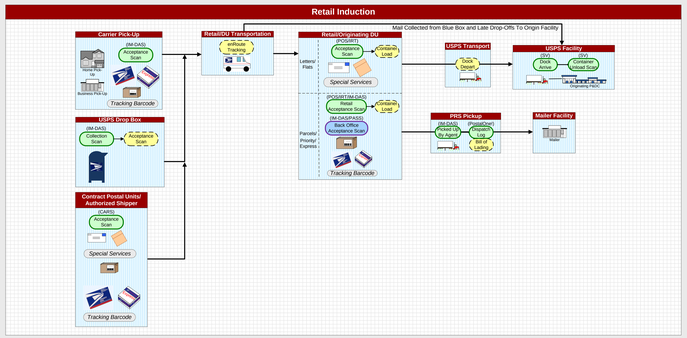
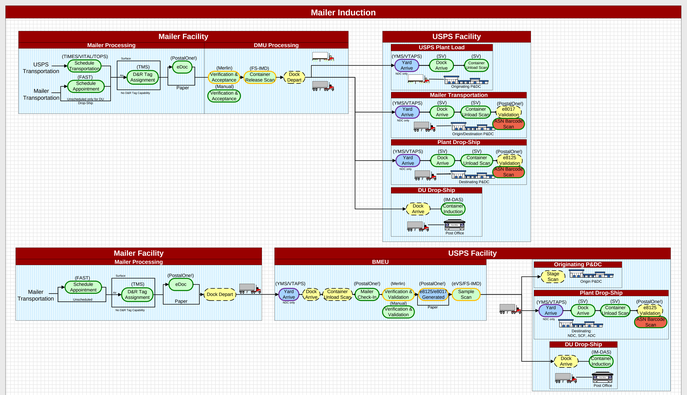
MAIL VISIBILITY

