

# **MTAC User Group 4**

**Weekly Meeting for  
August 5, 2015**

- 1) Informed Visibility™ (IV™) – Development & Requirements, continued**
- 2) Update on the Implementation of rIMb (BI 93)**
- 3) AOB**

**Informed Visibility™  
for Mailers  
(Continued)**

## **Housekeeping**

- Recap from Previous Meeting
- Future Topics and Getbacks

## **Any feedback on Data Access Authorization and Data Delegation Requirements?**

## **IV Source System and Data Timeliness**

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# Housekeeping

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

- ❑ Housekeeping (Meeting Recap, Future Topics, Actions)
- ❑ Data Access Authorization and Data Delegation
  - Reviewed permissions matrix showing as-is and to-be permissions.
  - UG members to review offline and discuss feedback at next MTAC UG4 meeting.
- ❑ Information Gaps IV can help fill

**See appendix for slides from last meeting**

1. Prioritization of File Formats and Data Fields (done 7/1 and 7/22)
2. Data Access Management and Data Delegation (done 7/29)
3. How Company Permissions will work in IV
4. IV Source Systems and Data Timeliness (to be done 8/5)
5. Logical Delivery Event and ZIP+4 scenarios
6. IV Implementation Timeline
7. Getting Started with IV and Onboarding Simplification
8. Communications and Education - Getting the word out
9. UG to brainstorm list of information gaps IV can fill, such as IMb Planning Tool (done 7/29)
10. Definition of data attributes

**Action items have now been moved to the MTAC UG4 Issues and Action Item Tracker, and will no longer be tracked in the presentation.**

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# Data Access Authorization and Data Delegation

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As-Is	Ability to view/receive handling events				Ability to delegate access to another			
	Container	Handling Unit	Bundle	Piece	Container	Handling Unit	Bundle	Piece
<b><i>Inherent access</i></b>								
Mail Owner	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Mail Preparer	Yes <sup>1</sup>	Yes <sup>1</sup>	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
MID embedded in barcode	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes <sup>3</sup>
<b><i>Delegated access</i></b>								
Mail Owner's Delegate	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mail Preparer's Delegate	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	No	No	No	No	No	No

To Be	Ability to view/receive handling events				Ability to delegate access to another			
	Container	Handling Unit	Bundle	Piece	Container	Handling Unit	Bundle	Piece
<b><i>Inherent access</i></b>								
Mail Owner	Yes	Yes	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>
Mail Preparer	Yes	Yes	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>
MID embedded in barcode	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	Yes	Yes
Other entities? e.g. Scheduler ID CRID	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	TBD <sup>4</sup>	No	No	No	No
<b><i>Delegated access</i></b>								
Any person/company delegated access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No

## Legend

No = User will not have permission

Yes = User has or will have access by default, according to existing business rules

<sup>1</sup>Yes = have access by default, but not if access is delegated to another

<sup>2</sup>Yes = have access if delegated by Owner/Preparer

<sup>3</sup>Yes = can provide data to another if added to subscription

<sup>4</sup>TBD = Do we want to extend data access through IV to include this permission?

## ❑ **Manage data delegations in IV**

- Authorize other users/companies to have access to your data
- Set up parameters: delegate by MID, serial number range, handling event type, USPS facility, mail object type (container, handling unit, etc.), effective dates, etc.
- View to whom you have delegated access
- Receive requests from users/companies requesting data access

## ❑ **Request data access**

- Send request to user/company requesting data access
- Indicate requested delegation parameters and note/reason for request
- View to whom you have sent data access requests, and status of request
- Ability to cancel request, if not already approved or rejected

