

**Mailer Technology Advisory Council (MTAC)  
Meeting Report  
06/22/2016 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

**USER GROUP 4 (UG4) SESSION**

**AGENDA**

- 1) IMb Tracing® Issue
- 2) IV™ Update
- 3) IV™ Service User Access vs. Data Delegation
- 4) IV™ Feature Proposals
- 5) Any Other Business

**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.

**Introductions:**

- Amy Cradic presented USPS as Himesh Patel was on travel.
- Lisa Bowes represented industry as Judy Kalus was on vacation.

**IMb Tracing Issue:**

- A drop in flat scans was reported. Per the mailer reporting the issue, the lower scan rate has been observed since mid-May, occurring after the IMb Tracing switch from MPT to IOS. Specifically, the mailer is seeing very low scan rates from FSS.
- Maureen clarified that there are scans in the Postal System that are not passing through IM-VIS to reach the mailer.
- In May 2016, a change was made to the IMb Tracing system filter in order to reduce latency.
- This is the first time we heard of a drop in scans. USPS is investigating to see what the issue is.
- Any similar issues should be reported to the IMb Tracing Helpdesk.
- Data Flow: Amy reviewed the mail data flow for IMb Tracing, and how data flows from MPE to IDS to IM-VIS to IMb Tracing and then to the customer. (See slide # 5 of today's presentation.)
- Questions asked:
  - Angelo – Does geofence data get fed into IM-VIS? Answer: No, for creation of Logical Delivery Events, MDD breadcrumb data flows from the MDD to RIMS to ESB to TRP-GEO where it is used to determine ZIP+4™ entry.
  - Angelo – Is 15 min added to latency because of this? Answer: No, the 15 min latency is due to IOS business rules. The IOS file is created every 15 minutes or once the file reaches 1.5MB, whichever occurs first.

**IV™ Update – Circulated Documents:**

- Three documents were circulated on July 9th: Draft IV Technical Guide, Draft Message #2 attachment (overview of migration process) and Draft Training Deck on How to Apply for Access to IV™. Limited feedback, that was due on June 15<sup>th</sup>, has been received.
- Another round of draft documents will be circulated to Industry: The IV™ Data Dictionary and Sample Data Set.
- A list of primary and technical contacts who will receive the request for the desired IV™ BSA is currently being worked on and will be provided once it has been finalized. It is our intention to provide a company-specific list to each respective company.

**IV™ Update – Release 1 Pilot Status:**

- An email was sent to pilot participants last week.
- There has been a delay in the Pilot and as a result we are at risk of starting the national rollout on 7/11/16.
- Release 1 National Rollout Status:
- Lisa Bowes – the week of 7/11/16 would not be the best week for the national rollout due to MTAC Quarterly Meetings

being held that same week.

- IV™ will plan to send out meeting invites for the kick off, and a separate email regarding the new start date for the pilot.

**IV™ Update – Questions and Answers:**

- The below series of Questions & Answers was presented.
- **Q:** Will IV provide the Anticipated Date of Delivery (ADD) for pieces?  
**A:** Yes, IV will provide the ADD as part of Release 1.
  - The process for providing the ADD is explained in the Tech Guide. It explains how the system compares the clearance time associated with the Stop-the-Clock Op Code to determine the Anticipated Date of Delivery (ADD).
  - Lisa Bowes received a question on how load leveling impacts ADD. Amy to investigate and update the Tech Guide as needed.
- **Q:** Will I need to drop the legacy IMb Tracing file format and create a new delimited format to receive the ADD?  
**A:** Yes, to receive the ADD as part of your data feed, you would need to use a customized delimited file format.
- **Q:** When we migrate to IV, will we automatically be enrolled for container and tray visibility?
- **A:** No, your existing subscriptions from IMb Tracing and PostalOne! will be migrated. If you do not currently subscribe to container and tray data, then you will not automatically receive container and tray data once you are migrated to IV. Through IV, you can add new subscriptions for additional data you would like to receive.
- **Q:** Will I need to make any adjustments to overcome any firewall issues with the migration?  
**A:** Yes, mailers who receive push FTP data from IMb Tracing may need to add 4 new USPS FTP server IP addresses to your firewall so your servers do not block data coming from IV. Those IP addresses will be sent by email to existing IMb Tracing customers prior to the migration period.
- **Q:** Can IV provide a confidence code for ADD/LDE?  
**A:** LDE for Release 2 will be limited to the four stop-the-clock OpCodes published in the draft Tech Guide which provide a high degree of confidence for ADD. We have planned a future enhancement to provide LDEs based on other Stop-the-Clock OpCodes when there's high confidence in the ADD based on the Last Mile Impact (LMI) for a 5-digit ZIP Code for a given day of week for a given OpCode. LDEs would be created for mailpieces which received a Stop-the-Clock OpCode when the LMI for the given OpCode for that 5-digit ZIP Code for that day of week is below a certain threshold.
- **Q:** Will IV provide the Delivery Mode for the LDE? (Meaning, will it show if it is On-Street, PO Box, or Delivery Unit Caller Service.)  
**A:** TBD – researching if this field will be externally available as part of Release 2.
- **Q:** Can we obtain a list of the Primary and Technical contacts who will receive the request for the desired IV BSA and the desired migration/transition date?  
**A:** TBD – assessment in progress.

