



**eVS/PTS User Group
Meeting Minutes
Thursday July 12, 2012
3:30pm – 4:30pm EST**

Attendees

Andy Lundgren, Dave Guinther, Joseph Trinchitella, Juliaann Hess, Lisa Copeland, Margaret Reese, Mark (WBI), Peter Klausner, Jennifer Howard, Levent Gencoglu, Lisa Hyater, Peter Furka, Stacy Ibarra, Kevin Elkin, John Medeiros, Richard Porras, Chet King, Marsha Martinez, Elise Thomas, Lisa Renfroe, Mark Dropp, Ria (SP), York Smith, Crystal S., Vicki Bosch, Pete Furka, Dave Guinther, Jim Wobensmith, Andy Lundgren, Lisa Copeland, Tony Wells

Welcome – Juliaann Hess/Lisa Hyater

- Roll Call

PTS Status – Lisa Hyater

- IMpb Timeline (Lisa Hyater/Juliaann Hess)
 - Juliaann presented a revised slide summarizing the transition periods and direction for mailers if they don't meet the July 2, 2012 date. This slide was presented at the June 2012 meeting.
 - Published Final Rule published September 27, 2011
 - Effective January 22, 2012
 - Free tracking, including confirmation of delivery
 - Commercial parcels only
 - Excludes
 - Standard Mail
 - Package Services
 - Bound Printed Matter
 - Media Mail
 - Library Mail
 - Unique barcode required for presort and destination entry pricing
 - Transition period has been extended until July 31, 2012
 - Reminder: Those who can't meet this date need to send a request an extension from Jim Cochrane, Vice President of Product Information. His address information is on the slides.
 - Excludes Standard Mail

- Includes Package Services and Parcel Select Lightweight
 - IMpb required for PC Postage Vendors
 - Transition period until July 2, 2012
- January 7, 2013
 - IMpb required
 - For all package tracking and extra services barcodes
 - To receive presort and destination entry pricing for parcels
 - Shipping Services Electronic Manifest Version 1.6 required
 - ZIP + 4 Code or destination delivery address must be included in the file
 - Version 1.6 or higher
- Intelligent Package Mail Barcode (IMpb)
 - Extended the transition period for initial phase through July 31, 2012
 - Communications about extension sent to Business Mail Entry (BME), Marketing and Sales
 - Implemented an onsite exception form for customers not in compliance by July 2, 2012 (Sample included in an upcoming slide)
 - Effective July 2, 2012 an \$0.08/piece surcharge is assessed on Parcel Select Light Weight (PSLW) parcels without appropriate barcodes
 - John M. Question: Will there be any cross reference checks to ensure that pieces with a concatenated barcode are not charged?
 - Action Item: John will get this answer offline and share the results with the group.
 - Implementing communications/outreach plans to ensure customer readiness for IMpb final phase by January 7, 2013
- On Site IMpb Exception Request form was presented
- PTS Legacy Patch Releases
 - June 24, 2012 – Release 12.1.2
 - Interim support for Shipping Services File Version 1.7
 - Accepts 1.7 file version and translates data to 1.6 format
 - Processes and stores data based on Version 1.6 fields and edits
 - Supports only the Detail 1 and Detail 2 record
 - Does not support Detail 3 and Detail 4 records for International
 - Full support will be implemented in the inaugural Product Tracking System – II Release August 19, 2012
 - Store destination delivery address information for all service type codes
- New Scan Event Extract File 1.6 and 2.0
 - Suggested New Fields from customer (Note: no implementation date)
 - Time Zones

- GMT Time
 - GMT Offset
 - Facility Type
 - GPS
 - Longitude
 - Latitude

- New Fields for Scan Event Extract Files
 - Sample Formats for Consideration/Input
 - Time Zones
 - GMT Time – 10:30:00
 - GMT Offset – GMT -04:00
 - Facility Type
 - Delivery Unit
 - Plant
 - Annex
 - GPS
 - Longitude - -41 18.5864
 - Latitude - 122 18.6445

 - Lisa H. requested input on how customers collect this information
 - There was a question from a customer regarding more detail on the different Facility Types
 - Juliaann suggested a possible subgroup to provide different options for the facility types; Action item: Tony will initiate a subgroup and ask for participants.
 - Richard Porras didn't think a subgroup was necessary but we need to figure out how we get these recommendations together. Newgistics and FedEx are volunteers to participate. Juliaann and Lisa H; Robert Raines and Kate Westermine; John Medeiros; Dave Guinther; Juliaann will send out dates to consider.

- PTS-II New Implementation Schedule
 - New Dates
 - Release 1.1
 - CAT – July 9, 2012 (Delayed)
 - TEM – July 16, 2012 (Delayed)
 - Go Live Date – August 19, 2012 (At Risk)
 - Includes New Shipping Services File Format
 - Release 1.2
 - September 23, 2012
 - Internal EDW Extracts

