

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
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Date: 17 July 2007

Document Title: Fujitsu Services / Post Office Ltd Interface Agreement for Operational Business Change - Reference Data

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Abstract: This Interface Agreement defines for the Horizon System the requirement, the service solution and the obligations of Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services for delivering Operational Business Change – Reference Data.

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Fujitsu
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Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

0.0 Document Control

0.1 Document History

Version No.	Date	Reason for Issue	Associated CCN No.
10.0	20/12/2002	Updated for Contract Amendment agreed by both Parties	
10.1	17/02/2003	Updated to include Debit Card Service, Branch Change, changing core to non-core	
10.2	08/07/2003	Update to include changes agreed in relation to release of data. Addition of Mails information	
10.3	21/10/2003	Update following comments Change to volumes for Network Reinvention (section 7.3)	
11.0	27/11/2003	Approved version	
11.1		Internal version not issued for review	
11.2	01/07/2005	Changes for S70 and S80	
12.0	24/08/2005	Approved version (withdrawn)	
12.1	21/10/2005	Incorporate comments missed from v 12	
12.2	20/12/2005	Incorporate comments from 12.1 review	
13.0	22/02/2006	Approved version	
13.1	27/02/2007	Amend aspects of authorisation for APOP/ADC changes Amend Post Office Ltd team names Amend references to contract appendices	
13.2	14/05/2007	Following comments on V13.1	
13.3	26/06/2007	Following comments on V13.2	
14.0	17/07/2007	Approved version	

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

0.2 Review Details

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Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

0.3 Associated Documents

Please see library for details of latest versions of documents.

	Reference	Vers	Date	Title	Source
1.	CS/PRD/030			Process for Operational Business Change - Product	Fujitsu Services
2.	CS/IFS/001 + CS/IFS/010 + RD/CCL/001			Reference Data Change Catalogue + Reference Data Change Catalogue Network Banking Appendix Note: The original documents which made up the RDCC are being replaced by a set of documents, the base one being RD/CCL/001 with appendices which are in the same number series. These will, in the course of time, also absorb business rules	Fujitsu Services
3.	CS/PRD/110			AP Client Service Introduction and Change Process	Fujitsu Services
4.	CS/SER/001			CS Services Catalogue	Fujitsu Services
5.				Not currently used	
6.	RDP/AIS/001			AIS Reference Data to Pathway Type A Data	Post Office Ltd
7.				Reference not currently used but entry retained to avoid amending other references	
8.	RDP/AIS/008			AIS Reference Data to Pathway Type B Data	Post Office Ltd
9.	CS/PRD/048			Changing Reference Data to Tight Timescales	Fujitsu Services
10.	CS/IFS/002			Reference Data Change Class 1 Analysis	Fujitsu Services
11.	CS/IFS/003			Fujitsu Services / Post Office Ltd Operational Business Change – Branch Interface Agreement	Fujitsu Services

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0

Date: 17 July 2007

	Reference	Vers	Date	Title	Source
12.	RDS/OLA/001			Reference Data – Post Office Ltd / Pathway Operational Level Agreement	Post Office Ltd
13.	PON/OSG/OLA/001			PON OSG / ICL Pathway Operational Level Agreement	Post Office Ltd
14.	OSG/OPS/001			Operational Business Change Product Verification Procedures	Post Office Ltd
15.	RD/TEC/951			Reference Data Rules and Values (Note: this has now been superseded by RD/CCL/001 and appendices)	Post Office Ltd+ Fujitsu Services
16.	CS/POL/006			Service Management Framework Part A	Fujitsu Services
17.	CS/OLA/022			Communications Interface Agreement	Fujitsu Services
18.				Reference not currently used but entry retained to avoid amending other references	
19.	CS/PRD/028			Process for Changing Menu Hierarchies and Icons	Fujitsu Services
20.	CS/PDN/018			Horizon Icon Service Description	Fujitsu Services
21.	RDP/TEC/977			Network Banking Reference Data Rules and Values (Note: this has now been superseded by RD/CCL/001 and appendices)	Post Office Ltd + Fujitsu Services
22	CS/PRD/108			Conventions for naming of Operational Business Change Reference Data	Fujitsu Services

Unless a specific version is referred to above, reference should be made to the current approved versions of the documents.