## ❑ **Delegate**

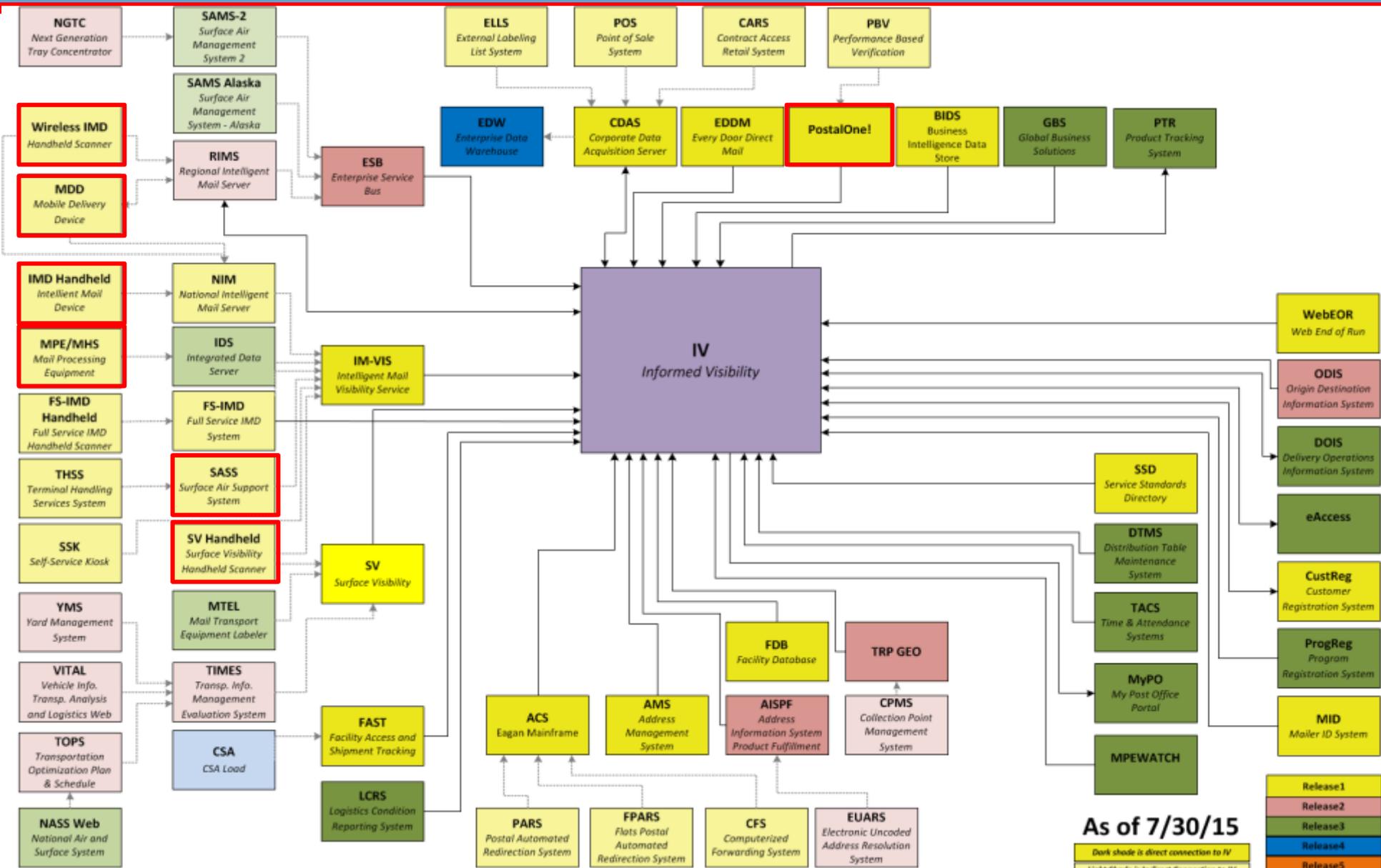
- Receive notification when delegation permissions change
- View data that has been delegated to you/your company
- Any need for a users to be able to “reject delegation” or send delegator a message, other than requesting new data access?

