

IV Migration Overview

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The Postal Service is introducing Informed Visibility® (IV®), which provides the mailing industry with powerful insight into the USPS mailstream. This insight allows you, as a mailer, to more effectively plan and manage your mailings, thus increasing value to your customers. This document provides an overview of IV and additional details about the mail tracking data migration process through the following questions:

- [What is IV and what does IV mean to your business?](#)
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What is IV and what does IV mean to your business?

IV is a data-powerhouse, giving you a one-stop shop for all your mail visibility needs. IV makes it convenient for you to track mailpieces (letters and flats), bundles, handling units (trays, tubs, and sacks), and containers in one, consolidated system as opposed to tracking this data via IMb Tracing® and *PostalOne!*®.

IV is an eye-opener and game-changer! IV not only provides a convenient single-source for mail tracking, it gives you near real-time expanded visibility into your mailings as mail moves through the mailstream, increasing the value of mail, and enabling you to better plan your mailing campaigns and resources.

The Postal Service is dedicated to improving mail visibility, and IV provides the power to do just that. As you may know and currently experience, the availability of tracking data may be delayed. By consolidating mail tracking into IV, the Postal Service's new and comprehensive mail data repository, you will receive near real-time tracking information for all letters, flats, and mail aggregates, which include containers, handling units, and bundles.

How is this possible? IV leverages the intelligence of Full-Service Intelligent Mail® and nesting associations to expand visibility through IV. For example, today, mailers who receive mail tracking data can only track individual letters, flats, bundles, handling units, and containers as they are scanned. Mailers rely on pulling data into their own systems and associating electronic documentation that describes nesting associations in order to infer the tracking, status, and/or location of nested mail. However, IV leverages nesting associations to create assumed handling events for nested mail whenever the mail aggregate containing the nested mail is scanned. In addition, IV will leverage GPS tracking information from carrier hand-held scanners to create logical delivery events, giving you insight into when your mail is delivered without the need for a physical scan. This will help fill in the visibility gaps, giving you powerful end-to-end tracking capabilities.

Moreover, IV will improve ease of use through flexible data provisioning and flexible data delegation, allowing customers to receive what they want, when they want, and how they want it.

For a complete look at the *IV Mail Tracking & Reporting Release Roadmap*, visit the [IV RIBBS® page](#).

When will current mail tracking functionality be migrated to IV?

The Postal Service will migrate its current mail tracking functionality to IV according to the table below. For the latest release schedule, see the [IV RIBBS page](#).

Migration	Release
Migrate IMb Tracing visibility, <i>PostalOne!</i> container and handling unit visibility, and MID Container Visibility and Tray Visibility Data Distribution Profiles to IV	Release 1.0
Migrate <i>PostalOne!</i> Start-the-Clock visibility to IV	Release 3.0

Note: Mail tracking for packages and special services is not impacted and will continue to be supported through the Product Tracking System and USPS.com.

How will the mail tracking migration impact you?

IV is a powerful tool, and we encourage you to harness its power. The upcoming migration to IV will prove to be a simple transition with minimal impact to how you currently receive data. We are working fastidiously to ensure this migration is as seamless as possible. Impacts vary depending on how you currently receive tracking data.

ACTION REQUIRED: The actions you need to take for the migration are described in the *IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions* document on the [IV RIBBS page](#). The tables below summarize the impact to you and provide the page numbers within the document where you will find complete information.

IMb Tracing Customer

If you currently receive mail tracking data from IMb Tracing, see the table below:

Current Method of Receiving Data	Impact
FTP Push	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Your subscriptions will be migrated as-is to IV. Once your migrated subscriptions are activated, mail tracking data will come from IV instead of IMb Tracing.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 4-6 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.
FTP Pull (from the Postal FTP Out server)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Postal FTP Out server is being retired in early 2017. You will need to work with the IV Help Desk to select the option you would like to use to receive mail tracking data after the server's retirement.Your subscriptions will be migrated as-is to IV. Once your migrated subscriptions are activated, mail tracking data will come from IV instead of IMb Tracing.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 7-9 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.
Online Download	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After National Rollout, you will download mail tracking data from the IV website instead of IMb Tracing's Mail Tracking & Reporting website.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 10-11 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.