0.4 Abbreviations/Definitions

The text in the remainder of this document uses the abbreviations and definitions shown below. They are not intended to be definitive in any other contractual context.

Abbreviation	Definition
ADC	Advanced Data Capture – see also AP-ADC
Adow	Any day of the week, as opposed to working weekdays.
Advanced Change	Product and Branch Business changes available through the OBC processes that require a notice of change to be delivered to Fujitsu Services before implementation. In the case of Product Change they may or may not be supported by Reference Data files from Post Office Ltd. Advanced Changes are subdivided into Complex, Complex Extended, Standard, Simple or AP. [see section 4.2].
Advanced Complex Change	Product Change that requires advance notice to be given to Fujitsu Services in order for Type C Reference Data to be created.
Advanced Complex Extended Change	Product Change that requires advance notice to be given to Fujitsu Services in order for Type C Reference Data to be created, also requires additional validation/verification above that needed for Advanced Complex Change
Advanced Simple Change	Product Change that requires advanced notice to be given to Fujitsu Services, where the additional activities required can be carried out after the OBC has been released and therefore do not extend the lead-time for that OBC.
Advanced Standard Change	Product Change that requires advanced notice to be given to Fujitsu Services, where the additional activities required do extend the lead-time for that OBC, but the change does not require Type C Reference Data.
After the event changes	Changes which need to be made to complete an OBC, but are not needed before the release of the OBC e.g. documentation updates.
Agreed Release Date	For each delivery of Reference Data that is to be released to the live estate Post Office and Fujitsu Services shall agree a release date (the “ Agreed Release Date ”) which shall be in accordance with the principles defined in section 10.1 of this document and is the date on which Fujitsu Services initiates the release of that Reference Data to the live estate
Amendment file	A file containing records changing previously received Reference Data which is still being processed – must be released with the original file.
AP	Automated Payments
AP-ADC	Automated Payments – Advanced Data Capture – additional facility added in S60
APOP	Automated Payments Out Payments – This is an Horizon service and also the

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
	collective name for one or more databases that provide data for the service. The name is also used as a generic term for any transaction which includes the ADC data type of Generic Online, even if the transaction doesn't specifically use the APOP database (e.g. Moneygram)
APOP/ADC change	Any Reference Data change which amends data within the APOP database or ADC transaction flow the result of which may result in changes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Screen interactions with the counter staff ➤ Data harvested and transmitted to Post Office Ltd clients Note: this includes any data delivered into the APOP database whatever the source of that data (e.g. EDG files)
Authorisation Date	Post Office shall be responsible for final validation and authorisation of Post Office supplied Reference Data, the date of such authorisation being referred to as the "Authorisation Date".
Authorisation Form	A document that is sent from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services to say the following for the named Product Change OBC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Verification Report has been checked. • The Verification Counters have been tested and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Identity and Name of the Business Test performed to verify the changes, ➤ The Date and Time the Business Test was conducted, ➤ The Name of the person who conducted the Business Test, ➤ The Conclusion of the Business Test, whether Pass or Fail, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If Fail, the Failure Reason and Mitigating Action • If Pass, indicate whether the Comparison Report had been checked Yes or No. <p>For Product change the form provides the notice of authorisation. Branch Change is now pre-Authorised</p>
Authorisation	The Authorisation process results in Fujitsu Services being directed by Post Office Ltd to implement in the live estate those authorised Reference Data changes that are covered by the notice of authorisation. Authorisation is an assertion by Post Office Ltd that they have diligently and conscientiously performed the specified [ref. 14] Business Tests, and that within the bounds of the specified tests the results indicate that the effects of the authorised Reference Data change is the effect that Post Office Ltd intended. It is also an assertion that Post Office Ltd have followed the prescribed processes for amendments to APOP/ADC changes as described in section 9

