

# MTAC User Group 4

Weekly Meeting for  
June 29, 2016

- 1) Welcome to new members**
- 2) IMb Tracing® issue**
- 3) IV Update**
  - **Feedback on circulated draft documents (IV Data Dictionary and Sample Data Set)**
  - **Release 1 Pilot and National Rollout Status**
  - **RIBBS Document Updates**
  - **Questions and Answers**
  - **Feedback on Draft IV Technical Guide**
- 4) July Meetings Calendar**
- 5) Any Other Business**

**Welcome to new members!**

**Himesh Patel**

**Lisa Bowes**

**Judy Kalus**

## MTAC User Group 4 for Informed Visibility™

- Meets weekly, Wednesdays from 12:30-1:30 PM (ET)
- Open to all Users
- Forum to discuss IV™ features for mailers

*MTAC User Group 4 is an open forum for representatives from USPS and the mailing industry to discuss mail visibility and its future with Informed Visibility.*

*We have established a great dialogue with the MTAC UG4 and we encourage more industry members to join the discussion. Contact us to become a member.*



### Join the MTAC UG4 discussions!

- Send a request to [IVFeedback@usps.gov](mailto:IVFeedback@usps.gov) to join the group.

Visit the Informed Visibility RIBBS webpage to learn more.

[https://ribbs.usps.gov/index.cfm?page=informed\\_visibility](https://ribbs.usps.gov/index.cfm?page=informed_visibility)

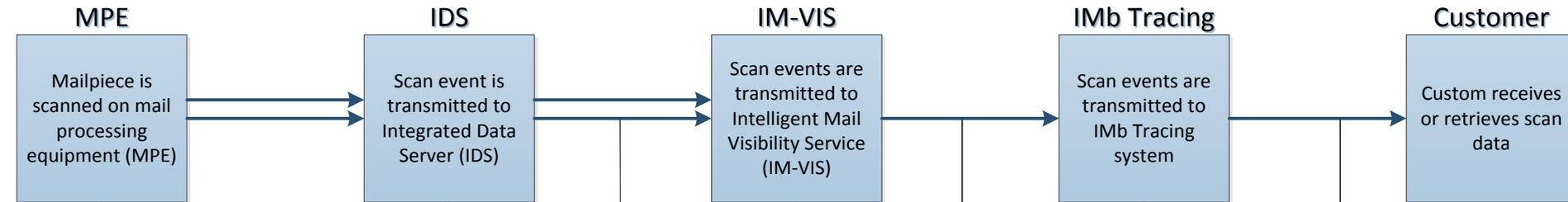
# IMb Tracing® Issue

Himesh Patel

- Observed lower scan volumes for FSS through IOS data stream, in comparison to MPT data stream. This would have impacted IMb Tracing customers since the May 21<sup>st</sup> conversion from MPT to IOS.
- The short term workaround was to revert to the MPT data stream for FSS data for the IMb Tracing application. This rollback occurred at approximately 4pm CDT Tuesday 6/28.
- In the meantime, USPS Engineering is currently conducting a detailed comparison of the MPT and IOS data for FSS to identify and resolve the reasons for the lower scan volumes through the IOS data stream.
- Since the Informed Visibility application also utilizes data from the IOS data stream, the lower scan volume would also impact IV. As a contingency plan, in case the long term solution to resolve the lower FSS data volumes through IOS is not in place before the Release 1 pilot, we will investigate implementing the same short term workaround for IV. (i.e., using the MPT data stream for FSS data instead of IOS.)

## IMb Tracing® Data Flow

Last Revised **6/29/2016**



**Letter Sorters:**

- AFCS
- AFCS200
- DBCS Family (DBCS, DIOSS, CIOSS)
- LCREM

**Flat Sorters:**

- AFSM
- UFSM
- FSS

**Bundle Sorters:**

- APPS
- APBS

There is an IDS server local to each facility.

There are two possible data paths.

**MPT:** MPT files are created after end-of-run (EOR), and are deposited on the IDS server. IM-VIS continuously pulls the MPT files from the IDS servers.

**IOS:** IOS files are created as the scans occur. The file is transmitted upstream via MPTD every 15 minutes, or after the file reaches 1.5MB (whichever comes first).

IM-VIS is a centralized, enterprise system.

Only scans that pass the IMb Tracing Filter are transmitted to IMb Tracing.

**IMb Tracing Filter:** Scan must be associated to an IMb with a Destination IMb Tracing MID or a Routing Code associated to an Origin IMb Tracing Routing Code. Also, scan must be associated to an IMb with a Destination or Origin IMb Tracing Service Type ID (STID).

