

**Mailer Technology Advisory Council (MTAC)
Meeting Report
09/30/2015 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

USER GROUP 4 (UG4) SESSION

AGENDA

- 1) **Briefing of the data provisioning issue from 9/14**
- 2) **IV – Logical Delivery Events**

DISCUSSION POINTS

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an ongoing forum to facilitate communications between the Postal Service and users, define and review improvements in process/production functionality and address and resolve issues.

IMb Tracing Backlog Issue

- Data flow was impacted on 9/14. Three key systems played a role: IMb Tracing, Integrated Data Server (IDS), and Intelligent Mail Visibility Server (IMVIS.) Due to an I/O issue, there was a processing backlog that backed up into the queue.
- The application is now working as intended. USPS added additional processing and additional storage. The performance group is still evaluating the systems' ability to load the packets into the production server for IMb.
- Two changes were deferred to avoid adding more volume to the queue: 1) The new BPM STIDs; 2) The migration away from the MPT data as a data source to IOS which is in real-time.
- There is a perception about the difference between basic and full service Bound Printed Matter (BPM). The new BPM STIDs could potentially present an inconsistency with the other classes of mail, and/or create extra work for customers such as software vendors.
- Himesh – will discuss with the Mailing Standards Group, as this issue requires further validation.
- Judy – suggested this item be left on the status list along with Postnet registration.

IV – Logical Delivery Events

- Logical Delivery Events are created based on the final processing scan.
- Logical delivery events and business rules to determine inventory and the point in time when mail is delivered were presented.
- The two main factors in creating logical delivery events are 1) the need to know what mail is in inventory that should be delivered that day based on the final processing scan and anticipated date of delivery, and 2) the need to know when the mail should be delivered based on delivery type (carrier on street delivery, PO box delivery, caller service, etc.)

Business rules to determine inventory with an anticipated date of delivery (ADD):

- 1) (Completed) Letters and Flats with Final Processing Scan if that piece has a final Op Code qualify.
 - 2) (In Process) Mail Held-out at Plant for Firm Hold-out or Caller Service Pickup: Business rules are being defined to determine the inventory held-out at the plant in an upstream operation.
 - 3) (Future) Bundles broken down at the processing facility: When a bundle break event is captured, an out-for-delivery event is created for the bundle and nested mailpieces. TRP and IV will be enhanced to include this mail in inventory, in order to generate Logical Delivery Events for this mail.
 - 4) (Future) Saturation and EDDM Mail – We are exploring creation of Logical Delivery Events for Saturation and EDDM mail.
- Once IV receives the final processing scan, it catalogs that mail as being out for delivery that day. We wait until we get breadcrumb information that the carrier has entered the ZIP + 4 area to generate the logical delivery event. In the future, we are looking at capturing bundled mail broken down in a processing facility as part of inventory.
 - Gaps in Inventory Process
 - Amy – There could be mail where we don't get a final processing scan, so we would not add it to the inventory.
 - Himesh – There is one gap he is working on right now, it's a 5-digit pallet or 5 digit content on a mixed pallet that is working its way through a manual bullpen.
 - We are looking for a manual solution for the 5-digit bundles or trays, so we can identify everything that comes

into a Delivery Unit. This is one of the flows where we won't have visibility except possibly the 99M scan when it arrives at the destination facility. We are not looking at this scan as a last processing operation (LPO) scan. Until we have a solution in place for bundles that go through a manual flow, we won't have insight into an outgoing container to a DU. Once we get that and know when it arrived at a DU, we can leverage off what we are already building in terms of solution architecture for the logical delivery event.

- Amy – will add this as a future item when determining whether it is feasible to create a logical delivery event.

Business rules to determine when mail is delivered:

- 1) (Completed) Mail delivered on-street: Using carrier breadcrumbs to determine when a carrier enters the ZIP+4 associated with the mailpiece.
- 2) (In Process) Mail delivered to Post Office Boxes: Using PO Box uptimes.
- 3) (In Process) Caller Service at Post Office: Defining business rules and evaluating whether to use PO Box uptime or Post Office opening time.
- 4) (Future) Firm Hold-out and Caller Service at Plant – TBD.

ZIP + 4 Determination:

- Mobile Delivery Device (MDD) has been fully deployed (before that we had Wireless IMD); in both cases they send up “breadcrumbs” that are a geo point of where the carrier is. Based on this data we can determine when the carrier enters a specific ZIP+4. We then create a logical delivery event to any of the mail that is associated to that ZIP+4.
- Rules are different when a delivery point has more than one ZIP+4 associated to it. We will discuss rules for how we are determining the primary ZIP+4 for that address. This is the majority of mail.

Mail delivered to a PO box:

- We are looking at using the PO Box uptime to determine when we should generate a logical delivery event for mail inventory designated for PO boxes. Once we have the uptime scan we can create the logical delivery event. If we do not receive a PO box uptime scan, then perhaps we could use the time when the post office closes. At some point we may need a failsafe in order to generate this event.

Caller service at Post office and Plant:

- We are still defining the business rules and determining if we should use the PO Box uptime, or Post office opening time as when we generate the events. We have firm hold-outs or caller service at the plant and are still trying to formulate business rules for mail picked up directly from the plant, determine what time, or how we know when to generate the actual delivery event for that mail. This is still in progress.

Logical Delivery Events for Mail Delivered on-Street:

Action Item: Place the new IMb component and new STIDS for BPM on the status list.

Action Item: Himesh – will discuss BPM STIDS issue with Becky Dobbins of the Mailing Standards Group.