## Telecoms Resilience in the UK Payments Industry

**Presented by** 

Mary Law, APACS

IEEE CQR International Workshop, London

9 June 2006



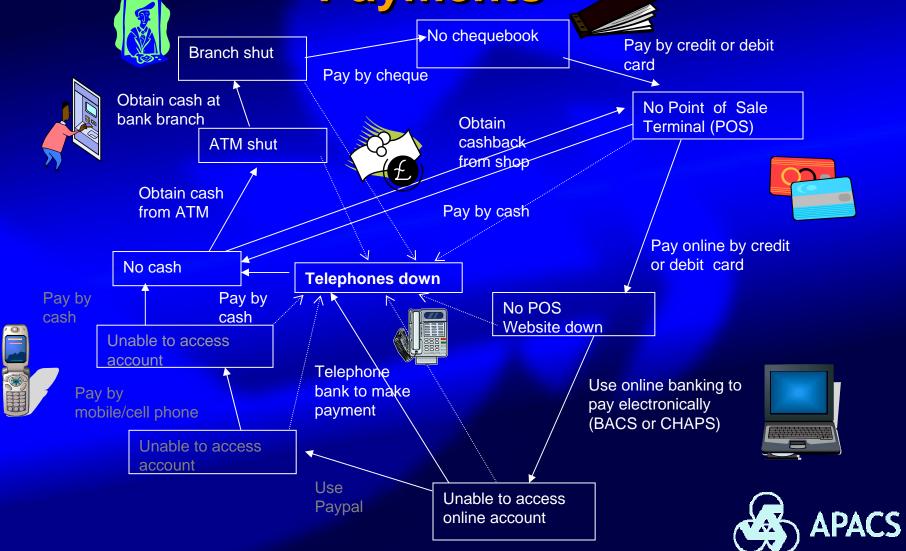
### UK Payments – Dependencies on Telecommunications

- Electronic payments (eg BACS) rely on telecoms to transfer funds
- Internet banking enables customers to make electronic payments from their accounts by internet
- Credit and debit cards transfer information between merchants and banks using point of sale terminals or the internet
- Bank branches and call centres access customer accounts remotely. Remote security systems use telecoms.
- Cheques payment details (and cheque images) exchanged between banks via telecoms.
- Cash ATMs transfer details of cash withdrawals to banks via telecoms network.

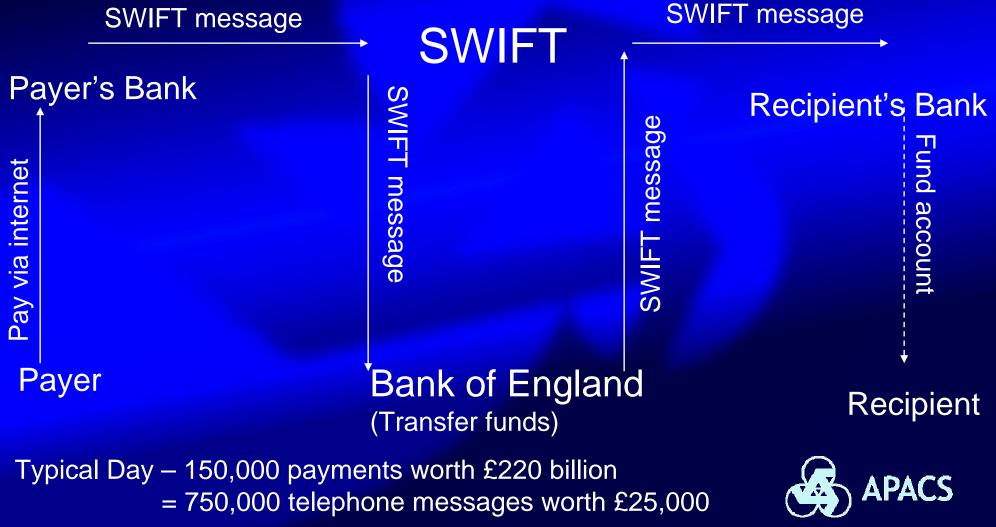


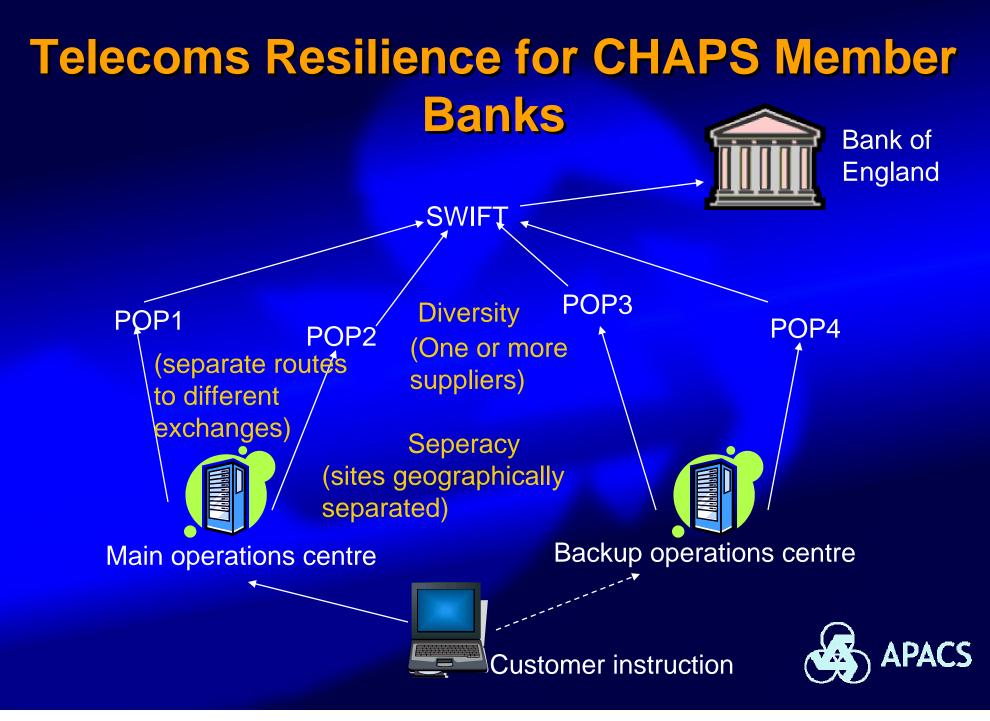
# Impacts of Manchester Fire 2004 on

### **Payments**



### Example - CHAPS Sterling Same Day High Value Payment System





#### The Bigger Picture – Geographical Whilst Banks have operational sites located across the



Area of potential impact from ground level bomb at Aldgate

How many payments and £ are processed by vulnerable operational sites?

length and breadth of the UK there tend

concentration e.g. in

to be pockets of

Central London.

This fictitious

representation

network stress

Multiple banks use

same telecoms

- routed to same

supplier

POP

illustrates the

potential for



### Reducing Telecoms Resilience Risk in UK Payments

Promoting good practices on seperacy and diversity in telecommunications provision increases resilience

- customers need authority to require suppliers to mitigate risk
- it does not guarantee resilience if the central infrastructure fails
- In complex operations look across the end to end process for single points of failure
  - geographical concentration of operational sites
  - the impact of multiple outsourcing contracts to a limited set of telecoms suppliers

