

OPPO Unveils F11 Pro Marvels' Avengers Limited Edition



Express Report

OPPO, one of the leading global smartphone brands has officially announced the unveiling of a brand new F11 Pro Marvel's Avengers Limited Edition smartphone. The pre-order of the device has started on April 28, 2019 and will be available in the market of Bangladesh from May 03, 2019. The handset is priced at around BDT 42,990.

OPPO F11 Pro Marvel's Avengers Limited Edition is powerful enough to be flaunted by the users as a Super Hero itself. Firstly, Captain America's iconic features are the main inspirations for the design. And as Iron Man can fly in high-tech armor, this smartphone also has a high-end rising camera. Similar to Thor, the God of Thunder, the VOOC flash charge 3.0 within the phone brings lightning-like charging speed.

Inspired by the Hulk, the smartphone has a powerful build and has storage of up to 6GB RAM + 128GB ROM. And emulating the very agile and skilful elite agent Black Widow, the smartphone also runs very smoothly owing to Hyper Boost. Finally, Hawkeye's precise archery skills is portrayed by the very details captures of its 48MP dual rear cameras; taking crisp clear pictures.

Regarding the handset, Mr. Damon Yang, Managing Director of OPPO Bangladesh commented, "There are many young fans who look up to the strong, iconic, and powerful Avengers. We are pleased to team up with Marvel Studios' Avengers: Endgame to reach these

young fans every where! We sincerely hope that its reception among the users will be more than satisfactory."

Splendid F11 Pro

OPPO has also expanded its F series portfolio of smartphones in Bangladesh with the launch of OPPO F11 Pro and F11.

OPPO F11 Pro is priced at BDT 36,990 and is available in Thunder Black and Aurora Green color variants. On the other hand, OPPO F11 is available at BDT 27,990 and will be available in two dazzling color variants marble green and fluorite purple.



Commenting on the launch, Mr. Damon Yang, Managing Director of OPPO Bangladesh said, "At OPPO, we have always aimed at bringing the smoothest smartphone experience to our customers. Our commitment is to bring the most innovative technology and differentiated designs at the best value. The OPPO F series has one of the most highly acclaimed product portfolios globally, and we are hopeful that OPPO F11 Pro and F11 will take forward the legacy of innovation in Bangladesh too."

Mr. Damon Yang, Managing Director of OPPO Bangladesh; Ekram Kabir, Vice President, Corporate Communication, Rabi Axiata Ltd; Cricketer Taskin Ahmed, Actress Sabila Noor, Photographer Prito Reza, Iftekhar Sunny, PR Manager, OPPO Bangladesh and Iono, Brand Manager, OPPO, Bangladesh were present at the event along with other high officials from OPPO.

Supply Chain Finance Stumped By KYC



The Asian Development Bank's estimates that the global trade finance gap has reached \$1.5 trillion has jumpstarted a new wave of competition between banks and FinTechs working to address the biggest challenges to landing capital in the hands of global traders.

FinTech has identified a particularly large opportunity in the trade finance market, pegging traditional banks as too slow to innovate, without the agility to manage the complex processes often linked with financing trade with smaller businesses. Banks' massive compliance burdens cannot be ignored, either.

However, analysts also note that FinTechs have their own regulatory requirements as well (albeit, often much lower than those of banks), and because they aim to address the financing gap for smaller businesses seen as less lucrative by banks, the due diligence burden is lofty as well. A 2017 report by the Asian Development Bank found that, despite its efforts, FinTech had not yet made a dent on that global trade finance gap.

Two years later, Kyriba and Strategic Treasurer have drawn a different conclusions. The pair's latest Supply Chain Finance Survey, released last week, suggests that FinTechs are indeed making headway in trade finance—however, rather than competing with banks, they have found a prominent role in FIs' back offices to facilitate trade finance.

“The data shows FinTech continuing to drive change, with banks working hard to match the pace of innovation,” said Strategic Treasurer Founder and Managing Partner Craig Jeffery in a statement announcing the report.

However, with FinTechs finding themselves imbedded with the banks, they are now exposed to the same regulatory demands as their FI partners. Indeed, the survey revealed the extent of compliance pressure on the trade finance space — as well as the challenge of addressing more lofty demands from corporate recipients of trade finance. Below, PYMNTS breaks down the key data from the report.

Nearly half of banks surveyed use a third-party FinTech to facilitate supply chain finance to their corporate customers, though researchers found bank-FinTech competition remains strong. Though banks' biggest focus for investing in supply chain finance solutions will be to partner with FinTechs, half of the banks surveyed noted that maintaining a competitive edge against FinTechs is also a top challenge. Corporates still prefer to work with banks to access supply chain finance, but FinTech providers are close behind (34 percent use banks, while 29 percent use a FinTech solution).

