



**eVS/PTS User Group**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday August 11, 2011**  
**3:30pm – 4:30pm EST**

**Attendees**

Andy Lundgren, Brad Obert, Cheryl Hardy, Emil Aquino, Hally M. Damm, James Garnett, Jennifer Howard, Juliaann Hess, Julie Kang, Lisa Copeland, Dawn Whitney, Marsha Martinex, Robert Myers, Shirley Konen, Wade Stephen, John Medeiros, Kim May, Peter Klausner, Audrey Meloni, Dave Guinther, Lisa Hyater, Vicki Bosch, Edward Stashluk, Richard Porras, Jody Berenblatt, Arlene Peterson, Cathy Byrne, Brian Esser, Jim Wobensmith, Tony Wells

**Welcome – Lisa Hyater**

- Roll Call

**PTS Status – Lisa Hyater/Juliaann Hess**

- PTS August Release
  - Scheduled for implementation on 8/28/11
  - Dispatch Scan at Retail Unit and Plants – 2 types of “closeout/dispatch” event codes
    - SF – “Dispatched to Sort Facility” (Acceptance Scan)
    - EF – “Dispatch from Sort Facility” (Enroute Scan)
  - Shipping Services Program Registration Interface Modifications
    - The current feed from Program Registration to AMDC will be changed so that Program Registration will send the information directly to PTS instead of AMDC (Moved to the October Release)
  - Shipping Partner Event Files Modification to support Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (IMpb)
    - Shipping Partner Event File
    - Shipping Partner Error/Warning Data File
- PTS October release (10/16/2011)
  - eVS Reconciliation Extracts
    - PTS portion done in October Release
    - eVS portion implemented in November
  - Electronic Firm Sheet
    - Providing an automated delivery of a file with firm sheet content to commercial customers
  - EDI Header/Detail Change (Infrastructure Change)

- Modifications to improve EDI processing
    - The change is **NOT** adding any additional data to the customer files
  - File compression for Extract Files
    - Customers will be able to specify compressed or uncompressed extract files
      - All Extract Files
      - Confirmation/error/warning files
  - File Compression will be made available for the following extract files:
    - Electronic Firm Sheet
    - Postage Payment Extract
    - Reconciliation Extract (when implemented)
    - Scan Event Extract File (1.3, 1.5, and 1.6 (when implemented))
    - Unmanifested File
    - Returns Merchant Extract (when implemented)
  - The following options for extract files will be provided
    - GZIP
    - WINZIP
    - ZIP
    - Uncompressed
  - For customers transmitting files via AS2, the same file compression method needs to be selected for both the Confirmation/Error/Warning files and the extract
  - File compression will not be available for EDI customers
  - Input was solicited from the eVS/PTS User Group
- Intelligent Mail Package Barcode Final Rule Highlights and Dates
  - August 2011 – Publish final rule
  - January 22, 2012
    - Delivery Confirmation at no charge
      - Commercial parcels only
      - Excludes Standard mail
    - Unique barcode required for presort and destination entry pricing
    - IMpb required for PC Postage Vendors
      - Transition period until July 2, 2012
  - June 1, 2013
    - IMpb required
      - For package tracking and extra services barcodes
      - To receive presort and destination entry pricing
    - Shipping Services Electronic Manifest Version 1.6 required
    - ZIP + 4 Code or destination delivery address must be included in the file
  - PTS Release Schedule posted to RIBBS. URL to link was shared.
  - PTS Release Notes were sent out during the meeting. URL to link was shared.
    - Dawn reviewed the release notes

- Question John M.: Are the changes going to require configuration changes? Ans. No
- Lisa C. elaborated on the shipping partner event file change.
- Question: Is Pub 199 replacing Pub 91? Ans. Yes, it will eventually replace it.
- Question: Will Pub 91 be sunset? Ans. Pub 91 addendum will be sunset. Pub 205 will not be sunset.
- Note: Pub 91 addendum has not been updated.
- Publication 199 Posted to RIBBS
  - Posted on 8/10/2011
  - Checklists for customers to transition to IMpb
    - Appendix Q – Confirmation Services
    - Appendix R – eVS Customers
    - Appendix S – PRS Customers
  - Section 6.3 TEM
    - Soliciting customer feedback until 9/1/2011

