



Polymer is Coming! *New Family of ECCCB Banknotes*





Outline

1. Key messages
2. What is polymer?
3. Why polymer banknotes? – *key benefits*
4. Polymer experience – international and regional
5. Features of EC polymer notes
6. Tips on handling polymer notes
7. Environmental concerns
8. Are we ready for the transition?





Key Messages

- The ECCB will put EC polymer banknotes in circulation in June 2019 commencing with the new \$50, followed by the \$100, \$20 and \$10 in August/September and \$5 in 2020.
- The polymer notes and current paper notes will co-circulate



Polymer – International and Regional Experience

- **ECCB is the first Central Bank in the Caribbean to issue an entire family of banknotes in polymer.**
- **Canada issued polymer notes in 2011**
- **Trinidad and Tobago issued a polymer \$50 commemorative circulation note in 2014**
- **The Bank of Scotland issued polymer notes in 2016**
- **The Bank of England issued polymer notes in 2016**





What is Polymer?

Polymer banknotes are produced from a thin, transparent and flexible plastic film made from polypropylene.

Key Benefits of Polymer Notes

- Difficult to counterfeit...*safer*
- Resistant to water and other liquids...*more hygienic*
- More resistant to dirt and moisture...*cleaner*
- Durable, difficult to tear...*last longer*





EC Polymer Notes – *Major Changes*

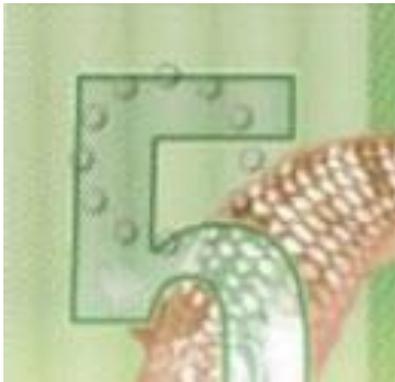
- **Portrait orientation**
- **Modernised images and landmarks**
- **Unique tactile feature on each note (for the blind and visually impaired)**
- **See through window with fuchsia/pink flowers**
- **Holographic foil strip on \$20, \$50 and \$100**
- **New design on \$50**
- **New Signature – Governor, Timothy N. J. Antoine**





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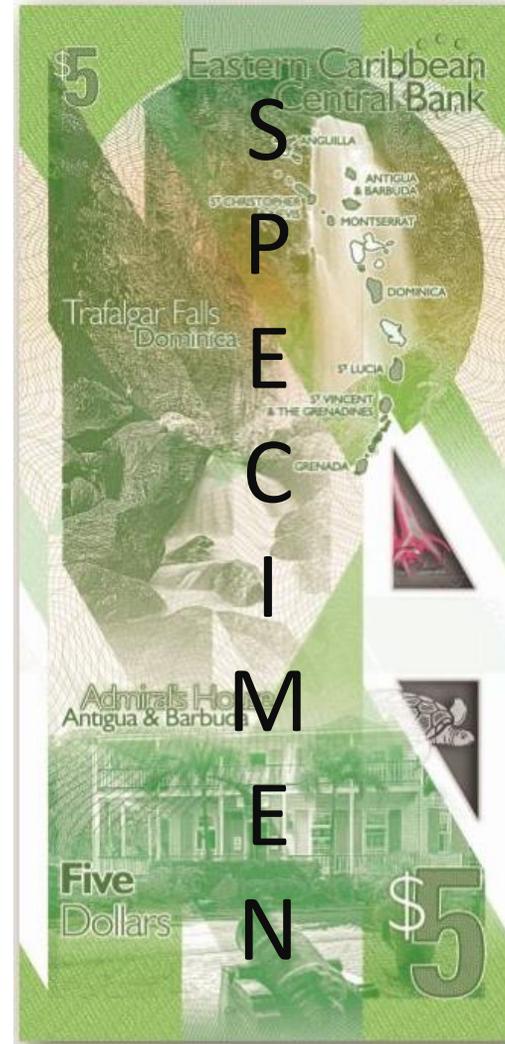
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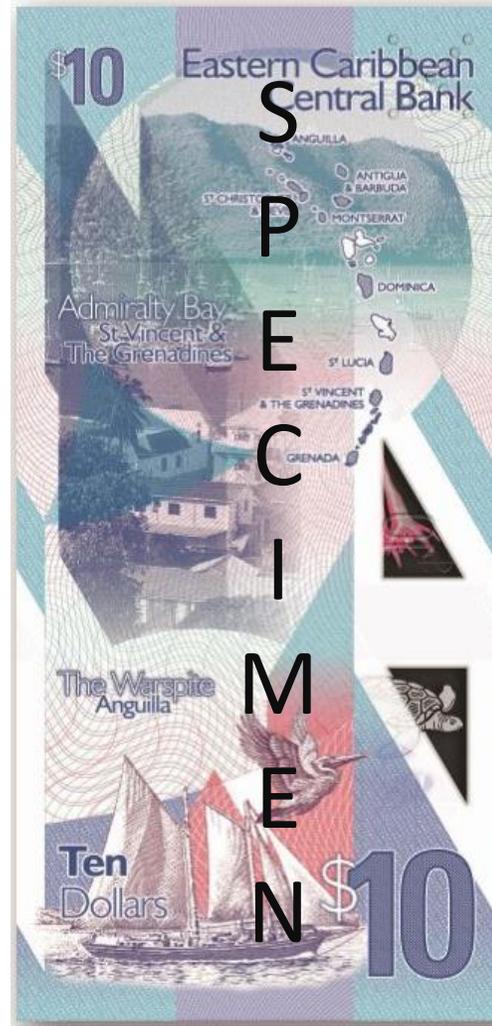
Concept Designs