PostalOne! Customer

If you currently receive container and handling unit mail tracking data or Start-the-Clock data from *PostalOne!*, see the table below:

Current Method of Receiving Data	Impact
Mail.XML Push	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Your subscriptions will be migrated as-is to IV. Once your migrated subscriptions are activated, mail tracking data will come from IV instead of <i>PostalOne!</i>.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 12-14 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.
Mail.XML Pull	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After National Rollout, you will send Mail.XML pull messages for mail tracking data to IV instead of <i>PostalOne!</i>.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 15-16 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.
Online Download	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After National Rollout, you will download mail tracking data from the IV website instead of <i>PostalOne!</i>.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 17-18 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.

Note: Container and handling unit mail tracking data is being migrated to IV in Release 1.0, while Start-the-Clock data is being migrated in Release 3.0. Other functions and Mail.XML messages will continue to be supported through *PostalOne!*.

MID Data Distribution Profile User

As part of the Release 1.0 migration to IV, data delegation rules will be created in IV to provide the same visibility as the MID Data Distribution Profiles for Full-Service Start the Clock/Container Visibility and Tray Visibility. If you receive data from or provide data to another MID through these Data Distribution Profiles, see the table below:

Role	Impact
MID Data Distribution Profile User	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After National Rollout, you will use IV if you need to make changes to container and handling unit data delegation rules.ACTION REQUIRED: For information about the actions you need to take, see pages 19-20 in the <i>IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions</i> document on the IV RIBBS page.

Note: After National Rollout, you will continue to use the MID system to delegate management of a MID and manage Data Distribution Profiles for Full-Service Address Change Service (ACS). In addition, the IMb Tracing and Bundle Visibility Data Distribution Profile functionality will be removed from the MID system. Data delegation for piece and bundle visibility will be managed through IV.

Do you need to sign up for the IV website?

Possibly, depending on how you currently receive tracking data. The *IV Release 1.0 Migrating User Actions* document on the [IV RIBBS page](#) indicates whether you need to sign up for the IV website.

What is being migrated to IV?

The following information is being migrated to IV:

- Subscriptions and address books from IMb Tracing
- Container Visibility and Start-the-Clock Visibility from *PostalOne!*
- MID Data Distribution Profiles for Full-Service Start the Clock/Container Visibility and Tray Visibility

For additional information, see the *IV Release 1.0 Migration Summary Matrix* and *IV Release 1.0 Detailed Migration Walkthrough* documents on the [IV RIBBS page](#).

What are logical handling events?

Logical handling events are system-generated events for mail objects based on business rules. IV will provide logical handling events in addition to actual handling events (i.e., physical scans of mail objects). This will give you better insight into your mail and help fill in visibility gaps.

Logical handling events will be automatically included in migrated subscriptions for all mail object types. For IV Release 1.0, logical delivery events – one type of logical handling event – will be available for pieces. In future releases, logical handling events will be available for bundles, handling units, and containers.

A logical delivery event is an implied delivery based on inventory and trigger criteria. Logical delivery events have 517 as their operation code (opcode). For additional information, see the *Overview of Logical Delivery Events* document on the [IV RIBBS page](#). Information about the business rules for logical delivery events will be provided in the *IV Mail Tracking & Reporting User Guide*, which will be available on the [IV RIBBS page](#) prior to National Rollout.

What will happen to IMb Tracing and *PostalOne!* after the migration?

IMb Tracing is both a service and an application. The IMb Tracing Mail Tracking & Reporting application will be fully subsumed by the IV application, so the IMb Tracing application will go away once we migrate all existing IMb Tracing customers to IV. However, the IMb Tracing service (which provides the ability to track mailpieces) will continue to be available to customers and will be supported by IV.

PostalOne! provides other data besides container and handling unit tracking data and Start-the-Clock data. Only the *PostalOne!* functionality that provides the container and handling unit tracking data and Start-the-Clock data will be subsumed by the IV application once migration is complete.

How should you prepare for IV?

The excitement for IV is growing and we hope you want to take full advantage of IV's capabilities. In the coming weeks, you will receive a series of communications that will provide additional information on the migration including how to sign up for the IV web application and take advantage of the new features.

Educational tools will be provided to help you transition to IV. Webinars to go over the training curriculum will be hosted, recorded, and made available. Please reference the *IV Mail Tracking and Migration Training Matrix*, available on the [IV RIBBS page](#), to see when training documentation will be released.

The Postal Service is excited to bring Informed Visibility to the mailing industry. We will communicate frequently and provide you with the necessary information to ensure a seamless transition. For more information on IV, check out the [IV RIBBS page](#).