

Visa Expands Contactless Payments to Public Transport

- Contactless Transit Payments on Public Transport to Grow
- UOB: E-Payments for Transit Will Boost Overall Adoption

Singapore joins other major cities that have enabled open-loop Visa payment cards for public transport, including London, Sydney and New York.

Commuters in Singapore can now use their Visa contactless cards or compatible devices to pay for bus or train rides under the Land Transport Authority's (LTA) SimplyGo initiative, Visa said in an announcement on Thursday.

According to Visa, the project with LTA is one of its largest implementation for contactless acceptance for transit globally, with 30,000 acceptance points.

SimplyGo was rolled out for MasterCard users in April, aiming to make traveling by public transport seamless and convenient by eliminating the need to carry a travel card or wait in line to purchase or top up a travel card. Fees under SimplyGo are the same as paying with a travel card.

Contactless Acceptance

Visa said has been working with partners and merchants to expand the acceptance of contactless payments nationwide, including transport, quick service restaurants and hawker centers.

«Today, Singapore is already one of the top markets globally in terms of contactless penetration with more than 80 percent of all Visa transactions being contactless. We expect this number to grow even faster with the opening of transit acceptance,» **Kunal Chatterjee**, Visa country manager for Singapore and Brunei, said.