The Blackboard Transaction System

Overview of Product Capabilities
The Blackboard Transaction System™ is a powerful tool for campus-based institutions to enhance business efficiencies while improving customer service and security through robust transaction processing applications. Powerful capabilities that support Dining, Commerce and Access are seamlessly integrated to offer transaction delivery between systems resulting in superior services for students, faculty and staff. These key capabilities include:

**Meal Plan Administration:**
Offers robust administration of dining services through unlimited options for accounts, plans, Point of Sale selections, menus and all of the other features required for effective meal plan administration.

**Advanced Reporting:**
Provides thousands of pre-developed reports including reports on net sales, stored value, tax accounts and credit card transactions. In addition, the system enables users to specify their own custom reports.

**Point of Sale Devices:**
Supports a wide variety of wired and wireless Point of Sale devices including sophisticated Point of Sale register systems with detailed reporting capabilities. In addition to partner-provided solutions, Blackboard also offers a full line of Blackboard-manufactured Point of Sale devices that represent some of the most durable in the market today.

**Native TCP / IP Card Readers:**
Offers ease of connectivity as well as the security of fully encrypted data communication. These readers are easy to install, eliminating expensive wiring and services costs.

**MICROS Integration and Support:**
Provides a scalable and robust Point of Sale (POS) solution with features designed for operational efficiency, advanced business analytics, maximum flexibility and ease of installation and use. Integrated through Blackboard Building Blocks®, MICROS® POS devices can authorize and settle a purchase against a campus debit account in real time.

**NCR Integration and Support:**
Provides a touch screen Point of Sale system that offers a combination of features including new embedded technology, tool-free serviceability and maximum configuration flexibility. The NCR® Point of Sale solutions operate Blackboard-developed software for dining services and POS transactions, and directly interface to the Blackboard Transaction System.

**Debit / Credit Account Administration:**
Debit accounts are maintained for cardholders to access funds for purchases made on and off campus at card-accepting locations. The accounts can be replenished with funds through a variety of locations including self-service stations and staffed points of service. Credit capabilities provide institutions the opportunity to offer employees and others the ability to charge goods and services. Payment for these charges can be through payroll deduction or monthly statement.

**Copy Administration:**
Allows cardholders to use the campus card and associated accounts to pay for copy services. In addition to providing cardholders with a valuable service, this capability enables the institution to reduce costs by minimizing waste.

**Vending Administration:**
Enables institutions to effectively service the campus community through card-based vending. These services also provide the institution with increased sales revenues and reduce the inefficiencies related to cash handling on campus.

**Laundry Administration:**
Allows cardholders to use the campus card and associated accounts to pay for laundry services. These services also provide the institution with increased sales revenues and reduce the inefficiencies related to cash handling on campus.

**IP Multi-Function Reader:**
Reader devices can be required for many functions including purchases, access, authorization of eligibility, voting, etc. Blackboard’s IP Multi-Function Reader provides a single footprint and single device capable of meeting multiple needs on campus.
Value Transfer Station / Card Management Center:
These stand alone, self-service stations allow cardholders to add value to campus accounts using cash and credit cards, as well as inquire about account balances. Visitors to the campus have the ability to purchase cards at these locations for specific uses, such as making copies or using campus print services.

Integrated Network Print Management:
Offers print management that monitors, tracks, controls, reports and accounts for document output. Through Pharos Uniprint®, institutions can effectively manage print services, resulting in tremendous cost savings and waste reduction.

Event / Activity Access Administration:
Addresses activities involving managing authorization and registration of attendance for special events or regularly scheduled activities. Event / Activity Access Administration capabilities provide institutions with the ability to authorize access, record attendance and ensure accurate administration through reporting and updates. These capabilities are enabled through permanent devices placed in strategic locations for regularly scheduled activities, as well as wireless readers which can take authorization services to events.

Status Monitoring:
Enables the institution to effectively monitor door access throughout the campus using alarm monitoring and reporting as well as full door access logging by cardholder. In addition to these key capabilities, institutions are able to configure the monitoring to meet their campus needs through full override capabilities, support for different schedules by location and support for holiday schedules.

Facilities / Door Access Administration:
Provides for the ability to control access to sensitive locations based on a variety of parameters, such as time, date and cardholder privileges. This application supports multiple plans to address the various needs of controlling access to different areas on campus.

Wireless Card Readers:
Allows the institution to expand points of service to encompass remote, non-wired locations. For example, special events that require approval for access are easily accommodated without the requirement for wiring.

Video Imaging / Card Production:
Enables production of the campus identification card, the token used by institutions to access campus services. Integrated through Blackboard Building Blocks, the DataCard® system creates a database that can be used in multiple locations by multiple users. The software provides the ability to automatically link a photo image for identification card production with the user account.

Blackboard Building Blocks:
Blackboard’s data and system integration capabilities, enabled through the Blackboard Building Blocks architecture, allow institutions to integrate campus back-office systems as well as third party systems with the Blackboard Commerce Suite™. The leading providers of bookstore, parking, print management, Point of Sale and other campus systems integrate their platforms with the Blackboard Commerce Suite through Blackboard Building Blocks.

Multi-Site Single System Capability:
Institutions operating multiple locations have the ability to offer the same services to all campuses from a single system. These capabilities include support for multiple sites within one physical campus or locations across the state or country.

SIS / Bookstore / Library Integration:
Supports a core technology schema that enables third-party system integration and interoperability designed to readily allow secure information exchange between Blackboard and external systems. Clients can seamlessly connect to all systems on campus for more efficient campus operations.

Standards Compliance:
Compliance and interoperability with industry standards is a fundamental capability of Blackboard’s platform. Blackboard is a strong advocate for industry standards including data encryption and security (AES, SSL and Twofish), authentication (LDAP, Kerberos, etc.) and safety (Underwriters Laboratory).