### **eVS Status – Vicki Bosch/Jennifer Howard**

- Publication 205 – hopefully done by the end of next week.
- July 24<sup>th</sup> Patch Implemented
- Future Planned Releases
  - November 2011 Release (Jennifer Howard)
    - USPS
      - Presort validation in eVS
      - Content eligibility adjustment
      - Sampling enhancements (Vicki explained sampling process; the sub group will pick back up soon.)
        - Addressing sampling issues for Standard Mail
        - Automated validation of small sample sets for PAF
        - Obtaining additional samples from other sources
        - Vicki stated that USPS is analyzing data on sampling; John M. offered to share sample data
      - Automated refunds and reconciliation process
    - Customer requests
      - Better navigation of reports (eVS Web pages)
      - Easier download of postage statement summary data
      - Reconciliation extract for monthly postage adjustments
- eVS January Release Notes review
  - Location on RIBBS was shared.
  - Vicki gave an overview of the eVS Release notes.
  - Manage Electronic Verification Activity
  - Working with IT to discuss the scope of the January release; once the scope is defined, the release notes will be revised and posted to RIBBS.
  - The changes related to the price change were reviewed.

- Update on Duplicates – the data is not what we expected. We are not going to charge for duplicates at this moment. There has been no date set yet.
- Update on Destination Entry Validation Report
  - Warnings
    - eVSW - Postage payment problems
    - PTSW - Tracking issues
  - John M. – nice addition would be to know what kind of piece it was.
  - Request to add the link to the document that John was reviewing.
  - Vicki B./Jennifer Howard provided the information below:
    - Q: Where can I see **see the Destination Entry Validation warnings?**  
 A: These eVS warnings are currently visible through the Manifest Confirmation Report. This functionality was turned on July 13<sup>th</sup> to generate warnings only for DNDC and DSCF entry.
    - Manifests for which Destination Entry warnings were received are identified in the Manifest Confirmation Report by asterisks on the subsequent drill-down levels. To see the warnings at a PIC level:
      - Go to the **eVS Monthly Account and Sampling Summary** (your eVS “landing page”). In the **Monthly Account Summary** section, click the link under **Records** for **f. Manifest Confirmation Report**. If you are using Transaction IDs, click the link for the desired Transaction ID to see associated main EFNs.
      - The **PTS/eVS Confirmation/Error/Warning Summary** report displays the main Electronic File Numbers (EFNs). An asterisk appears in the **Detail Records Accepted by eVS** column for any main EFN including sub-EFNs processed with warnings.
      - Click on the selected main EFN in the **File Number** column. The **PTS/eVS Confirmation/Error/Warning Header** report is displayed with summary data for all associated EFNs. An asterisk appears in the **Detail Records Accepted by eVS** column for any sub-EFN including PICs processed with warnings. (It may be helpful to sort this column in descending order as a higher number of PICs has more opportunities for the warning.)
      - Click on the selected sub-EFN in the **Sub-File Number** column. The **PTS/eVS Confirmation/Error/Warning Detail** report is displayed for all PICs associated with this sub-EFN. You can filter this report to view just eVS warnings by selecting **EVS (W)** from the **Change View** dropdown filter.
  - An example of NDC warning:
    - **Error Warning Field**  
 EntryFacZip=99502, DestZip=99682,  
 MailingDate=20110713

- **Error Warning Message**  
Zip match is not Found for BMC, but MOD\_DRI\_BMC  
Validation is disabled. Original DRI is used
- An example of SCF warning:
  - **Error Warning Field**  
EntryFacZip=99502, DestZip=99576,  
MailingDate=20110801
  - **Error Warning Message**  
Zip match is not Found for SCF, but MOD\_DRI\_SCF  
Validation is disabled. Original DRI is used

### **Questions / Comments from Industry**

Next meeting scheduled for *Thursday 09/8/2011 at 3:30pm.*