



**eVS/PTS User Group  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday February 9, 2012  
3:30pm – 4:30pm EST**

**Attendees**

Charley Patterson, Juliaann Hess, Peter Klausner, John Medeiros, Email Aquino, Jay Zeman, Dawn Whitney, Mark Dropp and Crystal Stefanko from Smartpost, Kim May, Valentina Hicki, Frank Suagin and Alvin Surano from UPS, Oscar Vazquez, Chet King, Lisa Hyater, Vicki Bosch, J Donnelly Solutions Group, Lisa Copeland, Jeff Waite, John Mederios, Richard Porras, Marsha Martinez, Roger Franco, Arlene Peterson, Priya (Smart post), Tamara Silbergeit, Chris Osterheld, Dena Waltersdorf, Richard Daigle, Carmen, Audrey Meloni, Tamara, Brad Obert, Tony Wells

**Welcome – Juliaann Hess/Lisa Hyater**

- Roll Call

**PTS Status – Lisa Hyater**

- PTS Price Change Production Release Part III (Implemented 1/22/2012)
  - All Features in TEM Live in Production
- PTS II – Customer Testing Volunteers
  - PTS II Phased Release
    - Phase 1 – March 25, 2012; Partial Functionality
    - Phase 2 – June 24, 2012; Full Functionality
  - Customer Acceptance Testing
  - TEM Testing
  - Parallel Testing
  - Email Request to Lisa Hyater
    - Lisa.C.Hyater@usps.gov
- IMpb Key Points (Juliaann Hess)
  - Certification required for all IMpb barcodes and files
    - All MIDs must be certified
  - Shipping Services File Version 1.6 allows manifesting of both IMpb and legacy barcodes
    - Manifested pieces, including legacy barcodes, will be returned in scan event extract file version 1.5

- Unmanifested IMpb barcodes will be extracted in version 1.5
    - Unmanifested legacy barcodes will be extracted in the legacy scan event extract format
  - The IMpb number in the manifest file should match the number encoded on the physical package
  - Scan event extract files include the full concatenated barcode number in the barcode field.
  - *Note: The \$0.03 barcode discount goes away January 22, 2012*
  - Mail Class only barcodes use the following service type codes
    - STC 134 – Matter for the Blind; Class of Mail = DM
    - STC 378 – Parcel Post; Class of Mail = BP
    - STC 548 – Bound Printed Matter; Class of Mail = BB
    - STC 521 – Media Mail; Class of Mail = BS
    - STC 582 – Library Mail; Class of Mail = BL
    - Tracking events provided in extract files up to and including Arrival at Unit scan event
    - No fee is charged
    - Cannot be tracked on external Track & Confirm website
- Legacy Tracking Number Issue (Lisa Copeland)
  - Issue: Legacy Tracking Number did not include the application identifier prefix (91) when extracted in the scan event file.
  - Reason: When Legacy Tracking Numbers were manifested in Shipping Services File Format 1.6 with the postal routing information, PTS was unable to determine the barcode symbology.
  - The problem was identified on January 31, 2012 and corrected on February 7, 2012.
  - This issue affected one customer
- New Shipping Service File 1.7 and 2.0 (Lisa Copeland)
  - Version 1.7 - Fixed Length
  - Version 2.0 - Pipe Delimited
  - Provides a solution for electronic/manifesting customers to submit US Customs information electronically.
    - Customs information provided via new Detail 3 and Detail 4 records
  - Allows international customers to use eVS for payment
  - Allows customers to include the original label number for pieces that have been over labeled
  - Optional
    - Version 1.6 will still be supported
  - The following documents the differences between the 1.7/2.0 Shipping Services File and 1.6 Shipping Services File
    - Header Record 1
      - Mailer ID Field (New field)
    - Container Record 1