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
	<p>Fujitsu Services is responsible for ensuring that all other effects on the system, other than those for which Post Office Ltd has specific responsibility, are consistent with the stated requirement.</p> <p>Each party accepts responsibility for those aspects of a change for which it has responsibility to test.</p> <p>The notice of authorisation shall be communicated via an Authorisation Form.</p> <p>N.B. Certain types of change are pre-authorised and may be implemented to the live estate by Fujitsu Services without any further notification by Post Office Ltd.</p>
Authorised Change	An OBC which has passed through the Authorisation process and has been authorised.
Basic Change	Product Changes available through the OBC processes that DO NOT require a notice of change to be delivered to Fujitsu Services. Currently Basic Changes always consist of Class 1 Reference Data.
BAU	Business As Usual. Processes within Post Office Ltd that occur regardless of whether the Horizon system is in use.
BCR	Business Change Request (referred to in Post Office Ltd as “Change Control Number”). A unique identification number for an OBC.
Branch	Term used to refer to individual post offices. Replaces the formerly used term “outlet”.
Branch Changes	Changes to Branch information available through the Horizon system implemented wholly, or in part, through changes to Reference Data
Business Tests	<p>Tests used by Post Office Ltd to ensure a Product change seen on the Verification Counter and/or described in the Verification and Comparison reports meets the requirement.</p> <p>Where Business Tests fail to identify problems that were apparent at the time the tests were carried out, the specified tests will be improved by joint review and change control.</p>
CCD	Contract Controlled Document
CCN	Change Control Note as defined in the Contract.
CCN	Change Control Number (referred to in Fujitsu Services as “Business Change Request”).
Change Type	For example, Basic Pure, Advanced Simple, Advanced Complex, AP etc.
Chip & PIN	Technology used on bank cards
Class 1	Class 1 Reference Data is the subset of data items which have no impact on any other part of the Horizon system and changes containing only Class 1 Reference Data (Basic Changes) can be implemented by Fujitsu Services without advance

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
	notice [see ref. 10]. Class 1 data is subsetting into HD, HR and Pure.
Comparison Report	The output from Fujitsu Services software tool which is used for identifying the changes that have occurred on a Horizon counter. It provides information to Post Office Ltd for verification purposes.
CR	Change Request as defined in the Contract
CSR+	Core System Release Plus
CTO	Client Take-On (AP)
DCS	Debit Card Service
Deviation to the service	A single instance of an agreed variation to the workload which falls outside of specified levels.
Effective Date	The date on which any Reference Data is required to be effective on counters in the live estate. Note: Reference Data has an attribute 'Start Date'. In many instances this is the effective date however there are occasions where the 'Start Date' is the date on which the Reference Data is keyed or there may be a need to have the data effective later than the original 'Start Date'
EMV	'Europay Mastercard Visa' (The Europay-Mastercard-Visa specifications for chip-based payment cards. EMV part 1 corresponds with [and generally conforms with] ISO 7816 parts 1-5; the other parts of the specification cover the details of a standard credit/debit application and the requirements for terminals).
Error	A part of a change that does not meet the requirement or specifications, whether Reference Data definitions, file format, milestones, delivery route or other aspect of the OBC processes. (see also Rework)
Error correction file	A file containing records for the purpose of correcting errors to previously received Reference Data which is still being processed-must be released with the original file.
Exception	A change that falls outside of the agreed levels e.g. to lead-times or volumes and is not a 'Deviation to the service'.
FJS	Fujitsu Services
FAD Code	Unique identity for a branch, referred to as Branch Code within Post Office Ltd however extensively used within the Horizon system and therefore used within much of the Horizon documentation
HD (Basic)	Reference Data changes are 'HD' when the change is relevant in Fujitsu Services only to the HelpDesk e.g. telephone number.
HR (Basic)	Reference Data changes are 'HR – High Risk' when verification is required by Post Office Ltd (but are not subject to advanced notification).
HSD	Fujitsu Services Horizon Service Desk.

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
IMPACT	Improved accounting – project name for introduction of new POL financial systems at S80
Interface Agreement	This document (except where the Interface Agreement for Branch is specifically referred to, then see [ref. 11]).
Live Fix	A change to Reference Data to correct a Live Incident
Live Incident	The occurrence of an incident, which relates to the live environment and is recorded on the Fujitsu Services HSD and / or the Post Office Ltd NBSC help desks.
MAAWP	Maximum Authorising Agent Wait Period
Mails	Contractual name for the Application which provides the smart post service – also includes smart post help and smart post admin
MCWP	Maximum Counter Wait Period
Migration Special	See section 4.2.5.2 for the definition.
MIS	Management Information System
NBS	Network Banking Service
NBSC	Post Office Ltd Network Business Support Centre.
NBX	Network Banking eXchange
NSS	Network Support Services, Post Office Ltd. (formerly known as Business Service Management When it included the Change Implementation Team, formerly known as the Service Provision Team or OSG.)
NWB	Network Banking
OBC	Operational Business Change. Any change, usually supported by Reference Data changes, that is implemented through the OBC process e.g. Advance and Basic Changes, excluding changes specifically required to implement software changes.
OBC forms	Electronic Forms used to interchange information relating to OBCs between Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services e.g. OBC 2.
OLA	Operational Level Agreement
OSG	Former acronym of POLRDT (Bracknell) – still commonly used
Outlet	Term formerly used to refer to individual post offices. Now replaced by the term “branch”.
Pathway	Fujitsu Services (Pathway) Ltd – no longer used contractually but still may

