

AMERICAN BANKER

On Focus and In Depth

Alacriti Develops Biller-Direct Suite

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Alacriti Inc. of South Plainfield, N.J., has developed a suite of biller-direct applications that banks and other large billers could run in-house.

The vendor will announce today that it has developed OrbiPay, the commercial version of a system it has developed over the past five years for one of the world's largest banking companies.

Manish Gurukula, **Alacriti's** chief executive, would not identify the customer in an interview last week. He said his company got the job to develop the biller-direct system as a result of earlier efforts to develop a person-to-person payment system, which the banking company decommissioned after running for a couple of years.

"They wanted to replace all their bill payment platforms with this enterprise payment platform," he said.

The banking company was using a variety of payment processing systems, often vendor-hosted, for several retail lending businesses, Mr. Gurukula said. Since the first card payment application went live in August 2005, the in-house system has saved the company \$142 million of operating costs, **Alacriti** said.