

**TWINT complaint to ComCo bears fruit**

**TWINT prevails over Apple Pay**

**At the start of December, Apple agreed to no longer 'squeeze out' the TWINT app with its own payment function. With this commitment, Apple has avoided a possible trial before the Swiss Competition Commission (ComCo), which had become active following a complaint from TWINT. The NFC interface on iPhones, which can still not be used, was not part of this complaint.**

Following Apple's decision to soften its stance, TWINT has the opportunity to prevent the superseding of its own payment solution by 'Apple Pay'. Until now, it was possible that 'Apple Pay' could throw TWINT customers out of the payment process when making payments at cash-register terminals. Apple will now allow TWINT to structure its app in such a manner that 'Apple Pay' is no longer able to hinder the payment process. 'Apple Pay' is otherwise available to customers at all times.

A hearing of the two parties before ComCo officials in Bern scheduled for 10 December of this year was thus no longer required. On 27 June 2017, TWINT filed a complaint against the US-based group citing abuse of its dominant market position. This complaint did not, however, include the use of the NFC interface, which Apple prevents on its iPhone for all other apps.

**Further information**

Some 73 Swiss banks offer their customers TWINT as a mobile payment solution. TWINT customers can pay direct and cashless from their bank account in e-commerce, at the cash register and at vending machines. It is also possible for money to be transferred between private individuals and for payment requests to be made. With TWINT, users also benefit from added-value

Søren Mose, Chairman of the TWINT Board of Directors, said: 'We are delighted that Apple no longer wants to discriminate against its competitors in Switzerland. However, the activation of the NFC interface, as offered by Android, has not yet been achieved with this step. It would be desirable for Apple to fully open up this interface for its competitors.'

Markus Kilb, CEO of TWINT, added: 'The agreement will put an end to this obstruction by Apple. This means we will be able to ensure our customers enjoy uninterrupted use of TWINT at cash-register terminals. We are continuing to work intensively on expanding our product on an ongoing basis.'

Online press release

services, such as the ability to save customer loyalty cards. With more than 1,000,000 registered users, TWINT is the most widely used payment app in Switzerland. TWINT AG belongs to Switzerland's biggest banks: BCV (Banque Cantonale Vaudoise), Credit Suisse, PostFinance, Raiffeisen, UBS, Zürcher Kantonalbank as well as SIX and Worldline.



## Contacts

### **TWINT media contact for German-speaking Switzerland**

Victor Schmid  
Hirzel.Neef.Schmid.Counselors AG  
Bern  
+41 76 584 33 71  
[victor.schmid@konsulenten.ch](mailto:victor.schmid@konsulenten.ch)

### **TWINT media contact for French-speaking Switzerland**

Marie-Hélène Hancock  
Hirzel.Neef.Schmid.Counselors AG  
Geneva  
+41 79 204 21 22  
[marie-helene.hancock@konsulenten.ch](mailto:marie-helene.hancock@konsulenten.ch)