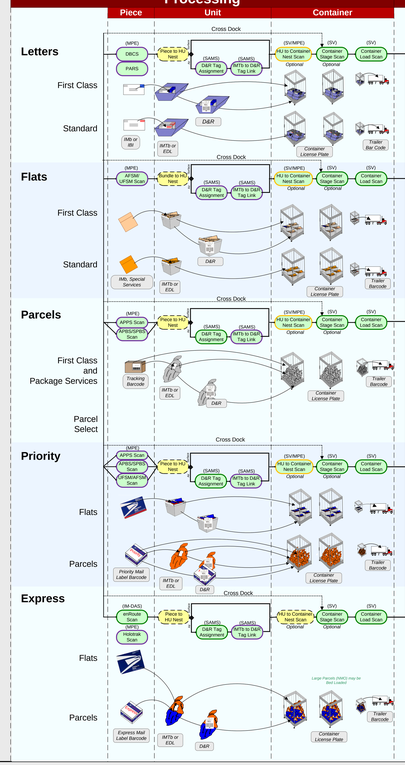
INDUCTION



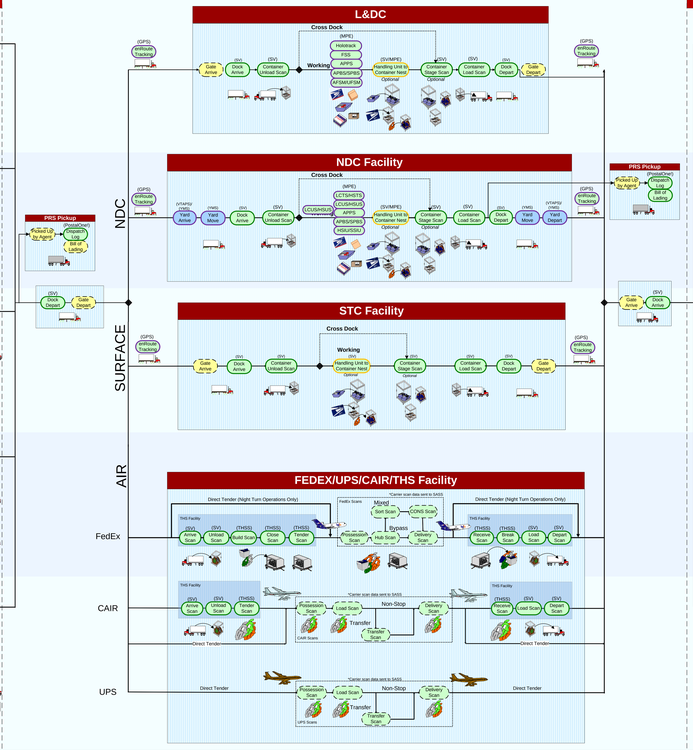


ORIGIN

Processing

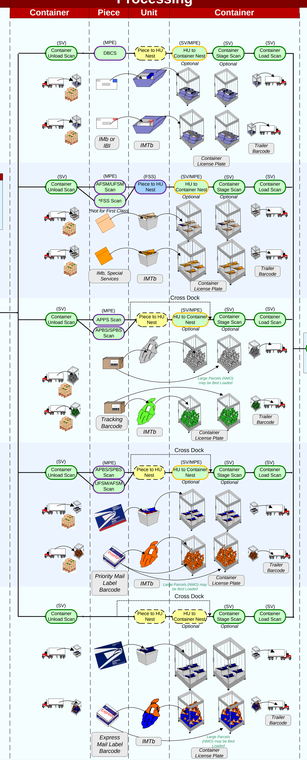


Network Transportation

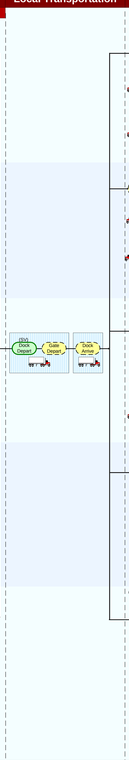


DESTINATION

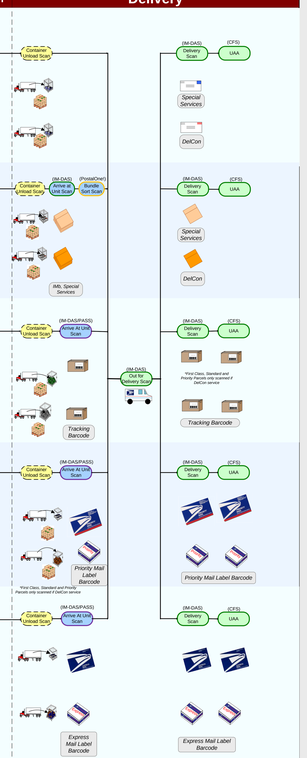
Processing



Local Transportation



Delivery



Visibility Events Legend

Existing	Visibility events currently deployed and collecting information
Developing	Visibility events currently being developed but not yet deployed
Future	Visibility events that are targeted for collection in the future
Retiring	Visibility events that are being removed in the future
	Manual: Visibility events performed manually using scanning equipment
	Passive: Visibility events that occur passively without needing to stop mail flow
	Calculated: Inferred visibility events generated using assumptions and previous visibility data
	Unidentified: Visibility events that have not yet been defined or are performed by a third party

ASSET TRACKING

Handling Units	Trays, Sacks, Totes, Pallets	IMTB; ULD (Enhanced Distribution Label (EDL)); D&R Tag (Air Mail)
Containers		Container License Plate; ULD D&R Tag (Air Mail); Retail Placard (9R5), Empty Equipment (99Q), Plant Placard (99P), Mailer Placard (99M); Intelligent Mail Container Barcode
Trailers		Trailer Bar Code; Temporary Trailer Bar Code; GPS; RFID
Mail Pieces		IMPB; IMB; Parcel Return (PRS); Return Receipt; Delivery Confirmation; Signature Confirmation; Certified

Extra Services

Delivery Confirmation	Visibility: Date/Time of Delivery Applies to: First Class Parcels, Priority Mail, Package Service Parcels, Parcel Select, Standard Parcels
Signature Confirmation	Visibility: Date/Time of Delivery; Signature of Delivery Applies to: First Class Parcels, Priority Mail, Package Service Parcels, Parcel Select
Certified Mail	Visibility: Delivery Status Applies to: First Class Mail, Priority Mail
Return Receipt	Visibility: Date/Time of Delivery; Delivery Address; Recipients Signature Applies to: Express Mail, First Class Mail, Priority, Package Services

enRoute Scanning MPE

Machine	Letter	Flats	Parcel	Priority	Express	MMO
DBCS						
CSBCS						
AFSM						
UFSM						
HSS/SSSU						
APPS						
APBS						
SPBS						
DCISS						
CIOSS						
FSS						
AFCS						
SSM						
LCUS						
LIPS						
UPSCS						
LCUS						
Rapidsort						
Holorack						
HSTS						
HSUS						

Facilities	NDC	P&DC	DU	STC	L&DC	Undefined
	2	4214	47	0	0	496
	0	4	51	0	0	631
	2	503	2	5	10	8
	0	61	6	0	1	38
	60	0	0	0	0	0
	9	36	0	7	16	5
	2	150	2	2	2	13
	13	169	2	2	7	17
	1	739	13	0	0	62
	0	274	0	0	0	6
	0	15	0	3	7	7
	0	894	6	0	0	33
	31	1	0	0	0	3
	3	206	0	2	1	7
	0	35	0	0	0	7
	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10	39	1	0	4	1
	0	6	0	0	0	0
	0	89	0	5	5	32
	24	10	1	1	3	1
	3	3	0	0	0	0

