monetize its deficit. Plus, fiscal policy does not influence the money supply; if the government tries to raise the money supply during a contraction period by obtaining debt in international markets and pumping it into the system, the banks compensate and take the excess money out of circulation by sending it offshore.

Banks cannot coordinate inflation due to ample competition and the fact that (unlike even the United States banking system prior to the Federal Reserve) they do not issue bank notes. The panics and general bank runs that were so common in the US banking system in the 19th century have not occurred in Panama, and bank failures do not spread to other banks. Several banks in trouble have been bought — before any runs ensue — by larger banks, attracted by the profits that can be made from obtaining assets at a discount.

There is no deposit insurance and no lender of last resort, so banks have to act in a responsible manner. Any bad loans will be paid by the stockholders; no one will bail these banks out if they get into trouble.

After several years of accumulation of malinvestments during the booms, banks begin the necessary liquidation of bad credit. Since there is no central bank that can step in to provide cheap credit, the recession begins without any hampering by monetary policy. Banks thus create the necessary contraction by obeying market forces. Panama's recessions commonly create deflation, which mollifies consumers and also facilitates the recovery process by reducing business costs.

Only the fact that the law does not allow for the downward flexibility of wages makes recessions longer than they would otherwise be.

Deflation happens without the terrible consequences that Keynesian economists predict; and the

country, now under democratic rule, is experiencing its 4th year of market economic growth well above 7%. So the policy makers who have said that abolition of the central bank is unfeasible need only look to Panama's macroeconomic environment, which has been favorable for over 100 years, to realize that it is, in fact, not only possible, but very beneficial. Clearly no government-forced fiat currency, no central bank, and the absence of high inflation are working quite well in this small country. Who can argue that these policies would not work in larger economies?

David Saied is head of National Public Policy for the Government of Panama and also directs the National Competitiveness Program.

[1] Carlos E. Ramirez, *Monetary History of Panama*, p. 5.

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## *US Consumers Cash In Old Gold Teeth*

**AS ECONOMY ROLLS TO A STOP, US CONSUMERS ARE SELLING THEIR GOLD TEETH FOR QUICK MONEY.**

The bull market for gold has presented dental patients in the US a unique opportunity to make some fast cash. Consumers are digging through their closets and drawers in search of 'dental gold'. This includes old dental caps, fillings and bridge-work made from gold or partially made from gold. These are generally 16k in purity. With gold prices on the rise these past months an old gold filling could be worth \$40-50 bucks which in the US is now almost enough to fill your car's gas tank. Heavier pieces of dental gold can command prices of several hundred dollars which might just top off your SUV.



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## **DGC BANKING IN COSTA RICA? NO THANKS!**

We've all seen what happens to countries that make the black list for money laundering...Latvia, Nigeria...etc. A lot of DGC bank accounts, debit cards and a ton of customer DGC money is usually lost overnight.

There is nothing that will get you black listed faster than banks or countries involved with 'terrorist financing' and those related financial crimes.

During an appearance before a special security commission at the Asamblea Legislativa Wednesday, April 16th, Costa Rica's chief prosecutor, Francisco Dall'Anesse issued a warning that Costa Rica could become the world center of terrorism financing and money laundering if lawmakers do not move quickly to pass pending legislation.

\* <http://www.amcostarica.com>

Costa Rica is a member of the Egmont Group (see below) which is an 18 year old informal organization of countries dedicated to fighting money laundering.

However, in order to remain a member of the Egmont Group requires that Costa Rica enact new terrorist financing legislation by May 2008 (this month). This legislation has been bogged down since October of last year and still has not passed.

Considering May is less than a week away, there appears to be little chance that the financial anti-terrorism measures will be passed in time.

Dall'Anesse also told lawmakers the coun-

try is losing the fight against crime because those who enforce the laws lack weapons to confront organized crime. One of these tools needed is the ability to wiretap phones. Today, even in extreme cases of kidnapping, it takes the Costa Rican authorities up to one month to track a call !!

In a March 25th article, Kenneth Rijock who is the Financial Crime Consultant for World-Check (<http://www.world-check.com>) points out that a lot of illicit Venezuelan and Iranian funds are now flowing into Costa Rica. This is money destined for FARC and other leftist groups seeking to topple democratic Latin American governments. Mr. Rijock has repeatedly made the point that Costa Rica's financial structure is often used for terrorist financing of FARC.