Seventy-seven percent of banks say know your customer (KYC) regulations are the biggest hindrance to their supply chain finance operations. According to the report, this is a key area in which banks struggle to compete: analysis has shown that it takes longer to onboard a client with KYC due diligence when using a

bank solution than with a FinTech. That's a big deal for B2B suppliers, most of which note that KYC delays are the largest hurdle to on-boarding onto a SCF solution.

Fifty-two percent of businesses say they want a flexible supply chain finance program that can change as their cash positions do. About one-third of businesses say their cash position fluctuates from cash deficit to cash excess. At times of cash excess, they prefer to leverage an internal supply chain financing strategy via dynamic discounting with their vendors. At times of a deficit, however, they want to draw on their SCF offering. Researchers noted that this finding represents the demand for a flexible supply chain finance solution, particularly as 45 percent of vendors say they would be willing to adjust their SCF strategy based on the fluctuations of cash positions of their customers.

New research finds business intelligence tech leads to 24% higher revenue



The Tech Impact '19 report from IQBlade, which analyses the UK's fastest growing companies and the technologies behind their growth, found that the average sales for those using business intelligence platforms in 2018 was £39 million, compared to £24 million for those that don't.

Business intelligence and data visualisation software is used by businesses to make sense of data and display it

in a digestible format, allowing them to make more informed decisions and drive growth. Market leaders profiled in the report include Tableau, Progress Software and QlikView.

UK companies that deploy business intelligence and data visualisation software enjoy an average of 24% more sales than those that don't, a new research has revealed.

Open Banking Adds Intelligence To Treasury Management



As the corporate treasurer takes on a more strategic role in the enterprise, treasury and cash management technologies can often be stuck in the past, failing to keep up with financial execs' needs. The problem can be traced back to data: as organizations scale, either through organic growth or M&A, they're taking on more financial management platforms and opening more bank accounts, leading to fragmented storage of financial data.

Despite the data challenge, pressures on CFOs and treasurers continue to mount. Analysts today expect the cash management of tomorrow to be real-time, which means financial executives need to access all of their data — fast.

Brett Turner, founder and CEO of corporate financial data management company Trovata, recently explained to PYMNTS why this is next to impossible using traditional financial management tools. Corporates that aren't using an automated solution are often forced to manually pull data from online banking sources into Excel spreadsheets, and manually normalize that data to analyze it and discover their cash positions, he said.

"You're doing your own IT and data normalization, and

from there, you have to go to your ERP system for accounts receivable and accounts payable data, and normalize that data," he noted, adding that there is an opportunity to automate this manual, repetitive process.

The friction associated with manually downloading data across banking and financial platforms, and then having to normalize it to make it usable, presents a significant opportunity for open banking initiatives and APIs in the corporate cash management space. Turner noted that FinTechs that are able to wield data-sharing opportunities can then automate the aggregation and normalization of financial data across platforms automatically, enabling financial controllers and other executives to obtain their cash positions in near real-time.

At the same time, solutions like the cash automation platform Trovata recently announced are also able to tackle another point of friction for growing enterprises. According to Turner, complex treasury management systems are expensive and take a long time to implement which might be fine for the largest of the large firms of the world, but not everyone. Data flows via APIs not only enable streamlined access to financial data, but are

able to do it much more quickly than some legacy systems available.

Open banking is not a regulatory requirement in the U.S., however, and banks do not necessarily have to open up their data to third party platforms like Trovata's. Even so, Turner said U.S. banks are open to the data-sharing ecosystem, as shown in the launch of APIs from some of the largest institutions, including Bank of America and HSBC, both of which are targeting corporate clients with their connectivity and data-sharing initiatives.

"Customers are demanding something that's much more interactive and more integrated, and more visual and BI [business intelligence]-like," said Turner. "That's not necessarily in a bank's DNA to build out those kind of next-gen, product-orientated pieces of their online banking tools."

He added that Trovata's recent partnership with JPMorgan Chase exemplifies financial institutions' willingness not only to open up data to third party solution providers (with client permission), but to actually collaborate with them to build out offerings for corporate customers.

In Trovata's case, that partnership includes seed funding from JPMorgan, which will be used to focus on product development as the company pilots its cash automation solution with Square Treasury using JPMorgan APIs.

As open banking continues to proliferate in the U.S. financial services space, data security will also come into focus for corporate finance executives even more than today. As more data flows between platforms, it becomes more difficult for security experts to ascertain whether access to sensitive customer information has been granted by the customer or not.