*Undefined facility types for MPE deployment

enRoute Scanning MPE Legend

- Machines currently deployed and collecting enRoute scan data for corresponding mail class/shape
- Machines currently being developed to capture enRoute scan data but not yet deployed for corresponding mail class/shape
- Machines that do not process the corresponding class/shape

Current Initiatives

Project	Description	Dates
GPS	GPS units are being applied to transportation contracted vehicles that are traveling on a surface route more than 150 miles. The GPS units will transmit route data to ODS every 15 minutes, providing better visibility of mail being transported.	Oct 2010
YMS	Yard Management System will be deployed to all NDC facilities to accurately track yard arrival/departure times, as well as movement within the yard using RFID technology.	Sept 2011
APBS	SPBS machines will be upgraded to APBS machines, enabling BCS/OCR reading capabilities for barcodes and images.	April 2011 – Jan 2012
FSS	Planned deployment of 100 FSS machines across plants nationwide.	July 2011
Ring Scanners	IM-DAS and SV scanners are to be upgraded to allow for one-handed scanning operation by installing 'ring scanners' on the devices.	FY2011
PASS	Passive scanners are to be installed in 1,877 USPS Delivery Units. This accounts for 50% of the parcel volume at DUs. Phase 1 - DUs; Phase 2 – P&DC's and Acceptance at DUs	May 2011
SV	SV scanning capabilities are currently deployed at 40% of all P&DC's, 54% of all L&DC's, 20% of all SCC's, 100% of all STC's, 100% of all NDCs. Plans to expand to additional facilities, including ISCs, are in discussion	2011-2012
PSOC	The PSOC is a camera that will be added to the PSM machines to read barcodes once a piece has been sorted by the HSS1 or SSU. This capability will address camera readability limitations for HSSUs and allow 1/2" tall barcodes to be read.	FY2011
Bundle Scanning	IMD enhancements planned to enable Delivery scans for the top flat of a bundle, followed by a calculated delivery scan for flats assumed to be within the bundle (performed by SASP).	FY2011
IMPB	Mandate issued requiring parcels to have an intelligent mail parcel barcode by January 2012.	Jan 2012

Bulk Mailer Documents

e8125	Proves to the entry facility that the mail being presented by the mailer or mailer's agent was verified and paid for at origin. Postal Service employees verify PVDS mailings for classification, rate eligibility, preparation, volume, and presort either at the mailer's plant or at the origin Post Office serving the mailer's plant.
e8017	Proves to the destination Postal Service™ facility that the mailing was verified and paid for at origin. Under an expedited plant load shipment clearance, the USPS verifies and receives postage payment for mailable mail at the mailer's plant, after which the mailer transports the shipment (at the mailer's expense) to a destination Postal Service facility. The origin Post Office serving the mailer's plant will verify the mailing for classification, rate eligibility, preparation, and presort.
eVS	Electronic manifest used by bulk mailer that requires a unique permit to be used for eVS mailings. Destination sampling is used for verification and validation purposes. Monthly data reconciliation against mailer manifests is a requirement.
3152-E	This form is used for Express Mail manifesting certification and includes: number of pieces, total weight, total postage, EMCA number, electronic file number, mailer signature and the date of mailing.

NDC Network Overview

Tier 1	Process destinating mail and originating turn-around mail for the Tier 1 service area. In the longer term, Tier 1 sites will also have STC containerization and dispatch functions.
Tier 2	All mail for destinations outside of the Tier 1 service area will be sent to Tier 2 sites for processing and dispatch. Tier 2 sites will process the same mail they do today plus all of the outgoing mail from Tier 1 sites. Tier 2 sites may perform single piece distribution of letters and flats and containerize and dispatch First-Class and Priority Mail.
Tier 3	Tier 3 sites will be the gateway sites for consolidating mail from the Tier 2 sites when they are not able to send out full truckloads to the network.

STC Overview

STC is a specialized transportation network designed to divert specific destinations from air transportation and put them into a dedicated surface network. STCs also serve as a concentration point where mail can be consolidated and transportation can be optimized, since surface transportation is more cost effective.

The primary function of the STC is to process First-Class and Priority Mail. However, it is noted that some STCs have opted to include other mail classes such as Express, periodicals and Registered Mail where service and security are not jeopardized.

AF Facility Overview

The US Postal Service contracts with outside air carriers for all mail transported by aircraft. USPS primarily transports First Class, Priority or Express mail using a shared transportation network with Federal Express (FedEx) or United Parcel Service (UPS). In addition, the USPS also contracts with commercial passenger airlines to transport smaller volumes of First Class or Priority mail.

L&DC Overview

L&DCs or Logistics and Distribution Centers serve primarily to perform shape based piece distribution, typically parcels and/or bundles aggregated from more than one client processing and distribution center (P&DC). L&DCs may also consolidate the dispatch, receipt and transfer of containerized mail for their client facilities.

Created by:
Visibility Assessment Team
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