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National Processing Co. activates pay-tracking site

By Jennifer Dorsey

LOUISVILLE -- After some delays, the National Processing Co. activated its PortNPC Web site, an on-line reporting tool for agents to track and analyze commission payments.

The site gives agents secure access to their own commission data for the roughly two-dozen travel suppliers participating in NPC Commission Express, an outsourcing program that consolidates payments from multiple vendors into a single weekly payment to agents.

Commission Express participants include the major rental car vendors, Carnival, Royal Caribbean, Celebrity, Radisson and Southwest Airlines.

The data available to agents through PortNPC can be sorted in a variety of ways, enabling agents to locate a single commission payment or analyze large volumes of payments by vendor, NPC said.

The commission data are loaded every Thursday night so agents will have immediate access to updated information, said Tom Turi, NPC's senior vice president. Agents will be able to download the data into their accounting programs, NPC said.

Commission Express is free to agents, but PortNPC is a subscription service priced at \$10 per month or \$100 per year, with a free two-week trial. Agents who want to subscribe must sign up with NPC to have their Commission Express payments made electronically rather than by mail.

Agents do not have to be signed up for electronic funds transfer in order to take advantage of the free two-week trial.

More than 21,000 agencies already receive their commission payments electronically, NPC said.

Agents need a personal identification number to access their commission data via PortNPC.

NPC said it began mailing identification numbers in mid-May to some of the approximately 120,000 agencies in its database. Each week, PIN numbers will be mailed to additional agencies to allow for a "gradual ramping up of use at the site," the company said.

NPC is working with Orbit Network of Novato, Calif., to make the PortNPC commission-tracking system available through CRSs.