In the U.S., financial service providers will certainly be looking toward the U.K., Europe and other markets that have already implemented open banking regulations to better understand how to approach the multitude of emerging data security questions.

Turner noted that this is another reason why banks are finding it valuable to collaborate with the FinTechs that gain access to customer data: they can ensure that third-party partners have robust data security standards, and to meet the expectations of bank-grade security held both by FIs and corporate end-users.

With faster payments initiatives accelerating the flow of data in the financial services markets, and adding even more pressure on financial execs' efforts to obtain data in real time, Turner added that bank-FinTech collaboration, and banks' continued support for open banking initiatives, will grow increasingly important in addressing the biggest points of friction for corporate treasurers, CFOs and controllers.

Facebook waives pre-approval for cryptocurrency ads

Facebook announced it is loosening its restrictions on advertisements related to cryptocurrency, in a new blogpost.

The social media network previously required written approval to advertise cryptocurrency products, but now it will no longer require pre-approval for advertisements of blockchain technology, industry news, education and events, according to an announcement.

Despite this new policy, Facebook will continue to ban all advertisements for initial coin offerings and binary options, due to potentially misleading content. Facebook will also continue to require prior approval for an advertisement that directs to a landing page that features a product like a cryptocurrency exchange.

"We're committed to preventing misleading advertising on our platforms, especially in the area of financial products and services," Facebook said in the announcement. "Because of this, people who want to promote cryptocurrency and closely related products like cryptocurrency exchanges and mining software and hardware, will still have to go through a review process."

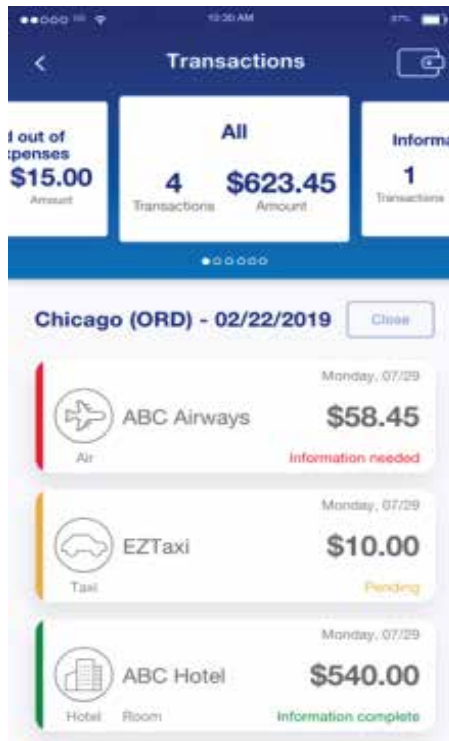
Facebook officials added that the "process will continue to take into account licenses they have obtained, whether they are traded on a public stock exchange (or are a subsidiary of a public company) and other relevant public background on their business."

Mastercard acquires bill payment platform deals

Mastercard Inc. has entered into an agreement to buy Transactis, a digital bill payment platform, according to a press release.

The platform makes it easy for companies of all sizes, even property owners and schools, that typically don't collect bills online, to accept online and mobile payments.

"We see Transactis as strengthening our support in the bill payment space," said Colleen Taylor, executive vice president of new payment platforms at Mastercard, in the release. "Transactis' technical and commercial know-how, combined with our reach and comprehensive



payment options will greatly simplify the entire process."

The acquisition follows the debut last fall of Mastercard Bill Pay Exchange, a platform that lets consumers set up bill payments for mortgages, utilities, rent, credit cards and other bills. The exchange is slated to launch later this year.

The exchange uses a series of API's offered to banks and credit unions to allow consumers to set up bill payment through their own digital banking apps.

Terms of the deal, which is expected to close in the second quarter, were not disclosed.

Klarna enters deal to add financing technology to AliExpress

Klarna Bank AB announced an agreement with Alipay and Adyen to use its Pay Later technology on AliExpress, the global ecommerce marketplace owned by Alibaba Group.

The agreement will allow customers of the site in Germany, the Netherlands, Austria and Finland to pay for purchases over time using the Klarna Pay Later financing technology, which is enabled by Adyen. Additional markets will be added throughout the year.

"We are delighted to be partnering with a global powerhouse and ecommerce leader such as AliExpress and together with Adyen enabling shoppers to have

greater choice for how to pay at checkout," Michael Rouse, chief commercial officer at Klarna said in a company release.

He said AliExpress will be able to drive consumer preference, increase average order value and decrease cart abandonment rates.

Klarna late last month reported a 36% increase in annual sales volume to reach \$29 billion. The company said that it partners with more than 130,000 merchants across verticals, with more than 25,000 added in 2018.