



6705 Sugarloaf Parkway, Ste 200  
Duluth, GA 30097  
[www.gcu.org](http://www.gcu.org)

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Contact: Anita Paul (KT)  
(678) 542-3415, [anitap@gcua.org](mailto:anitap@gcua.org)

### **CSI Pays Patronage Refund to Owners**

**DULUTH, GA (January 14, 2010)** – Closing out 2009 on a positive note was a challenge for many in the financial services industry. The credit union movement, however, fared well under the circumstances, a phenomenon that could be attributed to its cooperative structure. In Georgia, one co-op in particular helped put a smile on the faces of its owners by paying a patronage refund totaling \$300,000.

Cooperative Services, Incorporated (CSI)—one of the largest credit union collaborations in Georgia—provides payment services to more than 140 credit unions. Its transition to branch capture in 2009, coupled with collaborations with other states for image technology, significantly influenced savings. “It is a great feeling to be able to share our savings with our owners,” said Mike Mercer, president and CEO of CSI. “We hope to continue returning earnings in upcoming years as a way to show our thanks and appreciation.”

As CSI continues to seek ways of adding value to its owners, the company’s leadership sees EFT, Network and shared branching activities as opportunities for growth in 2010 and beyond.

#### **About Cooperative Services, Inc.**

Cooperative Services, Inc. (CSI) is a service organization that provides payment services and other support services to credit unions. CSI was founded in 1989 by the six largest credit unions in the state of Georgia and Georgia Central Credit Union. Sixty-one credit unions currently own stock in CSI. More than 140 credit unions utilize the services of CSI. The cooperative support of credit unions has created an organization that benefits credit unions in terms of lower processing costs and a high level of service. For more information, please click [here](#).

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