

For immediate release

## Bushel and CFA Partner to Provide Cooperative Members & Farmers Access to Digital Payments

FARGO, N.D., DATE – Bushel, a leader in digital payments and workflow solutions for agriculture, announced the Cooperative Finance Association (CFA) will offer Bushel's digital payment platform as an embedded finance solution for its members. This partnership provides agribusinesses a simpler, more competitive way to offer financial services while giving farmers more flexibility to manage their input financing.

CFA provides financing solutions to agricultural cooperatives and their farmer members across 38 states. By integrating with Bushel's payments platform, CFA agribusiness members can accept digital payments through Bushel's customer portals, making it easier for farmers to access and use their available capital. Borrowers will be able to pay back their loan digitally through the Bushel platform as well, providing a seamless experience for accessing and repaying lines of credit.

"Farmers need easy access to capital, and agribusinesses want simple ways to help them finance inputs," said Doug Richards at CFA. "For our members, we want to provide a seamless, more convenient way to offer financing and accept payments. Integrating with Bushel gives our members the tools to help farmers access and manage their financing more efficiently."

CFA agribusiness members can take advantage of Bushel's latest round of updates to generate returns on operational float. By keeping funds in an upcoming business account offered by The Bancorp Bank, N.A. ("The Bancorp"), Member FDIC, businesses can earn competitive interest while maintaining liquidity for daily operations. These updates will also help cooperative members transition away from paper checks to a more secure form of payment.

The U.S. Postal Service has <u>advised customers to increase diligence</u> when mailing checks due to security concerns. Others are advocating for secure digital methods instead. Recently, the U.S. Treasury Department announced <u>check fraud has increased 385% since the COVID-19 pandemic</u>.

Compounding this are mailing delays, <u>specifically in rural areas</u>. With the potential slowdown of mail delivery in these regions, the reliance on mailing paper checks could lead to delayed payments, which can disrupt cash flow.

"Streamlining input financing at the point of sale makes agribusinesses more competitive and helps farmers get the products they need without hassle," said Jake Joraanstad, CEO at Bushel. "We're proud to work with CFA to make financial transactions easier for both retailers and farmers."

**Learn more:** For agribusinesses interested in Bushel's payments management solution, visit bushelpowered.com/solutions/payments-management

## **About Cooperative Finance Association (CFA)**

Serving the Agricultural Industry since 1943, the <u>Cooperative Finance Association, Inc (CFA)</u> is an agricultural finance cooperative based in Kansas City, Missouri. We offer a full range of financial products and services to agricultural cooperatives and their customers throughout the nation. Our





membership-based services include operating and term loans, single-purpose inventory financing, point-of-sale production agriculture financing, and more.

## **About Bushel**

Bushel is an independent software company based in Fargo, N.D. that provides an integrated workflow solution for agriculture. Bushel's platform includes customer relationship management, customer and commercial portals, offer and hedge management, and farm management and advisement software. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary Bushel Exchange, LLC, Bushel also provides digital payment solutions to its customers. These solutions improve operational efficiency, deliver crucial insights, and increase flexibility, enabling grain buyers, processors, ag retailers, ag lenders and farmers to adapt and expand their operations. Bushel now powers more than 3,500 grain and ag retail facilities, representing more than 50% of U.S. and Canadian grain origination. Over 100,000 farmers use Bushel's technology, making it one of the largest technology networks in U.S. agribusiness. Bushel also meets SOC 2 Type II standards, ensuring robust data security.

Bushel was recently awarded "AgTech Finance Platform of the Year" in the fifth annual AgTech Breakthrough Awards program conducted by AgTech Breakthrough, a leading market intelligence organization that recognizes the top companies, technologies and products in the global agricultural and food technology markets today.

\*Bushel is a financial technology company, not a bank. Banking Services for the Bushel business account provided by The Bancorp Bank, N.A. Member FDIC. FDIC insurance only covers the failure of an FDIC-insured bank. FDIC deposit insurance limit is \$250,000 per depositor, per FDIC-insured bank, per ownership category through The Bancorp Bank, N.A. and its sweep program banks. See the Bushel website for more details.

## **Media Contact:**

Julia Eberhart Senior Public Relations & Communications Manager 605-690-1418