The polymer \$5 note retains all the features of the current note. It depicts the Trafalgar Falls – Dominica and Admiral’s House – Antigua and Barbuda



Concept Designs

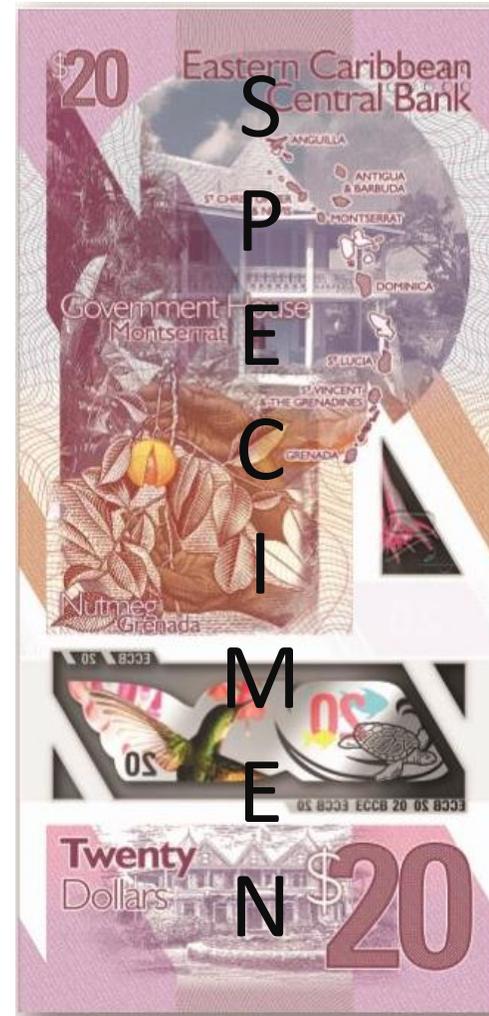


The polymer \$10 note retains all the features of the current note. It depicts the Admiralty Bay – St Vincent and the Grenadines and the Warspite – Anguilla



Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

Concept Designs



The polymer \$20 note retains all the features of the current note. It depicts the Government House – Montserrat and the Nutmeg – Grenada



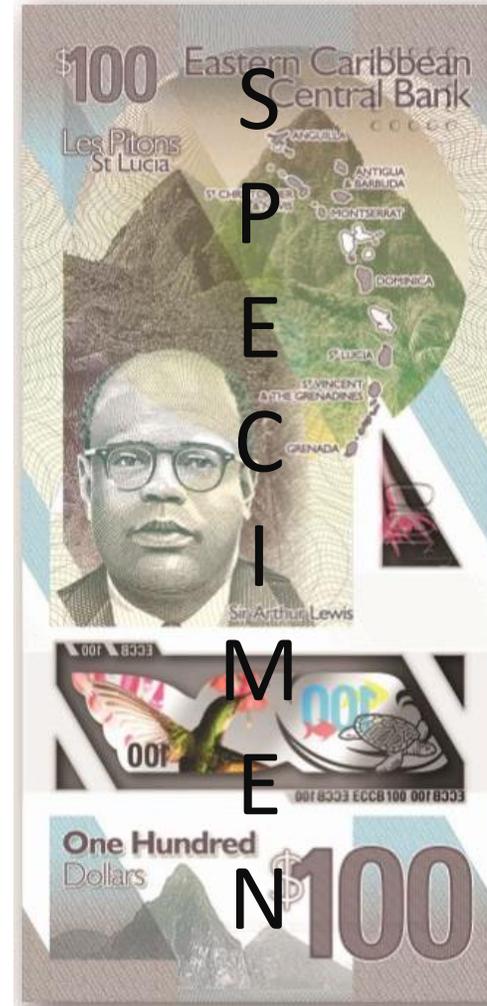
Concept Designs



The polymer \$50 note now features the image of the Hon. Sir K Dwight Venner and the Brimstone Hill – St Kitts and Nevis. The Pitons – Saint Lucia are now depicted on the \$100 note