- 6 New Fields
  - Detail Record 1
    - Removal Indicator (New field)
    - Over label Indicator (New field)
    - Over label Barcode Construct Code (New field)
    - Over label Number (New field)
    - Customer Reference Number 2 (New field)
    - Recipient Name (Field moved from D2 record)
    - Delivery Address (Field moved from D2 record)
    - Ancillary Service Endorsement (New field for future use)
    - Address Service Participant Code (New field for future use)
    - Key Line (New field for future use)
    - Return Address (New field)
    - Return Address City (New field)
    - Return Address State (New field)
    - Return Address ZIP Code (New field)
    - Logistic Mailing Facility CRID (New field)
  - Detail Record 2
    - Moved Recipient Name and Delivery Address to the D1 record
  - Detail Record 3 (New)
    - 56 fields
    - 1650 bytes
  - Detail Record 4 (New)
    - 11 fields
    - 120 bytes
- New Scan Event Extract File 1.6 and 2.0 (Dawn Whitney)
  - Version 1.6 - Fixed Length
  - Version 2.0 - Variable Length, Pipe-delimited
  - Provides expected delivery, container, recipient address, and over label information to the customer via two new extracts
  - Version 1.6
    - Fixed length format, quote comma quote delimited (“;”)
  - Version 2.0
    - Variable length format, pipe-delimited ( | )
  - Same as v1.5, with the following new fields:
    - Expected Delivery Date
    - Delivery Date Modified Indicator
    - Predicted Delivery Date (for future use)
    - Start the Clock Date (for future use)
    - Start the Clock Date Modified Indicator (for future use)
    - Container IDs 1, 2, and 3
    - Container Type 1, 2, and 3
    - Postal Code
    - Delivery Address

- City Name
    - State
    - Delivery ZIP Code
    - Delivery ZIP +4
    - Customer Reference Number 2
    - Over Label Number
    - Ancillary Service Endorsement (for future use)
    - Address Service Participant Code (for future use)
    - Status (for future use)
  - For customers who use Shipping Services File Version 1.6, scan event extract versions 1.5, 1.6, or 2.0 are available
  - For customers who use Shipping Services File Version 1.7, scan event extract versions 1.6 or 2.0 are available
  - For customers who use Shipping Services File Version 2.0, only scan event extract version 2.0 is available
  - A scan event extract file availability matrix was shared with the group.
- Program Registration Webinars (Carmen Gil)
    - Working on Enterprise Webinar for the Business Customer Gateway.

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

- Release Update: Price Change
  - January 8, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0)
  - January 12, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.1)
    - Parcel Select postage statements between 1/8-1/12 unable to finalize
    - PRS some postage statement issues
    - Incorrect PAF and Manifest Errors
    - Extra Services for Parcel Select/Parcel Post were calculated at future prices
  - January 18, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.1.1)
    - Launched recalculation for extra services at correct prices
  - January 22, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.2)
    - Fix recalculation performance issues
    - Some Parcel Select postage statement errors
  - January 29, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.3)
    - Parcel Select charged 0.19 delivery confirmation fee
    - PSLW non-barcoded surcharge applied when barcoded
    - Re-initiated recalculation of postage statements that had not been billed for January
  - February 12, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.3.4)
    - Fix recalculation performance issues & re-initiate recalculation of postage statements not yet billed (on February 13)
  - February 26, 2012 (PostalOne! 29.0.4)
    - PRS SCF issues