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
	appear within systems and documentation
Peak	An incident recording system used within Fujitsu Services (previously called PinICL)
PLU	Product Look Up
PM	Postmaster
POCL	Post Office Counters Limited – the former name of PON.
POL	Post Office Ltd – name which supersedes POCL and PON
POLRDT	Post Office Ltd Reference Data Team (Bracknell & Chesterfield) responsible for the supply and keying of Reference Data from POL to Fujitsu Services
Postcomm	The Postal Services Commission, that is the Government appointed regulator for postal services
Pre-authorised change	A pre-authorised change is a Reference Data change that by agreement [see section 3.5 for Branch and section 4 for Product] does not require verification by Post Office Ltd and can be released by Fujitsu Services without additional notification from Post Office Ltd over and above the delivery of a conformant file.
Pre-live Incident	The occurrence of an incident, which is observed during Reference Data processing and validation before release to the live environment, and is recorded on an Incident Management System (Peak) operated by Fujitsu Services.
Product Changes	Changes to the products or appearance of products available through the Horizon system implemented wholly or in part, through changes to Reference Data.
Pure (Basic)	When used in reference to a Reference Data Change ‘Pure’ indicates Reference Data which is considered to be of low risk to business integrity.
RDCC	Reference Data Change Catalogue
RDMC	Fujitsu Services Reference Data Management Centre
RDORF	Reference Data Operational Review Forum
RDP	Post Office Ltd Reference Data Project
RDS	Post Office Ltd Reference Data System
RDS80	Updated version of RDS introduced at Horizon S80 release
RDT	Fujitsu Services Reference Data Team
Release Day	The day on which Reference Data is Released to the live system.
Released to the live system	Reference Data released by Fujitsu Services into the TMS agent. The end point for the process defined in this document. The SLT [see section 3.2] covers the delivery of Reference Data to the branches.

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
REM	Remittance
Required Date	The date on the OBC form (Advanced Changes) that specifies when the change needs to be available at the branches. Normally this is the same as, or earlier than, the Start Date. (see also, Effective Date.)
Rework	Activity required to progress a change when an Error Correction File or Amendment File is provided.
RM	Fujitsu Services Release Management
SEPT (Central)	Security Equipment and Projects Team – Central Administration (formerly NIST and NIET)
smart post	Horizon desktop service based on Escher Mails – replaces Scales service
SLT	Service Level Target as defined in the Contract
Start Date	The earliest date specified within any record within any file of Reference Data for a particular OBC. The Start Date is used by the Horizon counters to determine when the functionality comes into effect. This date should always be a future date when taking into account lead times. (see also Effective Date & Required Date.)
TMS	Transaction Management Service.
Type A	Data transmitted electronically from RDS to RDMC over an automated interface.
Type B	Data transmitted electronically from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services over a non-automated interface.
Type C	Data prepared by Fujitsu Services.
Unauthorised change	An OBC that has been released to the live environment but has not been authorised.
Unit of Release	A combination of files which are intended to be released together. The smallest is a single file. Where Amendment or Error Correction files are applied to a change in progress, the unit of release will be all files associated with the original OBC.
Validation (Validate)	Confirming that the observed result of the change implemented is the same as that expected and fulfils the requirements as specified to Fujitsu Services – activity performed by Fujitsu Services.
Verification (Verify)	Confirming that the observed result of the change implemented is the same as that expected and fulfils the requirements of the business – activity performed by Post Office Ltd.
Verification Counter	A non-live Horizon counter provided to Post Office Ltd to which OBCs are applied in order for Post Office Ltd to verify the change, before its release to the live estate.
Verification	A report produced from the RDMC to show which Reference Data records have

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Abbreviation	Definition
Report	changed.
Working weekdays	9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding English Public Holidays.