eVS Status – Dave Guinther

- eVS Status

- Recent 2012 Deployed Releases
 - PostalOne! 31.0
 - June 10, 2012 -TEM/Production Software Deployment
 - June 24, 2012 Implementation – new product availability
 - PostalOne! 31.1
 - August 12, 2012 – patch release
- 2012 Planned Releases
 - PostalOne! 32.0
 - October 14, 2012
 - 2013 planned release schedule published on RIBBS
 - Schedule was shared
- eVS: June 24, 2012 PostalOne!
 - June 10, 2012
 - Improve Navigation for Transaction ID-EFN Pairs by eliminating drill down when there is only one EFN for a Transaction ID
 - Update Mailer ID Report to replace upload date with certified date
 - Introduce separate sampling report for content audit samples
 - Revise manifest search will include option to search for international mail
 - Sunset discontinued rate ingredients; bad manifest records will appear in Manifest Errors
 - Processing category - 6,7,8,9
 - Rate Indicators – 1E, 2E, 3E, 1A, 2A, 3A
 - Testable via PTS TEM in June (for eVS) in (tent. July 16, 2012) At Risk
 - International Mail support
 - Shipping Services File Format v1.7
 - Available in production (tent. August 19, 2012) At Risk
 - International Mail
 - Shipping Services File Format v1.7
 - June 24, 2012
 - Support Express Mail Padded Flat-Rate Envelope
 - Any samples for content audit would appear in content audit sampling report
- eVS Issues
 - Hyperlinks - Postage statement summary hyperlink functionality does not navigate to the correct level when selected from
 - Postage statement detail screen
 - Postage statement variance report
 - Manifest Errors

- Landing page does not reflect all manifest errors
- Release Update: August 12, 2012 (PostalOne! 31.1)
 - Report Fixes
 - On the landing page
 - the Destination Entry Validation (DEV) will accurately match the DEV report
 - Reports
 - Postage Statement will accurately display RSCF into the correct section
 - Presort Eligibility Exception report will display correct mail class
 - DEV report - pricing will be updated to accurately price packages destined for the incorrect facility
 - Email notifications
 - eVS automatic reconciliation notification will only be sent out to the VAE when an adjustment has been processed within the past 24 hours
- Release Update: October 14, 2012 (PostalOne! 32.0)
 - Postage Calculation
 - Bound Printed Matter rounding will be corrected
 - Extract Fixes
 - eVS Reconciliation extract will total manifest postage
 - Report Fixes
 - On the landing page the Postage Adjustment from Manifest Errors count will update
 - eVS variance report will display records for all statements
 - Postage statement summary link will be fixed for the display error “page not found
- eVS: October 14, 2012
 - Pipe Delimited Format (manifest format 2.0)
 - Option to receive reconciliation
- Updates on eVS postings on RIBBS were presented in a screenshot
- Adjustments under review
 - Duplicates
 - Presort Validation
 - Destination Entry Validation
 - Continuing to look at data
 - Valid data may be charged for June in July
- Content Based Pricing subgroup update
 - Follow up call on 7/19/12

- Discussed industry concerns
 - Universe for assessment
 - Time period for assessment
 - Sampling size
 - Error rate
- We have sent out a template requesting data from all content mailers
- We still need mailers to submit data
- Content audits will continue to be conducted and assessed under the old policy

Industry Feedback

- What are the requirements for file version 2.0? Ans.
- Will 2.0 become a mandatory file format in the future? Ans. 1.6 is still supported. 2.0 is an option, not a mandate. Same file but one is pipe-delimited.
- What are the primary difference between File Version 1.7 and 2.0? (is the file format structure the same other than being in a pipe delimited format)? Yes. 1.7 has a few additional fields to accommodate our international mailers.
 - What portion will overlabeing be on? Ans. Detail 1. The functionality is not going to be available in the first release.
 - Comment from Richard Porras: 1.7 and 2.0 can be used to submit address files without having to submit a D2 record.
 - Levent (DHL Global Mail) D3 and D4 are for international customs, can we omit those records if you have domestic only? Ans. Yes. This will probably be included in Pub 199.
- What efforts is USPS making to work with 3rd Party Software Vendors to make sure they are ready for IMpb requirements? Ans. We will be implementing our communication and outreach plan to be sure we are reaching out to all of our customers. A lot of recent certified customers have moved towards IMpb.
- Add Destination Entry Validation to main page with linkage to reporting? Ans. This will come out in August.

Action Item Review

- June 14, 2012
 - eVS team to provide a rate ingredient in Appendix G for machineable standard marketing parcels for destination entry only *Included in June publication 205 Appendix G that is posted.*
 - PTS will provide the requirement for the new scan event extract file *1.6/2.0 Samples were provided in today's slides*
 - Confirm the grace period for the destination validation and the rules for conflicts for the rate ingredients with the service type codes
 - *Grace period published in pub 205 – eVS validates the manifest date of mailing is within the mail direction files effective start date and the actual drop end date.*

- *Rules for conflicts of STC and mail class – the STC is used to determine price, and packages will be placed in manifest errors if there is a conflict*
- eVS team will consider impacts for network optimization regarding adjustments. *Vicki addressed on call*
- Tony will schedule a Content Based Pricing Subgroup meeting for mid-July; email will be sent to get a consensus on a date *Done. 7/19 at 3:30pm*
- Tony will set up meeting with Vicki and Lisa to provide a date to the industry to do an eVS/PTS TEM Webinar. *Tentative webinar date in August*
- Juliaann will let John Gullo know how the industry truly appreciated him over the years
- Add Margaret Choiniere to the user group distribution list. Margaret's name and contact information will be sent to the user group

Questions / Comments

- ???
- Send an e-mail to Tony if you would like to be added to the Content Based Pricing Sub-group.
- Next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2012 at 3:30pm.

Action Items

- John will get the answer of the surcharge question offline and share the resolution with the group.
- Initiate subgroup to discuss options for the facility types and other suggested fields for the extract file; Juliaann will send out suggested dates.
 - Volunteers include Newgistics (Richard Porras), FedEx (Mark Dropp), USPS (Juliaann Hess, Lisa Hyater, Dave Guinther, Robert Raines and Kate Westermann)
- Add Pete Furka to the Content Based Pricing Subgroup. *Added on 8/02/2012.*

Next meeting scheduled for *Thursday 8/9/2012 at 3:30pm.*