- Express Mail with insurance
- 2012 Planned Releases
  - April 1, 2012 (PostalOne! 30.0)
  - June 10, 2012 (PostalOne! 31.0); TEM/Production Software Deployment
  - June 24, 2012 (Implementation – new product availability)
- January 8, 2012
  - New products available in PostalOne! Test Environment for Mailers (TEM)
  - Refund and Reconciliation Management
    - eVS mailers select VAE
    - eVS mailers receive email communication about pending adjustments
    - eVS mailers can request reconciliation and refunds through PostalOne!
  - Printer-friendly Reports
  - Known issues:
    - Extra Services calculated at January 22nd rates
    - Parcel Select/Parcel Post postage statement errors
    - Please report any issues to the NCSC Helpdesk
- Certification Process Reminder
  - Mailers and vendors are expected to certify new products before shipping
    - 10 labels
    - 100 manifest records per mail class
  - eVS/PostalOne! (TEM) available for independent testing
  - NCSC is currently accepting files and labels for evaluation and certification
    - Questions? [eVS@usps.gov](mailto:eVS@usps.gov)
    - Note: new product PSLW was optional for certification for eVS mailers who have their own software
- April 1, 2012 PostalOne!
  - Proposed Changes
    - Destination Entry Validation will still appear in manifest confirmation report and a new report where they can be managed as a monthly adjustment for NDCs & SCFs
    - NEW! Daily Postage Statement Summary report available for view or download
    - NEW! 3rd-Party Payment option for approved Logistics Manager and Mail Owner relationships
      - Ability to use non-eVS mailer owned permits for payment
      - Have by/for visibility
    - Additional internal enhancements for sampling quality and monthly reconciliation processing
- June 24, 2012 PostalOne!
  - Major release – may include new products and/or postage statement changes

- Requirements in design review with IT
- Tentatively planned
  - International Mail support

### **Industry Feedback**

- Corrected Postage Statement for Parcel Select prior to the Rate Case Implementation
  - New Parcel Select prices were charged for several days after the Jan 8th update – 2 weeks ahead of schedule
- Corrected Postage Statements for Parcel Select Lightweight for Over-charges the 1st week after Rate Case Implementation
  - 100% of all PSLW assessed \$0.08/pc for Non-Barcoded Surcharge – this was not visible on Variance Reports, only on the Postage Statements
  - All PSLW pieces with a Delcon barcode were charged a \$0.19/pc Delcon Fee. No Fee was applicable. These fees were visible on Variance Reports.
- Standard Mail Marketing Parcels – No Rate Ingredient Listed in Appendix G for Machinable Std Marketing Parcels for Destination Entry. Only ‘None’ Rate Provided - What Codes should be used?
- Requests for Printer Friendly Postage Statement – No PDF generator available for Postage
- Increased bandwidth for large users – Many reports are not viewable or downloadable due to the size of the files. This inhibits our ability to monitor and take corrective actions.

### **Action Item Review**

- January 12, 2012
  - Make sure that Publication 199 has been added to the list of publications on RIBBS
    - Status – Updating this list is outside of the RIBBS infrastructure. We are still in the process of updating the list on USPS.com
- February 9, 2012
  - PTS team to add mail type only barcode information for standard mail, first class mail, and priority mail to the table in the presentation
  - eVS team to explain the logistics mailing facility field in the 1.7 and 2.0 file format
  - PTS team to provide a sample of the 1.5 extract file format to John Medeiros
  - PTS team to add sample files to RIBBS to help mailers
  - PTS team will provide an expected date of when customers will be able to sign up for new extracts file format through Program Registration
  - PTS team to provide dates on what's needed by when for IMpb
  - eVS team to provide a communications plan to provide to customers when there are many eVS issues (especially after a release)
  - eVS team to facilitate a special meeting on February 22 at 3:30pm on how to set up a VAE and request a reconciliation via the customer gateway
  - Tony to send out a meeting notice on the eVS special meeting

- eVS team to provide a rate ingredient in Appendix G for machineable standard marketing parcels for destination entry only
- eVS team to investigate a printer friendly version of the postage statement
- eVS team to investigate increasing the bandwidth for reports for large users
- PTS team to contact Bob Moran for his conceptual plan for the "open pipe" concept for mailers to send and receive data from PTS II
- eVS team to schedule a meeting to reconvene the sub group for eVS content

### **Questions / Comments**

Next meeting scheduled for *Thursday 3/8/2012 at 3:30pm.*