Scans from APPS or APBS are from the IOS data path; all other scans are from the MPT data path.

IMb Tracing is a centralized system.

**Push Subscriptions:** IMb Tracing customers can set up push subscriptions, to have scan data posted to their server via FTP. Push subscriptions can be configured to send data at various frequencies: every 1-24 hours.

**Pull Data:** Alternatively, IMb Tracing customers can manually download scan data from the MT&R website. Scan data download can only be conducted on a Subscriber ID level (MID\_STID); each download is pulled from the next available scan after the last pull. (Note: Scan data is only retained on the IMb Tracing servers for 7 days.)

As of mid-May 2016, all scans are from IOS data path

**6/29/2016: Switched FSS scan data from IOS to MPT as short term workaround to resolve lower FSS scan volumes**

# IV™ Update

Amy Cradic



## 2. Release 1 Pilot and National Rollout Status

- As part of migration testing, discovered gap between legacy IMb Tracing and *PostalOne!* subscriptions and IV.
- These gaps must be addressed before pilot testing can begin.
- Release 1 pilot and national rollout dates delayed by 4 weeks.

- **Schedule Changes:**

- ◆ Release 1 Pilot Start moved from Jun 20 to Jul 18.
- ◆ Release 1 National Rollout (which is dependent on successful pilot) moved from Jul 11 to Aug 8.
- ◆ Downstream releases also impacted by 1-3 weeks. Revised schedule will be posted on RIBBS, and communications and training plans will be adjusted accordingly.

**Published Schedule as of 6/9**

	Pilot Start	National Rollout	Migration End
Release 1	Jun 20	Jul 11	Aug 05
Release 2	Jul 25	Aug 15	N/A
Release 3	Aug 22	Sep 12	N/A
Release 4	Sep 08	Sep 26	Oct 14

**Revised Dates**

	Pilot Start	National Rollout	Migration End
Release 1	Jul 18	Aug 08	Sep 02
Release 2	Aug 01	Aug 22	N/A
Release 3	Sep 06	Sep 26	N/A
Release 4	Sep 26	Oct 17	Oct 28

**# of Days Delayed**

	Pilot Start	National Rollout	Migration End
Release 1	28	28	28
Release 2	7	7	N/A
Release 3	15	14	N/A
Release 4	18	21	14

	Piece Visibility	Container & Tray Visibility	Bundle Visibility	Assumed Handling Events	Web-Enabled Mail Tracking & Flexible Data Provisioning	Flexible Data Delegation	Administrative Activities
Jul.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/18 – Pilot start for IMb Tracing Piece Visibility migration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/18 – Pilot start for Container &amp; Tray Visibility migration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/18 – Pilot start for Bundle Visibility for automation handling events migration</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/18 – Pilot start for Web-Enabled Mail Tracking &amp; Flexible Data Provisioning (Phase 1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7/18 – Pilot start for Flexible Data Delegation</li> </ul>	
Aug.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/1 – Pilot start for Logical Delivery Events</li> <li>8/8 – Begin National Rollout of IMb Tracing Piece Visibility migration</li> <li>8/22 – National Deployment of Logical Delivery Events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/8 – Begin National Rollout of Container &amp; Tray Visibility migration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/8 – Begin National Rollout of Bundle Visibility for automation handling events migration</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/8 – National Deployment of Web-Enabled Mail Tracking &amp; Flexible Data Provisioning (Phase 1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8/8 – National Deployment of Flexible Data Delegation</li> </ul>	
Sep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/2 – End migration for IMb Tracing Piece Visibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/2 – End migration for Container &amp; Tray Visibility</li> <li>9/26 – Pilot start for Start-the-Clock migration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/2 – End migration for Bundle Visibility for automation handling events</li> <li>9/6 – Pilot start for enhancements for Bundle Visibility for handheld &amp; logical handling events</li> <li>9/26 – National Deployment of enhancements for Bundle Visibility for handheld &amp; logical handling events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/6 – Pilot start for Assumed Handling Events</li> <li>9/26 – National Deployment of Assumed Handling Events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/26 – Pilot start for Web-Enabled Mail Tracking &amp; Flexible Data Provisioning (Phase 2)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9/6 – Pilot start for Roles &amp; Permissions Management</li> <li>9/26 – National Deployment of Roles &amp; Permissions Management</li> </ul>
Oct.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10/17 – Begin National Rollout of Start-the-Clock migration</li> <li>10/28 – End migration for Start-the-Clock</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10/17 – National Deployment of Web-Enabled Mail Tracking &amp; Flexible Data Provisioning (Phase 2)</li> </ul>		

