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NetDespatch makes eCommerce add up for Amtrak with on-line payments

Marlow, UK, January 2008 - NetDespatch is helping to make express delivery parcel services more available, thanks to the development of an online credit card payment facility for customers of express parcel carrier Amtrak. The new credit/debit card payment option at www.amtrak-it.co.uk makes it much easier for small companies and individuals to use Amtrak's overnight parcel services, for delivery to both home and business addresses.

Many small businesses and home-based internet traders rely on traditional postal services for sending goods. With the shrinking Post Office network and the inconvenience of having to visit a local Post Office counter, there has long been a demand for easier access to commercial parcel delivery services.

Amtrak offers a much more convenient service; simple online booking and payment; a courier calls to collect the parcels, and then they are delivered on the next working day. The NetDespatch online services ensure accurate delivery information and provide safer in-transit tracking as well as automatic confirmation of delivery.

"Our new service enables people to send parcels without leaving the house - and especially without standing in a queue at the Post Office," says Alan Jones, Amtrak's Managing Director. "We also have special services for goods of high value - either cash value or sentimental value - and we anticipate people will use Amtrak to send all kinds of items."

"Sole traders and other infrequent users of parcels services had always been put off by the need to open a formal account with a commercial carrier. Now with Amtrak, online booking and payment by card is as convenient as any other online purchase" says Becky Clark, CEO of NetDespatch. She continues, "The Amtrak-IT web site leverages the full power of the NetDespatch Velocity platform, which provides the pricing calculations, collection alerts for the couriers, delivery alerts for recipients, and a full set of management reports."

Amtrak is also a specialist handler for fine wines, and already offers a Personal Express (delivery only to a specifically named person) and Tender Express (for important tender or contract documents) service. Customers can log onto the Amtrak website www.amtrak-it.co.uk to book and pay for the Next Day service, selecting from a range of options if they need an early delivery.

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