**Discussion**

- David Gorham asked if the *PostalOne!* Help Desk staff or IMb Tracing Help Desk staff have been trained yet.
- Amy replied she is meeting regularly with the Informed Visibility Help Desk staff. The same staff that support the IMb Tracing Helpdesk today will support the IV™ Helpdesk.
- Industry inquired whether users would receive an ADD on curtailed mail. Amy explained that how curtailed bundle scans are used to create Logical OUT FOR DELIVERY events. When this occurs, the pieces associated with these bundles will NOT receive a Logical Delivery Event on the same day that they receive the curtailed scan event.
- Industry also inquired if pieces receiving Op Code 918 are curtailed, and if Load Leveling would impact mail that received a Stop-the-Clock event.

**IV Service User Access vs. Data Delegation**

- The following distinctions between individual user access permissions for a given CRID compared to Data Delegation from a MID/CRID to another MID/CRID were discussed.

	IV Service User Access	Data Delegation
What is it?	User requests and receives approval for IV Service for CRID through BCG	A MID or CRID is given visibility for another MID or CRID
When to use it?	Use this for individuals who work for your company.	Use this to grant visibility to another company, or to share data between your own CRIDs/MIDs.
When to use it? (Explanation)	You know the individual users who should have access. You have knowledge when they begin working for your company and when they depart. You want to control access at the individual user level.	You've contracted with a third-party service provider, and you do not know the individuals who should have access. You want to share your data with another MID or CRID and let <u>them</u> manage the individual users.
Features/ Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of Release 1, any user granted the IV Service for a CRID has visibility to all MIDs associated to that CRID as well as any Delegated MIDs and CRIDs.</li> <li>When the Roles/Permissions module is introduced in Release 3, the IV BSA, IV BSA Delegates, and Roles/Permissions Managers for the CRID can control which MIDs or CRIDs and which Delegated MIDs and CRIDs can be accessed or managed by any individual user.</li> </ul>	Release 1 allows a CRID to delegate visibility to another CRID or MID, and allows a CRID to request data visibility from another CRID or MID.

- Release 3 will include Roles & Permissions Management, which provides the ability to control which MIDs and CRIDs individual users have access to.
- Data Delegation occurs when one MID/CRID delegates data to another MID/CRID.
- If there are other questions, please send it to [IVFeedback@usps.gov](mailto:IVFeedback@usps.gov)
- Phil suggested that scenarios be provided to illustrate business rules.

**Possible new IV Feature**

- Amy asked for comments on the idea of adding a new feature to allow “owning” MID/CRID to delegate visibility with the ability for the “gaining” MID/CRID to further delegate if needed.
- It was suggested that this feature is probably not necessary.

**Any Other Business:**

- Lisa Bowes announced plans to re-instate the Issues List from RIBBS with Updates/Status/Date of Closure/Details.

There were no further comments. The meeting was adjourned.

**Action Item:** Amy will confirm rules for curtailed mail for bundles vs. mailpieces resulting from hand sorted residual mail.

**Action Item:** Amy to capture information regarding how load leveling would impact the ADD.

**Agenda Item:** Amy to provide update on availability of the Delivery Mode for LDE (On street vs. PO Box vs. Delivery Unit Caller Service).

**Action Item:** Amy to send the Side-by-Side comparison from the June 8<sup>th</sup> MTAC UG4 meeting to David Gorham who had a question about delegating his MID to a new company and what the procedures are in the BCG vs. IMb Tracing.