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# IV Source Systems and Data Timeliness

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**



# Data Timeliness for Mail Tracking data

Category	Data Entities	Source System	Latency: Source to IV	Latency: IV to Customers*	Latency: End-to-End*
Container	eDoc (Mail.dat, Mail.XML)	PostalOne!	Near real-time**	Near real-time	Near real-time
Container	SV Container scan events	SV via IM-VIS	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Container	SV Transportation scan events	SV	2 hours	Near real-time	2 hours
Container	IMDAS Container Scans	IMD via NIM via IM-VIS	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Tray	eDoc (Mail.dat, Mail.XML)	PostalOne!	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Tray	MHE Tray Scans	MHE via IDS via IM-VIS	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Tray	Air Transportation Scans	SASS	6 hours	Near real-time	6 hours
Tray	SV Tray Scans	SV via IM-VIS	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Piece / Bundle	eDoc (Mail.dat, Mail.XML, Postal Wizard)	PostalOne!	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Piece / Bundle	IOS Mailpiece scans	MPE via IDS via IM-VIS	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time
Piece / Bundle	Logical Delivery Events - Based on Lat/Long	TRP	TBD	Near real-time	TBD
Piece / Bundle	Logical Delivery Events - PO Box	IV	Near real-time	Near real-time	Near real-time

\* Latency will vary based on the method selected for data provisioning.

\*\* “Near real-time” latency should be around 30 minutes or less.

**Last revised 8/5/2015**

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# Update on the Implementation of rIMb (BI 93)

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**Next week's UG4  
meeting is  
cancelled due to  
MTAC Quarterly  
Meeting**

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# Any Other Business

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# Appendix

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## Informed Visibility for Mailers

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# 7/29 Slides

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

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# **Data Access Authorization and Data Delegation**

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

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# Information Gaps IV can help fill

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

- ❑ **At the 7/1 meeting, we mentioned that there are some unique aggregate views that can be supplied by IV that mailers don't currently have access to.**
- ❑ **For example, this information could be used to enhance the IMb Planning Tool.**
- ❑ **One suggestion was to show the % of that mailer's mail against what other mail the facility has on hand (i.e. total mail inventory on hand, by location, by scheme, etc. for planning purposes).**
- ❑ **Prompting Questions, for today's discussion:**
  - **List the focus areas for which IV can help fill information gaps.**
  - **What is useful to the industry for planning purposes?**
  - **What are the types of dashboards and reports that mailers want to see?**

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# 7/22 Slides

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

## Discussion Points

- ❑ **Discuss desired Data Elements (Piece, Bundle, Handling Unit, Container)**
  - See next slide for piece-level data attributes discussed previously in UG4
  - What elements are desired for bundles, handling units, and containers?
- ❑ **Support as-is data provisioning formats**
- ❑ **Identify and prioritize other available attributes**
- ❑ **Need to consider file size**, e.g. providing option to use 1-letter code to represent Handling Event Type: Actual (A), Assumed (S), Logical (L)
- ❑ **Normalizing handling event nomenclature, regardless of the source system**, e.g. Operation Codes vs. Event Types
- ❑ **Other considerations?**

Facility ID (ZIP)	Operation Code	Scan Date & Time	Routing Code	Tracking Code
22081	896	10/03/2010 11:20:50	57401317223	00040012345990019102
22081	896	10/03/2010 11:20:51	57401246401	00040012345990019101
22081	896	10/03/2010 11:20:53	57446009797	00040012345990019103

## Currently provisioned to IMb Tracing

- TimeStamp (mm-dd-yyyy hh:mm:ss)
- Facility ZIP (5-digit ZIP)
- Operation Number (3-digit operation number)
- TrackingCode (20-digit number)
- RoutingCode(0, 5, 9, or 11-digit number)

## Additional Attributes Identified by Industry

- Timestamp to include milliseconds
- MPE ID
- ID Tag or FICS ID Tag
- WFOVSeqNumber or MailpieceID or PkgID or EventNum, etc.

## Additional Attributes for Consideration

- IMb Routing Code
- MPESortPlanName
- Bin or ActualPocket or PocketNum

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# 7/1 Slides

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

## ❑ Mailer Dashboard

- Real-time dashboard showing status of mailings.
- Drill down to specific containers, handling units, etc. to explore the mailing.
- Drill down to specific entry locations, destination facilities, etc.
- View by mail class, mail shape, presort level, etc.
- View service score associated with mailings.

