



THE CENTRAL BANK OF THE BAHAMAS

**Central Bank of The Bahamas Launches its CRISP Evolution
Family of Banknotes with a New \$10**

**Banking Department
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CENTRAL BANK OF THE BAHAMAS LAUNCHES ITS CRISP EVOLUTION FAMILY OF BANKNOTES WITH A NEW \$10

Today the Central Bank announced the release of a redesigned \$10 banknote. “The initiative”, according to Mr. John Rolle, Governor of the Central Bank, “is in keeping with the Bank’s commitment to refresh its family of banknotes every 10 to 12 years”. The current family, referred to as CRISP, has been in circulation for just over a decade, as the first denomination—CRISP \$10—was issued in 2005. The acronym **CRISP**, which stands for **Counterfeit Resistant Integrated Security Product**, was crafted by the Central Bank to underpin the existing family’s specific objective to address the element of counterfeiting. In fact, the practice of naming banknote families has, as of late, become somewhat popular amongst issuing authorities, although Central Bank of The Bahamas was certainly the first in the region to publicize the concept. As he states, “given the continued relevance of the acronym, the Bank opted to retain the name CRISP, and is now pleased to introduce the CRISP Evolution family of banknotes to the Bahamian public. “We are confident that the public will be able to appreciate the history, innovation, and national symbolism embedded in the new family” Governor Rolle continued.

Mr. Derek Rolle, Banking Manager, who has direct oversight of circulating banknotes and coins, provided some additional insight into the banknote design strategy. “The first denomination, CRISP Evolution \$10 (CE\$10) is infused with Bahamian images and national symbols, including the Yellow Elder in full bloom, which is featured on the face of the note. The Hopetown Lighthouse remains the subject of the back of the note” he added, “but is captured from a more vivid, panoramic perspective.” The team was excited to point out that, in fact, for the first time in Bahamian history, the back of the note has been printed in a vertical format. Traditional images, such as the replica map of the islands of The Bahamas and the Coat of Arms have been retained. “There are also other, more subtle, images of cultural significance throughout the banknote; the yellow polyp that emerges from behind the yellow elder; the neighbouring angelfish; and the sun from the Coat of Arms, which doubles as a covert security feature.”

While the more striking as well as the more subtle images make for a stunning banknote, CE\$10’s true splendour lies in its enhanced security, which has been thoughtfully built into the design. With the support of its international design and security partners, the CE\$10 project team was successful in balancing Bahamian imagery with some of the most advanced banknote security concepts available in the market today. Although the new CRISP Evolution family

inherits several security features from its CRISP parent, such as denomination-specific banknote paper, watermarks, and ultraviolet structures, CE\$10 takes security a step further. “The Bank is honoured to issue the first circulation banknote in the world bearing Active™ said Mr. Rolle, “a robust lenticular thread installed on the back of the note—another first for The Bahamas.” Subsidiary features, such as the use of raster graphics throughout the banknote, and the installation of tactile bars for the visually-impaired, make CE\$10 worthy of being the introductory note for the new family. Bank staffers closely involved to the design process have used words such as “brilliant”, “sophisticated”, and “rejuvenating” to describe the new family.

According to Mr. Kareem Cox, who acted as project manager for the initiative, “the Bank has taken a number of measures to promote the public’s awareness of CE\$10 and how to authenticate it. First,” he indicated, “the standard educational posters and leaflets were disseminated to major cash handlers throughout the country just prior to release of the banknote into circulation, with an electronic version available on its website at www.centralbankbahamas.com. Second, a short video clip will be seen in Galleria 11 theatres and on various spots of RevTV’s basic package in the coming days. Finally, the Bank launched a new, interactive, banknote virtual tour that can also be accessed via its website.”

The banknotes will be available at all commercial banks and ABMs throughout Nassau as of September 28th and are expected to hit Freeport and the family islands within the days to follow. Members of the general public are invited to visit the Bank’s website, for more information.