

## James Wester Research Director



James Wester is Research Director for IDC Financial Insights responsible for the global payments practice. Mr. Wester's core research coverage includes the evolution of payment networks and technology, developing fraud and security risks, and legal and regulatory issues. Based on his background covering the mobile payment space, Mr. Wester's research also includes a particular emphasis on mobile and alternative payment methods and the threats and opportunities now facing the entire payment ecosystem from evolving mobile technologies.

### BACKGROUND

Previously, James was founding editor of Mobile Payments Today, the first news site dedicated to mobile payments, commerce and financial services. He also served as an affiliate analyst with Yankee Group covering mobile and emerging payments. Prior to launching Mobile Payments Today, Mr. Wester was Director of Corporate Communications for merchant acquirer Chase Paymentech. Before joining Chase Paymentech, Mr. Wester worked for AOL LLC managing the company's \$60 million payment budget and serving as the internal subject matter expert on payments, data security and best practices.

### EDUCATION/INDUSTRY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- M.S in IT Management from the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce
- B.A. in English/Communications from Drury University
- Frequent speaker, presenter and moderator at industry conferences as well as providing analysis for multiple media outlets including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, CNBC and Re/Code.

**James Wester**  
Research Director  
Global Payments  
IDC Financial Insights

- More than 15 years of experience
- Research content: payment networks and technology, fraud and security, regulatory issues, mobile payments
- Follow James on twitter: @jameswester
- Read James' recent blog posts in the [IDC Financial Insights Community](#)
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