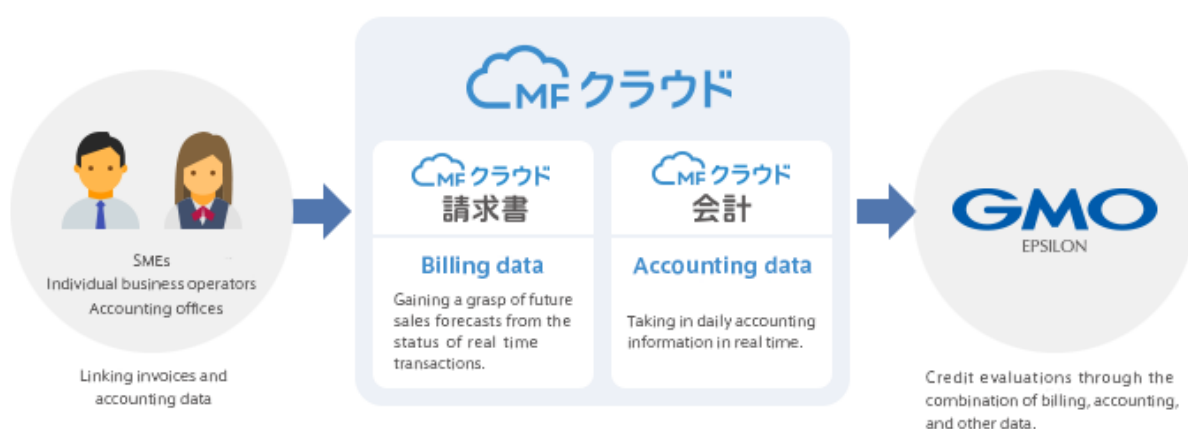


GMO-PG Partners with Money Forward to offer a Lending Service to SMEs with a Credit Model that Uses Billing and Accounting Data

For companies and individual businesses that use Money Forward's billing and accounting software

GMO-PG and GMO-EP on September 5, 2016 formed a partnership with Money Forward, Inc., a developer of money platforms, to offer lending services from a credit model that combines billing and accounting data. The service will be one of GMO-PG and GMO-EP's new initiatives for companies and individual business that use Money Forward's cloud-based "MF Cloud Invoice" accounting software and its cloud-based MF Cloud Accounting/Income Tax Return" accounting software and is scheduled to be available in November 2016.



【Background and Overview】

While growing SMEs and individual businesses often need to procure funds for their business operations, business expansion purchases, or other purposes, they are often required to submit financial statements and be prepared with collateral, on top of which evaluations will take several weeks, which makes it difficult to quickly receive financing.

Since March 2015, GMO-EP, which serves as a payment service agent for e-commerce operators, has been offering merchants "GMO Epsilon Transaction Lending", which quickly supplies loans based on credit evaluations which are made from daily payment data.

Meanwhile, FinTech services, which evaluate credit and provide loans based on billing and other data, has been appearing on the scene in the United States in recent years on the back of advancements in the application of cloud billing and accounting. These types of services are used widely, due to the fact that unlike conventional loans, funds are available simply by entering information in a cloud billing or accounting system. GMO-PG and GMO-EP have decided to leverage the trust and the capital strength that is enjoyed by GMO-PG, which is listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and the experience and expertise that it has accumulated in credit analysis and financing to offer credit analysis through the combination of billing and accounting data.

GMO-PG and GMO-EP will partner with Money Forward and are scheduled to start offering these services in November 2016.

【A lending service based on the combination of billing and accounting data】

These services will be offered as a first initiative for Money Forward's "MF Cloud Finance (*1)".

GMO-EP will conduct credit analysis on companies and individual businesses that use Money Forward's cloud-based "MF Cloud Billing" accounting software and its cloud-based MF Cloud Accounting/Income Tax Return" accounting software by combining daily accounting data and billing data, which will enable them to understand sales forecasts in real time. The recipients of the services will receive loans quickly without the need to prepare financial statements, collateral, or guarantors, and be able to procure funds before accounts are closed for the year. Loans will be available as quickly as five business days from the time of application.

