

Mail Prep and Entry Steering Committee Meeting

November 19, 2013

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Location: USPS Headquarters
NOC Room 7801 – 7th Floor
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW

Welcome

- Cathy Moon opened the meeting and introductions were made.

Updated Since 10/14/13

Idea Log

- One hundred-sixteen (116) ideas submitted and an additional seven (7) received since November 15, 2013.
- Thirty-seven (37) closed and nineteen (19) completed.

20-24 Oz Test

- Linthicum, MD test completed
- AFSM 100 is planned for week of November 18, 2013.
- HSFF is scheduled for end of November 2013.

BPM

- Commingled auto flats with Standard Mail flats will be included in future release.

FSS

- For five (5) items (22, 14, 63, 42, and 86), the Final Rule will be posted in December 2013, delayed due to the government shutdown.

Review and Prioritize Templates

- Items 76, 70-84 were reviewed.
- New ideas submitted since November 15, 2013, include items 93-96, 101, 102, and 104.
- Item 93 (Evaluate Opportunity to Improve Scheme Design) testing is in-progress and there are no known problems with labeling lists. No consolidations are being done at this time.
- Item 93 is being set aside for now, needs to be rated to determine where it falls on the Benefit and Effort Matrix.
- Item 94 (Evaluate Opportunity to Improve Labeling List) is being tabled for now and will be discussed in 2014.
- Five-digit schemes need to be kept up to date. Mailers need to know the maintenance process. Plants need to preplan, coordinate with labeling lists. Operations needs to improve the gap
- Item 95 (DMM vs. CSA Sortation & Prep Requirements): Sharon Harrison agreed to volunteer for First-Class Mail. Matter will be brought up in focus group meeting. Needs to be reworded.
- Lots of confusion at the local level among mailer regarding items 10 and 12. Merge 10 with 12. Wording needs to be revisited. CSA has not been reviewed due to network consolidation of plants. Separations need to be link to CSA. Eliminate item 95.
- The issue with item 96 (Explore Options for Creating Fuller Trays) is comingling. Presort qualifications – action item taken, labeling list changes. Three-digit sorting is not done much by USPS. Item should not be rated and tabled for now.

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- Item 101 (Review Non-Machineable Parcel Pricing) possible sub-group to explore options.
- Need to do better job of managing the idea log (submission dates, closed dates, etc.) Prioritize by USPS interest first and then share with mailers.
- Gary Barnett will revisit item 76.

B&E Matrix Review

- Item 78 was rated the lowest, but will be kept for now. USPS is moving to 3-digit scheme for pallets and bundle sort needs to be added to scheme. Mailers do not see the need for it and USPS will revisit. SCF clarification is needed.
- For item 79 (Bundle & Container prices should signal 5D prep and DSCF entry), the pallet pricing needs to be cost effective. A study should be conducted to determine best pricing.
- For item 80 (Container and Drop shipment prices should signal the entry of 5D pallets to the DSCF and DDU, the pricing structure lacks incentive.
- For item 82 (Industry and USPS develop a strategy to increase the % of flats that comail), First Class mailers are not participating due to pricing. To qualify is challenging and rules are complicated. First Class mailers should be able to comail/comingle based on incentives. This would encourage First Class mailers to stay in the mail.
- Items 10 and 12 should be combined (CSA/DMM). This will become a Nadya project.

Next Steps and Wrap UP

- **Next Webinar Meeting:** December 19, 2013, 2:00pm – 3:00pm ET
- **Next Face-to-Face Meeting:** January 14, 2014, 9:00am – 12:00pm ET

Concerns

- Steering Committee is more tactical than strategic. The original intent was to be strategic. Three-hour meeting is much too long and a waste of time if the focus is tactical.
- The Ideas Log should be tabbed and prioritized by number. USPS should prioritize first and then share with members.

Action Items

- For item 101 (Review Non-Machineable Parcel Pricing) possible sub-group to explore options.
- For item 79 (Bundle & Container prices should signal 5D prep and DSCF entry), a study should be conducted to determine best pricing.
- For item 82 (Industry and USPS develop a strategy to increase the % of flats that comail), a further analysis and discussion is needed.
- Items 10 and 12 should be combined (CSA/DMM). This will become a Nadya project.
- The Ideas Log should be tabbed and prioritized by number. USPS should priority first and then share with Steering Committee members.