## ❑ Troubleshooting and Data Quality

- *USPS Troubleshooting capabilities*
  - Helpdesk personnel can see same scan data available to mailers
  - Adequate tools for helpdesk to troubleshoot and resolve issues
    - Easily be able to see (or receive) scan data for a given MID
- *Data Quality*
  - *Provides USPS Operations with tools to identify and resolve lack of or latent scan data*

## □ Education and Documentation

- *Documentation*
  - Complete and up-to-date End User documentation
  - Webinars, videos, and other communications

## ❑ **Data Provisioning File Formats (push/pull data feeds)**

- Mail.XML
- Flat Files: Delimited or Fixed Width
- XLS, XLSX

## ❑ **Data Reporting File Formats (online downloads)**

- Flat Files: Delimited or Fixed Width
- XLS, XLSX
- PDF
- HTML
- DOC, DOCX
- RTF
- TXT

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# 6/24 Slides

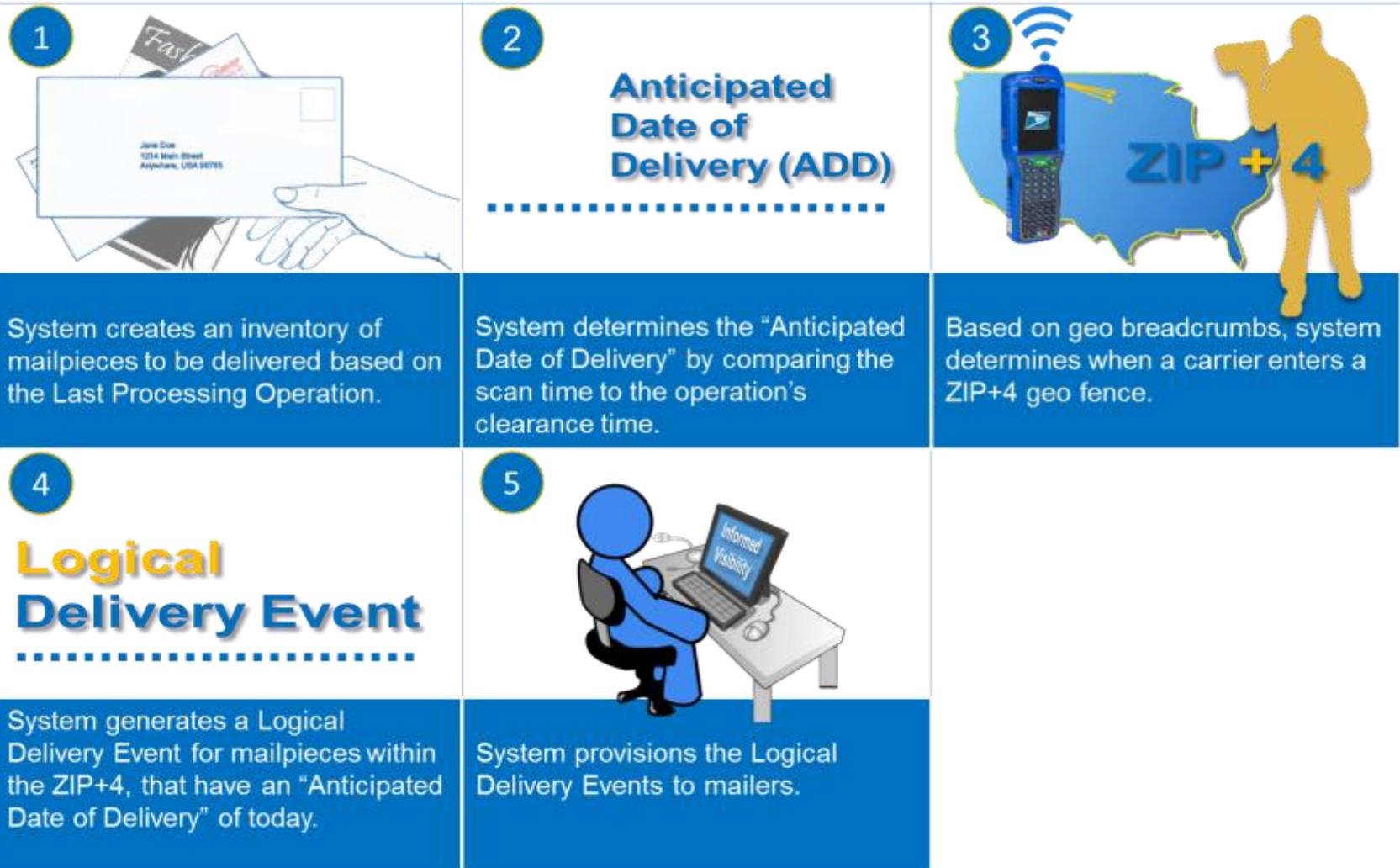
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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