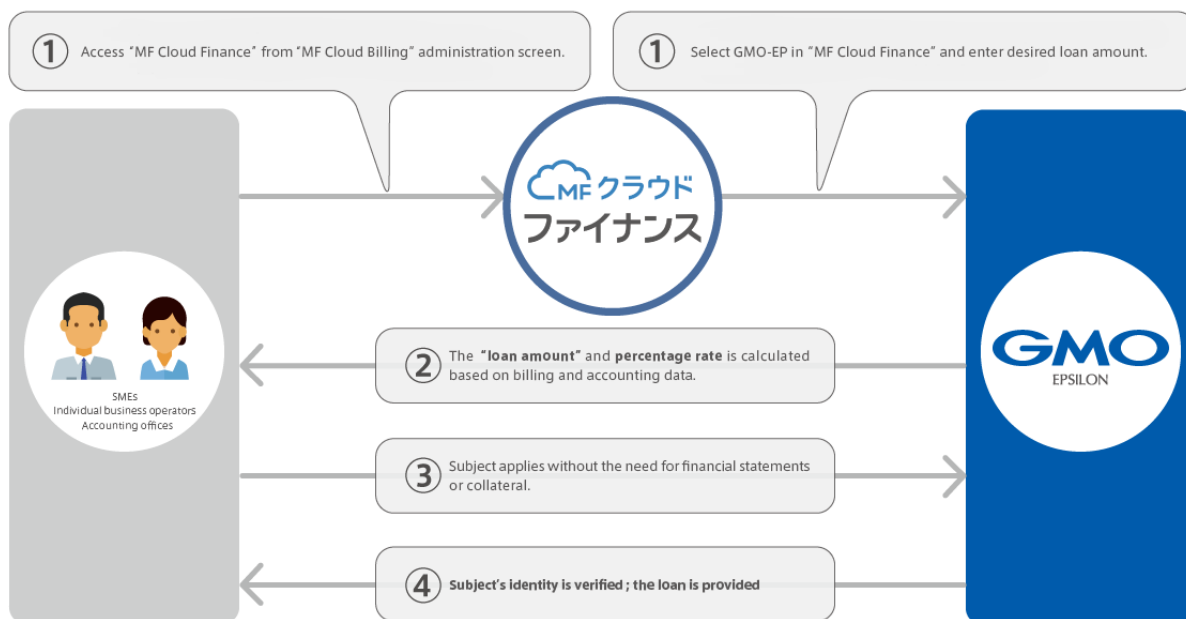
■ Process flow for lending, leveraging billing and accounting data

- ① A company or individual business operator that seeks funding can go to the "MF Cloud Billing" administration screen and access Money Forward's "MF Cloud Finance" loan analysis request system, select GMO-EP, enter the desired amount, and send a request for evaluation.

The billing and accounting data of the company or business operator will then be sent to GMO-EP.

- ② GMO-EP will use the billing and accounting data, calculate the loan amount and the interest rate, and send a response.
- ③ The company or individual business can then apply if they are satisfied with the conditions. Financial statements and collateral will not be required.
- ④ GMO-EP will verify the individual or entity, take the necessary steps, and provide the loan.

(*1) A new Fintech service that leverages data from "MF Cloud Billing", "MF Cloud Accounting", and other sources to enable users of the "MF Cloud Series" to procure funds from financial institutions. The "MF Cloud Series" offered by Money Forward is a cloud service for business that consists of "MF Cloud Accounting", "MF Cloud Accounting/Income Tax Return", and "MF Cloud Billing". It has 500,000 users as of September 2016.



< Diagram: Process flow for "lending that leverages billing and accounting data" >

【Money Forward, Inc.】

Since its establishment in May 2012, Money Forward has been developing and offering platforms which have to do with money, such as automated household account books on expenditures, asset management services, and cloud services for business. It also operates online media which offer the correct facts and helpful information about money, as well as running the Money Forward Fintech research institute.

【GMO Payment Gateway】

GMO-PG offers comprehensive payment services and financial services to 72,569 merchants (as of June 2016, GMO-PG Group) including operators of online shops and sellers of digital content; operators who collect recurring monthly payments, such as NHK and those who offer subscription purchases; and public organizations such as Japan Pension Service and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

Services for added value such as online advertising services that contribute to boosted merchant sales, focused chiefly on payment services. Supplying loans and other financial services that support the growth of merchants from a funding perspective and actively engaging in overseas initiatives like overseas payment services, the yearly payment amount processed by GMO-PG exceeds 1.8 trillion yen.

GMO-PG aims to enable both consumers and businesses to enjoy payment methods that are convenient and equipped with high levels of security and to serve as the infrastructure for payment processes in Japan.

GMO-PG will promote initiatives for new innovation such as FinTech and contribute to improving the rates of e-commerce in Japan as a leading company in the payment industry.

【GMO Epsilon】

GMO-EP is a business operator that serves as an agent for payments at no initial costs or processing fees ^(*) for transaction.

An agreement with GMO-EP is all you need in order to have access to an array of payment methods and delivery services including credit card payments, convenience store payments, wallet payments, and smartphone carrier payments without the need to set up a separate system for each vendor. It is also possible to greatly eliminate extra costs and efforts since fees for product purchases and deliveries collected from buyers are bundled.

GMO Epsilon is a member of the GMO Internet Group, listed on the TSE First Section, and its systems meet PCIDSS and ISMS security standards and facilitates an environment that offers e-commerce operators peace of mind.

(*) Transaction processing fee: An amount charged for each transaction with a credit card company that is incurred for the authorization of a credit card (obtaining an authorization number), billing, or other transaction..

【Related Links】

- Money Forward URL: <http://corp.moneyforward.com/>
- GMO-EP URL: <http://www.epsilon.jp/>
- GMO-PG URL : <http://corp.gmo-pg.com/en>

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