[Terms defined in the Contract shall have the same meaning where used in this CCD]

0.5 Changes in this Version

Version	Changes
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drop down of relevant provisions from N01 from the old Codified Agreement. Also changes to introduce new & replacement terminology (e.g. Agreement instead of Codified Agreement) have been made. Inclusion of new definitions from Schedule 15 (Agreed Release Date & Authorisation Date) into the document. Introduction of volumetric limits in accordance with Heads of Agreement and agreement to move towards work index system as agreed between Post Office & Fujitsu Services (cf para 6.2). Planned capability volumetrics in relation to Network Reinvention activity (cf para 6.3).
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name of document changed as all Reference Data is now included Remove reference to Pathway Add details relating to Debit Card Service Change sections as necessary to accommodate branch change Add section on changing products from non-core to core and back Add section on process for permanently closing branches Remove Appendix A – OBC volumes for year 2002
10.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended following comments to version 10.1 Addition of Appendix on Mails Inclusion of new section 10.2 regarding Release of Reference Data to close the gap with Schedule 15 of the contract. Also amended definitions of Agreed Release Date, Authorisation Date and Effective Date to conform to this Added appendix on process for handling PinICLs between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd
10.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amended following comments to version 10.2 References to ‘Agreement’ in section 0.4 changed to ‘Contract’ Agreement now recognises the Mails service

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058

Version: 14.0

Date: 17 July 2007

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7.3 amended in light of change requirement for Network Reinvention
11.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued for approval
11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal version not issued for review
11.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add or amend IIN range for NWB/DCS becomes Advanced Complex due to introduction of Chip and PIN Change of signatories Heading corrected Missing comments incorporated Add S80 elements Change wording of section 2.5 regarding Alerting to incorporate current Alerting Process document (CS/PRD/077) Remove section 2.6.2 with regard to NBE (NBE replaced by NBX) Change section 7.3 with respect to network reinvention
12.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued for approval – version withdrawn as comments had been missed
12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change HSH to HSD
12.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace all reference to Cash Account with Branch Trading Statement Replace all references to PinICL with Peak Correct errors in some lead time models Clarify Migration Special Re-instate change IIN range in High Risk for non Chip and Pin Card
13.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued for approval
13.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend detail of authorisation to cater for new or amendments to APOP and ADC services and transaction flows Amend Post Office Ltd team names (OBCRDST and RDOT) Amend references to contract appendices
13.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments following comments on version 13.1
13.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further amendments to clarify ADC and APOP responsibilities in 9.1.4
14.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued for approval

0.6 Changes Expected

Changes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This document is amended as required when new releases of the Horizon system are released• This document may need amendment if agreement is reached on the use of the work index measurement mechanism• An amendment may be necessary when the HNG-X solution is better understood and is contractually required by the time HNG-X application roll-out commences• Appendices that have moved to the Reference Data Change Catalogue (e.g. Mails, Core non-core change, permanent closure of branches) may be removed in a future version to avoid duplication

0.7 Table of Contents

1	SUMMARY SHEET	18
2	INTRODUCTION.....	20
2.1	INTENT OF INTERFACE AGREEMENT	20
2.2	MAINTENANCE OF THIS INTERFACE AGREEMENT	20
2.3	FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.....	21
2.4	SERVICE MANAGEMENT POLICY	21
2.5	ALERTING WHEN PRODUCT DATA IS AT RISK OF LATE DELIVERY	21
2.6	CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO NBS	22
2.6.1	Extensibility	22
3	SCOPE	23
3.1	INTERFACES	23
3.2	SERVICE LEVEL TARGET	24
3.3	OPERATIONAL BUSINESS CHANGE PROCESSES FOR PRODUCT CHANGE	24
3.3.1	Process Diagram	25
3.3.2	Process Steps	26
3.4	ICON CHANGE	28
3.5	OPERATIONAL BUSINESS CHANGE PROCESSES FOR BRANCH CHANGE	28
4	TYPES OF CHANGE	29
4.1	INTRODUCTION.....	29
4.2	PRODUCT CHANGES	29
4.2.1	Standard Changes.....	29
4.2.2	AP (including ADC and APOP).....	30
4.2.3	System Parameters - Pure.....	31
4.2.4	Icon Change.....	31
4.2.5	Fast-track changes.....	31
4.3	BRANCH CHANGES	36
4.3.1	HelpDesk.....	36
4.3.2	Advanced	37

