



**eVS/PTS User Group
Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 13, 2012
3:30pm – 4:30pm EST**

Attendees

Alvin Serrano, David Stachovitz, Doug Ferguson, Margaret Reese, Shyam Maurya, John Gregory, Vicki Bosch, Emil Aquino, Jeff Waite, James Matthews, Oscar Vazquez, Roger Franco, Marsha Martinez, Richard Porras, Shyam Maurya, Kim May, Mark Dropp, Lauren (DHL Global Mail), Crystal Stefanko, Jim Wobensmith, Jeff Zeman, John Medeiros, Doug Ferguson, Peter Furka, Jennifer Howard, Levent DHL Global Mail, Malai, Vicki Bosch, Maryellen Clarke, Wade Stephen, Stacy Ibarra, Lisa Hyater, Tony Wells

Welcome – Lisa Hyater

- Roll Call

PTS Status – Lisa Hyater

- IMpb Next Milestone Date (January 7, 2013)
 - It is being proposed that this implementation date be changed to January 28, 2013 to coincide with January 2013 Price Change.
 - IMpb required for all tracking and Extra Services barcodes
 - IMpb required for parcels claiming presort and destination entry pricing
 - Shipping Services File Version 1.6 or higher required
 - ZIP+4 Code or destination delivery address required in the file
- Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (IMpb) Update
 - Customers must submit an Exception Form and letter requesting additional time to come into compliance.
 - Action Item: Send the Exception Form out to the group
 - Mail letter and form to:
 - Jim Cochrane,
 - Vice President, Product Information
 - USPS Headquarters
 - 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Room 3667
 - Washington, DC 20260-5626
 - Customers with exceptions continue to qualify:
 - For presort and/or destination pricing

- To mail parcels at prices for specific mail classes, such as Parcel Select Light Weight
 - IMpb Frequently Asked Questions published on RIBBS
 - Note: Shipping Services File has been delayed until after the price change.
 - It will be available in the TEM environment in October
- High Level Compliance Metrics
 - By the numbers.....
 - 47.6% used IMpb
 - 43.4% included ZIP+4 or Destination Delivery Address
 - 63.2% Manifesting under Shipping Services File Version 1.6 or Higher
 - Note: These numbers are based on volume
 - Action Item: Request from John M. – can these numbers be based on users in the future
 - Source: USPS Product Tracking System; for the week ending August 31, 2012
 - Barcode Quality
 - %Scanned vs %Keyed
 - Manifest Quality
 - Data accuracy and completeness
 - Manifest Timeliness
 - Electronic data receipt prior to physical
 - Shared individually with respective customers
- New Fields for Scan Event Extract Files
 - A screen shot was presented with the following proposed fields for the scan event extract
 - GMT Time
 - GMT Offset
 - GPS Latitude
 - GPS Longitude
 - This was shared again with the customers because they will be the direction that we're going in. It was noted that GPS Latitude and Longitude will be "For Future Use" and that it would reflect the location of the carrier, not the facility.
 - Action Item: USPS should consider establishing a link between the carrier and the facility.
- Extract File Update SubGroup Meeting
 - Discussed options to identify facility type for scans
 - Particularly needed for PRS events
 - Distinguish location and facility type where scans made
 - SCF Processing plant
 - NDC

- DDU
 - Specific office when multiple facilities and types are in the same 5-Digit ZIP Code
 - Discussed Additional Fields to Consider adding to extract file
 - Quality feedback on barcodes, files, and data
 - Quality Threshold
 - Action Items
 - Special Session to have more detailed discussion/analysis on the 1.6/2.0 Extract file data elements
- Shipping Services File 1.7 Lite
 - PTS started accepting Shipping Services File version 1.7 as of June 24, 2012.
 - This version provides a solution for electronic/manifesting customers to submit Domestic mailing only.
 - The Recipient Name and Delivery Address is now on the D1 record versus the D2.
 - This version does **not** provide a solution for electronic/manifesting customers to submit
 - US Customs information electronically (D3 and D4)
 - New Container Record (C1) or
 - Including the original label number for pieces that have been over labeled
- PTS-II Implementation Schedule
 - Current Status
 - Release 1.1
 - CAT – September 17, 2012
 - TEM – October 1, 2012
 - Go Live Date – TBD (Delayed)
 - Includes New Shipping Services File Format
 - Release 1.2
 - Internal EDW Extracts – TBD (Delayed)
- January 2012 Price Change
 - Rate Indicators
 - AS – Critical Mail Letters with Signature Service
 - AC – Critical Mail Flats with Signature Service
 - Service Type Codes
 - 818 – Critical Mail Signature Service
 - 017 – PRS – Full Network Insurance <= \$200
 - 018 – PRS – Full Network Insurance > \$200
 - 024 – PRS – Full Network
 - 701 – Express Mail PO-Add Signature Waived
 - 817 – Express Mail PO-Add Signature Requested