Concept Designs

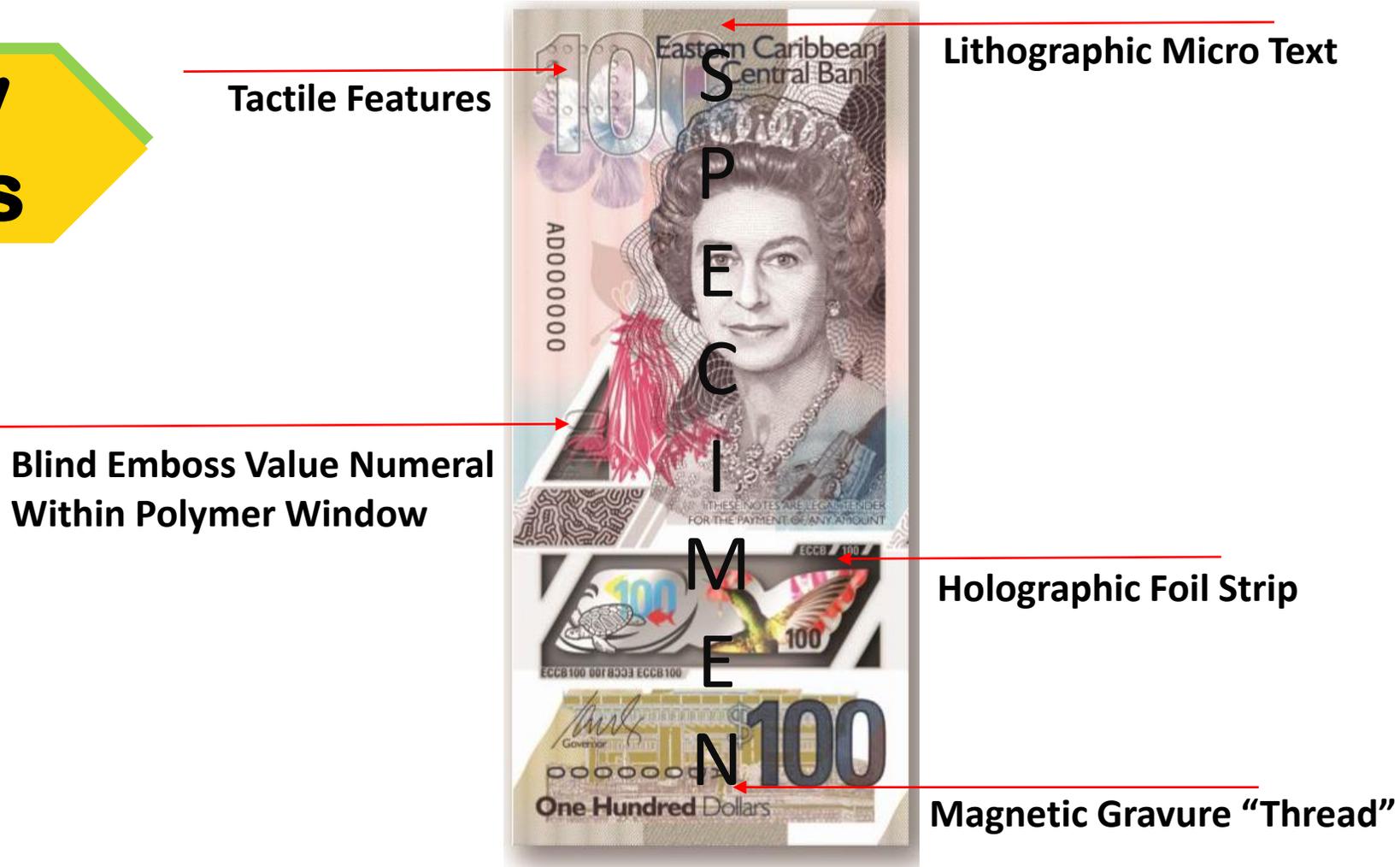


The polymer \$100 note retains the image of Sir Arthur Lewis. The image of the ECCB building is replaced with the Pitons – Saint Lucia



Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

Security Features





Tips on Handling Polymer Notes

- **Wipe soiled notes; dry wet notes**
- **Do not iron or apply other form of direct heat to the notes**
- **Avoid exposing to hot temperatures for extended period**
- **Avoid creasing, crumpling or stapling**
- **Flatten crumpled or creased notes by applying pressure to them or curling them in your hand**
- **Repair torn/cut notes with clear tape**



Environmental Concerns

- **Polymer notes are not single-use “plastic”**
- **Given the store of value of polymer notes, it is highly unlikely they will end up in the environment as a hazard**
- **Notes that are no longer fit for circulation will be returned to the ECCB**
- **De La Rue is conducting Environmental Impact Analysis and will advise the ECCB on recycling options to handle unfit polymer notes**



Are We Ready for the Transition?





End of Presentation Thank You!

Send us your questions, concerns, suggestions at: polymer@eccb-centralbank.org