



## **Chase offers customized overdraft protection to its small business customers**

New York, May 12, 2003 - Expanding its portfolio of services to its customers, Chase Small Business Financial Services today introduced a unique enhancement to overdraft check protection. Now, Chase SBFS customers can get increased overdraft protection by linking up to nine banking accounts as "protecting accounts." Sole proprietors can even link personal accounts if they choose. One of the most notable features of the enhancement is the expansion of overdraft protection to include debit card purchases.

"We are making it easier for our small business customers to manage cash flow and access the funds they need, thereby enabling them to make payment decisions quickly and with higher levels of confidence," said Joe Scharfenberger, Chase Executive Vice President. "This is completely innovative for small businesses."

The new list of potential linked accounts for overdraft protection includes saving and money market accounts, additional checking accounts, revolving lines of credit and, in some cases, CDs. Customers can choose the number and order of accounts from which funds can be transferred automatically into their primary checking account. The exact amount of the overdraft will be transferred up to the maximum available funds from the protecting accounts and will "waterfall" - in the order specified by the customer - into their checking accounts until the overdraft amount is satisfied.

The enhanced check coverage feature also allows for immediate access to checks deposited at ATMs, up to a daily limit and within available balance amounts in the protecting accounts. Immediate access to funds also provides for same-day check writing against deposits.

"We want to make life easier for small business owners. Customers can now use their relationship balances to manage daily cash positions, to cover payments, take advantage of seasonal opportunities, and avoid fees from bounced checks," Mr. Scharfenberger added.

To enroll, customers can go to the nearest branch, call the Chase Small Business ServiceLine at 1-800-CHASE38 and ask to speak to a Small Business representative, or log on to [www.chase.com](http://www.chase.com).

Chase Small Business Financial Services and the Small Business team serve more than 300,000 small business customers, offering a comprehensive range of financial products and services to fit both everyday and long-term business needs. Customers can choose from an array of payment and financing solutions, investor and insurance solutions, and access solutions, including Chase Online for Small Business, 24-hour phone access via Small Business ServiceLine, an extensive branch network throughout the Northeast and Texas, and thousands of ATMs.

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. is a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$755 billion and operations in more than 50 countries. The firm is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers and businesses, financial transaction processing, investment management, private banking and private equity. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, JPMorgan Chase is headquartered in New York and serves more than 30 million consumer customers nationwide, and many of the world's most prominent corporate, institutional and government clients. Information about JPMorgan Chase is available on the internet at [www.jpmorganchase.com](http://www.jpmorganchase.com).