- Extra Service Code
 - 981 – Signature Service
 - 420 – Return Service
 - 360 – Delivery Confirmation International
- PTS II TEM
 - Testing in the TEM Environment
 - Customers can start testing on October 1, 2012
 - Send names of designated testers to Tony Wells at Tony.L.Wells@usps.gov
 - Names will be forwarded to Lisa Copeland and Andy Lundgren
- New SubGroup for IMpb Threshold
 - Assembling an MTAC Task Team to determine IMpb Compliance Thresholds
 - Stemmed from August 2012 MTAC Sessions and eVS/PTS User Group Meeting
 - Email John Medeiros at jmedeiros@dhlglobalmail.com if interested in participating on the Task Team
 - Please send your email response to John by September 24, 2012

eVS Status – Vicki Bosch/Jennifer Howard

- Release Updates
 - Recent 2012 Deployed Releases
 - PostalOne! 31.1
 - August 12, 2012 – patch release
 - 2012 Planned Releases
 - PostalOne! 32.0
 - October 14, 2012
 - 2013 Planned Release Schedule
 - January 13, 2013 TEM Availability
 - January 27, 2013 Major
 - April 7, 2013 Minor
 - July 15, 2013 TEM Availability
 - July 28, 2013 Major
 - October 13, 2013 Minor
- International Mail in eVS
 - Shipping Services File Format v1.7
 - August 19, 2012
 - Domestic products only
 - No International products
 - D1 and D2 records
 - Limited testing capability for v1.7 (eVS TEM only) – available now

- Full support for International products and D3 and D4 records – delayed until PTS-2 release
- Release Update: August 12, 2012 (PostalOne! 31.1)
 - 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
 - It was activated August 12, 2012; It was turned off on September 12, 2012 because the adjustment information did not work
- 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
 - New Functionality
 - Option to receive reconciliation extract weekly
 - Shipping Services File Format v2.0 (pipe delimited format)
 - Limited testing capability (eVS TEM only)
 - Note: Full support – delayed until January 2013 (tentative)
- Additional Issues – not scheduled yet
 - Postage Statement Variance report cannot be downloaded if there are a large number of packages in the report
 - Transaction data for completed Mis-shipped adjustment transactions appear to have not been completed
- eVS: January 27, 2012
 - New products
 - Critical Mail with Signature
 - Elimination of Parcel Select Regional Ground
 - ‘RG’ = Regional Ground (ONDC and Basic)
 - International Support for v1.7 and v2.0 (tentative)
 - First-Class Mail International (parcels only)
 - Priority Mail International
 - Express Mail International
- Critical Mail
 - New Product: Critical Mail with Signature

- eVS will accept Rate Indicator ‘AS’ to identify the Critical Mail Letter with Signature and Rate Indicator ‘AC’ to identify the Critical Mail Flat with Signature.
 - eVS will also accept 3-digit Service Type Codes (STCs) unique to Critical Mail and the following Extra Service Combinations.
 - A chart was presented with all of the 3-digit Critical Mail service type codes and extra services.
- Updates on eVS postings on RIBBS
 - Publication 205 Updates
 - Available late September
 - January Appendix G with new products for January
 - Available mid-October
 - John Medeiros requested that a notification be sent out to the group when Appendix G becomes available.
- Adjustments
 - Adjustments under review
 - Duplicates
 - Adjustments that will have fixes in August
 - Presort Validation
 - Destination Entry Validation
 - Reminder: Only PCSC exceptions will be used to remove invalid entries
 - Valid data may be charged for June in July
- STC vs. Mail Class
 - If STC and Mail Class are not in agreement: STC always trumps Mail Class
 - If the rate ingredients based on the STC-derived Mail Class are not a valid combination, Detail Record will error out
 - A chart was presented with 2 example service type codes

Industry Feedback

- Availability to print the postal statement itself
- Move the destination entry validation information to the eVS landing page

Action Item Review

- No action items from the August meeting
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Questions / Comments

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Action Items

- Send the Exception Form out to the group
- Can these numbers reported in the “High Level Compliance Metrics” slide be based on users in order for it to be a better representation of the industry?
- USPS will consider establishing a link between the carrier and the facility.
- Special Session to have more detailed discussion/analysis on the 1.6/2.0 Extract file data elements
- Industry should provide Tony the names of the designated testers for the PTS-2 TEM environment
- Create new subgroup meeting for IMpb thresholds
- Per John’s request, a notification will be sent out to the group when Appendix G becomes available.
- Move the destination entry validation information to the eVS landing page

Next meeting scheduled for *Thursday 10/11/2012 at 3:30pm.*