



## ECRS' CATAPULT® Prepares Retailers for new SNAP Laws Soon to be Regulation

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**February 12, 2014 - LAS VEGAS, NV** - The Farm Bill, signed by President Obama on February 7, 2014, has significant implications for those retailers, primarily in grocery and convenience markets, which redeem Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) benefits. ECRS' CATAPULT retail automation system enables retailers to meet new point of sale-related SNAP laws without additional cost or system changes. Although the provision requiring certain point of sale functionality does not go into effect until the Department of Agriculture issues regulations implementing it, a process that could take several months, retailers using the CATAPULT system will be ahead of the curve before enforceable regulations are enacted. ECRS will continue to monitor new SNAP laws and is prepared to respond accordingly in order to assist retailers with their compliance ahead of any mandates.

Information provided by NACS, the Association for Convenience and Fuel Retailing, states that the Farm Bill legislation mandates the following POS-related obligation on SNAP retailers:

- **SNAP retailers will be required to implement point-of-sale technology systems that won't allow SNAP benefits for the purchase of ineligible items, and will further preclude cashiers from manually overriding this prohibition.**

ECRS' CATAPULT Web Office suite lets the retailer set the SNAP special tender by store in its Inventory Maintenance program. It is important to designate SNAP eligibility by location since this eligibility differs by state. CATAPULT's Security Authorization can be used to prevent cashiers from overriding the SNAP tender requirement during a point-of-sale transaction.

Additionally, CATAPULT provides "mixed basket split tender" functionality, which automatically detects SNAP-eligible items and allows only these items to be paid for via SNAP tender. Remaining items are split tendered and an alternate payment type is requested. This removes cashier responsibility for monitoring SNAP purchases and eliminates the hassle of having to ring separate transactions.

"ECRS remains fully committed to helping its retail customers stay compliant with both government-based and industry-centric policies and regulations," stated ECRS Director of Software Design, Burt Aycock. "CATAPULT's out-of-the box SNAP compliance is just one testament to our over-arching commitment."

ECRS' CATAPULT software is certified for PCI-DSS compliance, Texas WIC, West Virginia WIC, SNAP/EBT, IIAS, Weights and Measures, and NPLEx pseudoephedrine tracking.

### About ECRS

Ranked by the 2013 RIS Software LeaderBoard as the number one provider of retail automation systems, ECR Software Corporation (ECRS) serves thousands of retail clients across North America and the Caribbean. In business for twenty-five years, the privately-held company has enjoyed steady growth and industry recognition for its customer service and technology innovation. The ECRS retail automation suite offers: point of sale, self service, back office, inventory and replenishment, supplier integration, warehousing, gift card, customer loyalty and marketing, electronic payment processing, general ledger, fuel pump integration, and pharmacy system integration. For more information, contact [solutions@ecrs.com](mailto:solutions@ecrs.com).