- **Mail objects available through End-to-End Mail Tracking**
  - Container
  - Handling Unit (Trays, Tubs, and Sacks)
  - Bundle
  - Piece
- **Visibility Events**
  - **Actual vs. Assumed vs. Logical Handling Events**
    - **Actual** = scan of physical mailpiece, bundle, handling unit, or container
    - **Assumed** = implied scan of nested mailpiece, bundle, handling unit, or container (i.e. The mail aggregate received an actual scan, and the nested mail receives an assumed scan)
    - **Logical** = any other implied event based on business rules.  
For example: Logical Delivery Event (*see next slide for description*)

For discussion purposes only.

## Logical Delivery Events



- **Tentative Implementation Roadmap**
  - Establish initial External Data Provisioning Mechanism (**Push to Secure FTP Server**)
  - Pilot then national rollout of: **Logical Delivery Events**
  - Pilot then fully migrate: **Piece visibility** and IMb Tracing subscriptions
  - Develop and implement: **IV User Interface** to Query and Pull Reports
  - Enhance External Data Provisioning Mechanism (to support **Mail.XML Push and Pull reports**)
  - Pilot then fully migrate: **Container and Tray visibility**
  - Pilot then fully migrate: **Bundle visibility**
  - Develop and implement: **Assumed handling events**
  - Identify other opportunities for creating **Logical handling events**
  - Develop and implement: **Flexible Data Delegation through IV**

- **Data Format**

- Customizable data feeds: “What you want, when you want it, and how you want it”
- Fields/data elements
- File Format (XML, flat-file, etc.)

- **Data Distribution/Provisioning**

- Push methods (Mail.XML push subscription; Secure FTP push; etc.)
- Pull methods (Mail.XML pull requests; etc.)
- Frequency of Data Feed
  - Real-time, Hourly, Every X hours, Daily, etc.
- Configurable (by MID, mail object type, handling event type, etc.)

- **Data Timeliness**

- Mailpieces, bundles, handling units, and containers are scanned and sent to IV in near real-time to be provisioned
  - What is the preferred timeliness (e.g. within 30 minutes of scan)?

- **Data Access Authorization**

- How recipient of scan data is determined
  - MID embedded in barcode
  - By/For of eDoc
  - Expand current business rules? For example:
    - Expanding Piece Visibility to use By/For, in addition to MID embedded in barcode?
    - Expanding Container and Tray Visibility to use MID embedded in barcode, in addition to By/For from eDoc?

- **Data Delegation**

- Mail Owner/Preparer can authorize other users/companies to have access to their data, and, those users/companies in turn, can set up their own data feeds
  - Data delegation process through IV
    - Flexible – delegate by MID, serial number range, etc.
    - Not limited

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# 6/10 Slides

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**Informed Visibility  
for Mailers**

- **Provide review of IV™ mail tracking and data provisioning.**
- **Discussion topic for next few UG4 meetings:**
  - **6/24:** Data elements for container, handling unit, bundle and piece
  - **7/8:** Data provisioning (format, method, frequency)
  - **7/22:** Data delegation

## Enhanced Visibility



### Current

#### IMb Tracing®

- Visibility for letters, flats & bundles
- Bundle visibility limited to piece automation scans
- Raw data download, or push subscription (1-24 hour)

#### PostalOne! & Mail.xml

- Visibility for trays & containers
- Push, pull, or download data
- Latency issues

### Future



- Comprehensive end-to-end
- Real-time reporting
- Flexible data provisioning
- Customer specific mail performance
- Additional scan events
  - Delivery unit related bundle visibility
  - “Out for delivery” & “delivered” events