### 3. RIBBS Updates – 6/29

- Updated [IV RIBBS webpage](#)
- ◆ Release timelines
- Updated attachments:
  - ◆ [IV Mail Tracking and Migration Timeline](#)
  - ◆ [IV Mail Tracking Communications Plan](#)
  - ◆ [IV Mail Tracking and Migration Training Matrix](#)
  - ◆ [IV Overview and Mail Tracking Data Migration Process](#)

*In progress of making highlighted updates*

- Added attachments:
  - ◆ [Draft IV Technical Guide](#)
  - ◆ [IV Secure Socket Layer \(SSL\) Certificate](#)  
(for use in Mail.XML pull messages)

## 4. Questions and Answers

- **Q:** Does Load Leveling impact Anticipated Date of Delivery (ADD)?
- **A:** No, load leveling does not impact ADD. Load leveling impacts the Expected Date of Delivery (EDD), which is calculated based on the Start-the-Clock date and the Service Standard. ADD, on the other hand, is calculated based on the Last Processing Operation.
  - **EDD** is when the mail SHOULD HAVE BEEN delivered ...  
... based on the service standard.
  - **ADD** is when we ANTICIPATE IT WILL BE delivered ...  
... based on the last processing operation.
  - It is that **Delta** that determines service performance variance.
- **Q:** Is MDD breadcrumb data which is used to help determine ZIP+4™ entry obtained through IM-VIS?  
**A:** 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.

## 4. Questions and Answers, con't

- **Q:** Will mailers receive a Logical Delivery Event for curtailed mail?  
**A:** Curtailed bundle scans are used as part of the process to determine which Delivery Unit bundles should or should not receive Logical Out for Delivery events. Pieces associated with the bundles that receive a curtailed scan will NOT receive a Logical Delivery Event on the same day that the bundle received the curtailed scan event.
- **Q:** Can mail that receives a 919 last processing operation be curtailed?  
**A:** No, since mail that has received a 919 operation is mixed with First-Class Mail, it is never curtailed (unless in case of emergency).
- **Q:** Is residual mail that the carrier manually cases ever curtailed?  
**A:** Residual DPS mail is never curtailed.

## 4. Questions and Answers, con't

- **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.

**DRAFT**

Attribute Display Name	Description	Possible Values
<b>LDE Delivery Mode</b>	Used to describe the type of delivery, for which the Logical Delivery Event was created. The LDE Delivery Mode determines the trigger criteria that is used to generate the logical delivery event.	On-Street PO Box Delivery Unit Caller Service
<b>LDE Trigger Method</b>	Describes the trigger event that was used to generate the logical delivery event.	ZIP+4 Entry PO Box Distribution Complete Post Office Opening Time
<b>LDE Inventory Method</b>	Describes the last processing operation for the mailpiece due to which the mailpiece was added to the Logical Delivery Event (LDE) inventory. When the addresses associated to mailpieces in LDE inventory receive a trigger event, logical delivery events are created for those pieces.	LPO 918 LPO 919 LPO 538 LPO 147 Logical Out for Delivery

## 4. Questions and Answers, con't

- **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.*

- **6/29 update:** Obtained export of IMb Tracing contacts per CRID. Assessing how best to disseminate the information.
- Below shows count of CRIDs that have:
  - At least 1 primary and at least 1 technical contact (42%)
  - At least 1 primary contact, but no technical contacts (24%)
  - At least 1 technical contact, but no primary contacts (19%)
  - No primary or technical contacts (15%)

### IMb Tracing Contacts Analysis by CRID

Prim+Tech	Prim Only	Tech Only	No Prim or Tech	Grand Total
879 (42%)	496 (24%)	392 (19%)	308 (15%)	2075

## 5. Feedback Received on Draft IV Tech Guide

- Regarding Appointment ID:** “Mailers are not required to link content of the specific IMcb to a FAST appointment and therefore 98% of the time they don’t. **FAST appt Drop Ship reservations are typically the count of how many pallets for a FAST appt.** Not to say we may not collectively get there some day. I think this may be a long way off. The current workflow and transportation updates don’t happen to readily allow it currently. Logistics company picked up mail from eDoc submitter and hands off to another party who may create FAST appointment.”

Exists	Appointment ID	Appointment ID	FAST Appointment Number associated to container, provided in eDoc as Reservation Number.	15	text (A/N)

# July Meetings

Himesh Patel

Lisa Bowes

Judy Kalus

Date	Meeting?
July 6	Yes
July 13	<b>Cancelled</b> due to Quarterly MTAC Meeting
July 20	Yes
July 27	?

**Any other business**