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## **2 Possible Types of Utility**

UTILITY – One JV
 Company that provides cash services for all/most of the major banks

#### JV OPERATING Utility

 Actually owns & operates most of the activities

#### JV MANAGEMENT Utility

 Management only – physical activities outsourced to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties





#### The Joint Venture Cash Operations Utility

- A Joint Venture company owned by the (Central &) Commercial banks undertakes fitness sorting and cash recirculation
- The Utility may undertake some level of note destruction

#### Original exponents:

- Austria (GSA) since 1998
- NOKAS in Norway

**Variants** 

- SBV in South Africa
- FINA Croatia



# The Joint Venture <u>Cash Management</u> Utility

- A Joint Venture company owned by the Commercial banks that manages cash circulation
- The Management Utility tenders, awards and manages contracts either directly or on behalf of shareholders
- The Management Utility may take ownership of the ATM network

#### Main exponents:

- Automatia in Finland since 1994
- Cash Services Australia (CSA) since 2001
- BDB in Sweden since 2005



### **Perceived Arguments FOR the Utility**

- Cash is a COST to Banks non competitive issue
- Minimised capacity and optimised cash flows
- Economies of scale
- Control
- Central Bank physical processing exit strategy



## **Arguments Against a JV Utility**

The Operational Utility is such a radical and relatively irreversible step it needs to address 3 KEY ISSUES from outset:

- What's in it for the Commercial Banks?
  - Why should a bank INVEST in a new entity?
- What's in it for the Central Bank?
  - Why should the Central Bank become INVOLVED in a commercial joint venture?
- How are any Competition Issues addressed?
  - Since the Operational Utility enjoys large economies of scale and some element of state ownership – barriers to entry & market concentration?

# WE CAN PROVIDE AN ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE



# We are not alone in supporting cash...



# **Developments**

- Post Financial Crisis Central Banks more explicit upon plurality in payments and contingency function of cash
- EU Commission has adopted a recommendation upon the Legal Tender Status of Euro banknotes & coins.



# **Distinguished Speakers**

 Mr Ton Roos, Director of Banknotes, European Central Bank

 Mr Bernard Angel, Head of Unit, DGECFIN, European Commission