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5	LEAD-TIME FOR PRODUCT CHANGES	38
5.1	INTRODUCTION	38
5.2	BASIC - PURE	39
5.3	BASIC – HIGH RISK	40
5.4	ADVANCED SIMPLE	41
5.5	ADVANCED STANDARD	42
5.6	ADVANCED COMPLEX	43
5.7	ADVANCED COMPLEX EXTENDED	44
5.8	AP AND ADC CLIENT TAKE-ON AND APOP	45
5.9	BASIC EXPRESS	45
5.10	MIGRATION SPECIAL	46
5.11	SYSTEM PARAMETERS - PURE	47
6	LEADTIMES FOR BRANCH CHANGES.....	47
7	VOLUME OF CHANGE.....	48
7.1	INTRODUCTION	48
7.2	COMMITTED VOLUMES	48
7.3	NETWORK REINVENTION	49
8	DELIVERABLES.....	49
8.1	POST OFFICE LTD TO FUJITSU SERVICES	50
8.2	FUJITSU SERVICES TO POST OFFICE LTD	50
8.3	FUTURE DATING	50
9	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES.....	52
9.1	POST OFFICE LTD – GENERAL	52
9.1.1	Administration and Control	52
9.1.2	Implementation	52
9.1.3	Files & Reference Data	53
9.1.4	APOP/ADC changes	53
9.2	POST OFFICE LTD - REFERENCE DATA TEAM	53
9.3	POST OFFICE LTD NETWORK BUSINESS SUPPORT CENTRE (NBSC)	54
9.4	FUJITSU SERVICES RESPONSIBILITIES	54
9.4.1	Administration and Control	54
9.4.2	Implementation	54
9.4.3	Files & Reference Data	55
9.4.4	APOP/ADC changes	55
9.5	HORIZON SERVICE DESK (HSD)	55
9.6	VERIFICATION, AUTHORISATION & RELEASE	55
10	ORDERS AND EXCEPTIONS.....	56
10.1	RELEASE OF REFERENCE DATA	56
10.2	ORDERS	57
10.3	EXCEPTIONS	58
10.4	ERRORS AND REWORK	58
10.4.1	Recording Pre-Live Incidents	58
10.4.2	Rework categorisation and thresholds	59
10.5	ESCALATION	59
10.6	CHARGING	59
11	APPENDIX A: STANDARD CHANGES - DETAILS.....	60
11.1	PRODUCT CHANGES	60
11.1.1	Basic - Pure	60
11.1.2	Basic – High Risk	60
11.1.3	Advanced Simple	61
11.1.4	Advanced Standard	61

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

11.1.5	Advanced Complex.....	61
11.1.6	Advanced Complex Extended.....	61
11.1.7	System Parameters – Pure	62
11.2	BRANCH CHANGES	63
11.2.1	HelpDesk (HD)	63
11.2.2	Advanced.....	63
12	APPENDIX B: CHANGING TRANSACTABLE PRODUCTS BETWEEN CORE AND NON-CORE.....	63
12.1	CHANGING ITEMS FROM CORE TO NON-CORE.....	63
12.2	CHANGING ITEMS FROM NON-CORE TO CORE.....	65
13	APPENDIX C: PERMANENT CLOSURE OF BRANCHES.....	65
13.1	BACKGROUND	65
13.2	PROCESS.....	65
14	APPENDIX D – MAILS	67
14.1	SUBSCRIPTION GROUPS	67
14.2	TIME BETWEEN CHANGES	68
14.3	LEADTIMES FOR MAILS CHANGES	69
14.4	MAILS HELP DATA	69
15	APPENDIX E – PEAK CONTROL BETWEEN FUJITSU SERVICES AND POST OFFICE LTD	70

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

1 SUMMARY SHEET

This section summarises the content of this Interface Agreement as a “quick reference” guide to change types. It does not replace the detail contained in the following sections (should there be differences, the latter shall prevail).

Note: the Lead-time includes processing within both Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services, but not distribution to the Horizon counters.