His sources point out that:

- ***The funds originate in Venezuelan banks that are assisting both the Venezuelan and Iranian governments in achieving their radical political goals, to wit: replacing those remaining democratic Latin American governments with extreme leftist regimes allied with Venezuela.***
- ***The Iranian-owned Venezuelan financial institution, Banco Internacional Desarrollo\* (BID), has been named as a primary force in several such transfers. This bank received its charter in only one week after its application had been filed, which is extraordinary in and of itself, and it has been extremely active throughout all regions of Latin America.***
- ***From Costa Rica, funds are transferred to the FARC, and are delivered to several radical leftist groups, including oth-***

***er designated global terrorist organizations, There is no indication that Costa Rica law enforcement or regulatory authorities have interdicted or seized any of these inbound or outbound wire transfers, or cash withdrawals, most of which reportedly ends up in the hands of the FARC. Other radical organizations, dedicated to the violent overthrow of their country's lawfully-elected governments, also are recipients of these funds.***

-----  
***The Egmont Group, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs)***

The fight against money laundering has been an essential part of the overall struggle to combat illegal narcotics trafficking, the activities of organized crime, and more recently the financing of terrorist activity. It became apparent over the years that banks and other financial institutions were an important source for information about money laundering and other financial crimes being investigated by law enforcement. Concurrently, governments around the world began to recognize the corrosive dangers that unchecked financial crimes posed to their economic and political systems.

To address that threat, a number of specialized governmental agencies were created as countries around the world developed systems to deal with the problem of money laundering. These entities are now commonly referred to as “financial intelligence units” or “FIUs”. They offer law enforcement agencies around the world an important avenue for information exchange.

Recognizing the benefits inherent in the development of a FIU network, in 1995, a group of FIUs at the Egmont Arenberg Palace in Brussels decided to establish an informal

group for the stimulation of international co-operation. Now known as the Egmont Group, these FIUs meet regularly to find ways to co-operate, especially in the areas of information exchange, training and the sharing of expertise.

There are currently 106 countries with recognized operational FIU units, with others in various stages of development. Countries must go through a formal procedure established by the Egmont Group in order to be recognized as meeting the Egmont Definition of an FIU. The Egmont Group as a whole meets once a year. The five Working Groups and the Egmont Committee are used to conduct common business, along with the Egmont Group Secretariat established in 2007.

FIUs, at a minimum, receive, analyze, and disclose information by financial institutions to competent authorities of suspicious or unusual financial transactions. Although every FIU operates under different guidelines, most FIUs, under certain provisions, can exchange information with foreign counterpart FIUs. In addition, many FIUs can also be of assistance in providing other government administrative data and public record information to their counterparts, which can also be very helpful to investigators. One of the main goals of the Egmont Group is to create a global network by promoting international co-operation between FIUs.

The ongoing development and establishment of FIUs exemplify how countries around the world continue to intensify their efforts to focus on research, analysis and information exchange in order to combat money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes.

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*Article by Mark Herpel*

# What's Up With High Exchange Rates

This is a re-printed email from the very public e-gold email list.

Subject: RE: exchanger???

Hi

Actually, for us, along with a reduction of e-gold sales, THE main reason the out-exchange fees are so high at the moment is because Russian auto exchangers are offering bonuses to purchase e-gold at 15-20%+ with other DC's (e.g. buy e-gold with LR and get a 15% bonus). Then with this 15% extra in their pocket the customer can use an unsuspecting exchanger (who was charging a reasonable -5 to -10%) to out exchange the e-gold and still make a good profit. Leaving the unsuspecting exchanger with even more excess e-gold than usual.

The only way to stop being flooded with too much e-gold is to raise the out exchange fee to match the bonus price being paid by these auto exchangers to stop the massive influx of selling. So it will clearly spiral out of control very shortly if this continues. With the gold price falling today and a few weeks back (and continuing to be volatile), exchangers cannot afford to have massive quantities of excess stock of a product that is not moving. It's not an ideal situation.

Regards

Andy

LGE

MAY 2008

QUESTION OF THE MONTH?

If all of the paper money in your purse, wallet and bank account is now worthless. You have no checks, no money orders, western union, no credit or debit cards, What would you use as money?

What you offer as payment in exchange for medicine, fuel or food later this week?

As a merchant with a store selling goods, what would you accept as payment?

With no online banking or credit cards, how would you pay for an online purchase?

email me: [editor@dgc magazine.com](mailto:editor@dgc magazine.com)