

PUBLIC WEBSITE CONTENT
February 22, 2007

Notice to Credit Card Holders

Scotiabank has been advised of a breach of credit card information involving TJX Companies Inc., a leading international apparel and home fashions retailer. The U.S.-based company is the owner of T.J. Maxx, Marshalls, Winners, HomeSense, T.K. Maxx, HomeGoods, A.J. Wright and Bob's Stores.

The stolen information could be used to make fraudulent credit card purchases. All major credit card brands accepted by the TJX apparel or home fashion stores – including Visa and MasterCard – may be affected by the compromise.

What you need to know

If you have not used your Visa and MasterCard at any of TJX apparel or home fashion stores, you are not likely to be affected by the TJX breach. Debit cards are not at risk.

If you have used your credit card at TJX Retail Outlets

It is important for Scotiabank Visa and MasterCard clients to know you are protected against fraudulent purchases through zero liability policies. Please also keep in mind that fraud may not occur on all cards compromised in the TJX breach.

Going forward

Visa, MasterCard and other card issuers are working closely with TJX, law enforcement agencies and financial institutions globally, investigating the breach and minimizing the impact on cardholders.

Scotiabank's commitment

As a precaution, Scotiabank is in the process of notifying customers whose Visa and MasterCards may be affected. Replacement cards will be provided. It is not necessary to obtain new account numbers or destroy cards in the meantime. Scotiabank has sophisticated fraud monitoring tools working around the clock, analyzing card activity and blocking unauthorized transactions if necessary.

What cardholders can do

One of the most important things you can do to protect yourself is review monthly Visa, MasterCard and bank account statements and report any irregularities immediately. Visit our Web site for other security tips.