Change Category	Definition (see section 4)	Lead-time (working weekdays)		
Product Standard:		Post Office Ltd	Fujitsu Services	Total
Basic Change - Pure	Type A Reference Data only (no Post Office Ltd verification required)	4	1	5
Basic Change – High Risk	Type A Reference Data only (Post Office Ltd verification is required)	6	4	10
Advanced Simple Change	Type A Reference Data, plus after-the-event changes	6	4	10
Advanced Standard Change	Type A & Type B Reference Data, MIS change & Fujitsu Services testing required	9	5	14
Advanced Complex Change	Change that requires Type C Reference Data from Fujitsu Services	14	11	25
Advanced Complex Extended Change	Change that may require Type C Reference Data from Fujitsu Services or may need longer validation/verification times than Advanced Complex	14	16	30
AP Change	Change required for AP Client Take-On and Token verification (including ADC and APOP).	[see refs. 3&4]		
Icon Change	Introduction of new/amended Icon	[see ref 20]		
System Parameters – Pure	Amend specified Horizon system parameters within defined limits	1	2	3
Product Fast-track:				
Basic Express	A subset of Basic HR, for a specific requirement to change specific Reference Data quickly.	1.5	0.5	2
Migration Special	An addition to the non-core product mappings for a branch, normally where the product is already being sold prior to migration.	0.75	0.25	1
Tight Timescales	A change to make any kind of Reference Data change	Agreed when		

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0

Date: 17 July 2007

	quickly, in specified circumstances.	requested
Business Critical Advanced Change	An advanced change which requires shorter lead time than would normally be required for such a change	Agreed when requested
Live Fix	A change to correct a live incident. (ref. section 4.2.5.4 and 10.4).	Defined in OLAs (refs. 12 & 13)
Branch:		
Help Desk (HD)	Type A Reference Data only (no Post Office Ltd verification required)	Defined in [ref 11]
Advanced	Type A Reference Data only to support more complex changes in branches (e.g. relocation). May require Post Office Ltd verification.	Defined in [ref 11]

N.B. The breakdown of the lead-times shown above are indicative only of the time taken within each organisation. The overall lead-time should always be taken as the true indication of the time required to effect a change. When considering the date by which data is to be delivered to Horizon counters and the total amount of time required to implement a change, in addition to the lead-time shown above consideration must also be given to distribution time to the Horizon counters (see section 3.2) following authorisation.

2 Introduction

This document is a Contract-Controlled Document (CCD).

2.1 Intent of Interface Agreement

The intent of this Interface Agreement is to establish effective co-operation between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd for the timely efficient and cost effective delivery of Operational Business Change using Reference Data to Horizon enabled Post Office counters.

This Agreement has been renamed and extended to recognise both Product and Branch Reference Data.

This Interface Agreement identifies:

- Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services requirement for changes introduced via Reference Data,
- the agreed end-to-end service solution for Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd, both separately and jointly, for implementing such changes and
- the obligations of both parties, both separately and jointly, that must be met in order to deliver the solution.

There are a number of documents (which are not CCDs) that describe the interfaces and agreements made between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd for the management of Operational Business Changes. This document provides an “umbrella” agreement for those and they will comply with the agreements made within this Interface Agreement.

Whilst this Interface Agreement serves as an umbrella for other documentation it cannot supersede any contractual obligations defined within the Contract. The timescales shown later in this document are those which are agreed by both parties to be operationally viable and as such form the basis of normal business practice when implementing changes to Reference Data.

2.2 Maintenance of this Interface Agreement

This Interface Agreement is applicable at the T40 and subsequent releases of the Horizon system, unless a Change Proposal necessitates an update. It will be reviewed for any future major software release and on an on-going basis. It is maintained by Fujitsu Services on behalf of both parties.

2.3 Future Developments

Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services agree to work jointly to improve the quality and effectiveness of the Reference Data interface as follows:

- Review the functionality, scope and effectiveness of the Reference Data test environment and enhance where appropriate.
- Continuously monitor the toolset available in the test environment, in particular the Reference Data comparison tool for identifying impact of planned Reference Data changes with the possibility of enhancement where appropriate.
- Continuously monitor and where necessary improve the Reference Data Change Catalogue (RDCC) relating to Reference Data requirements.
- Review the consolidated set of Business Rules and procedures which have been jointly developed and implemented.
- Continuously improve the scope and effectiveness of Business and System tests.
- Identify risks to the Reference Data service and take remedial action to eliminate or mitigate such risks.

The programme for delivery of each of the above will be overseen by the RDORF.

2.4 Service Management Policy

Service Management Policy is described in [ref 16]

2.5 Alerting when product data is at risk of late delivery

When it is known that Reference Data for Product changes may be at risk of non delivery by the time it is required at branches (the Effective Date) it may be necessary to alert parts of Post Office Ltd so that the relevant staff (branch, helpdesk etc.) are made aware that a required change may not be present when expected. The only time this is a potential problem is if the data has been released the day before it is due to become effective and there are then problems in the overnight processing and/or delivery of the data. In practice the majority of Reference Data is released at least two days before it is due to become effective and therefore there is only a small risk of an issue arising.

The principles of the process with respect to data being delivered overnight to become active at branches the following day are:

- to provide warning to relevant parties in Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services, that there is risk of critical reference data not being available at branches the following day
- to allow appropriate contingency to be invoked against that risk where lack of the data would cause critical problems

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

The process follows the following stages:

- POLRDT (Bracknell) would indicate to RDT (on the authorisation form) that Post Office Ltd would wish to be informed of overnight processing problems
- RDT would inform FJS duty management and data centre operations that an alert request had been made
- In the event of overnight processing issues data centre operations would advise the FJS duty manager of the problem and the FJS duty manager would then advise the Post Office Ltd duty manager

2.6 Contractual obligations with respect to NBS

The contract for supply of the Network Banking Service included a number of contractual obligations which have been carried forward into this document.

2.6.1 Extensibility

The NBS shall support, through changes to or the introduction of appropriate Reference Data, the introduction and removal of new instances of and changes to each of the items (marked as suffix NWB) shown in Appendix B: Standard Changes – Details. The parties may agree to vary the allocation of the items from time to time, such variation to be documented by Fujitsu Services in the working document entitled “Reference Data Change Catalogue” (RD/CCL/001).

2.6.1.1 Introduction and Change

The introduction of changes to and new instances of items specified above in 2.6.1

- (a) shall be effected using only the agreed functions and processes used for introduction of and changes to reference data for those Post Office Services existing at the time of introduction of the NBS into this Agreement.
- (b) shall not cause to be exceeded:
 - (i) any limit or range in respect of any such item (including, without limitation, limits or ranges on the number of IINs) where such limit or range is specified in the CCD entitled “Horizon Capacity Management and Business Volumes” (PA/PER/033); and/or
 - (ii) if no such limit or range is specified in that CCD then a reasonable limit or range

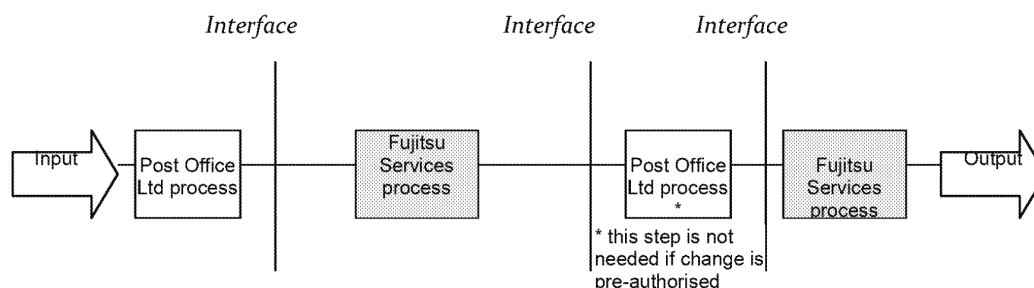
2.6.1.2 Verification of NBS Reference Data

Post Office Ltd shall be responsible for verifying all NBS related Post Office Reference Data for use in End to End Banking, save to the extent that Fujitsu Services is obliged to do so (for the purposes of the use of such Post Office Reference Data within the Post Office Service Infrastructure) in accordance with paragraph 2.6.1.1 above. For the avoidance of doubt, the Change Control Procedure shall be used if Post Office Ltd requires, in connection with the introduction of any of the items referred to in paragraph 2.6.1 above, Reference Data validation or testing of the NBS (or any element thereof) outside the scope of this Interface Agreement.

3 Scope

3.1 Interfaces

This Interface Agreement covers all the interfaces between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd that support the Operational Business Change process for pre-defined Product and Branch changes.



The start is the point where an OBC form has been completed and issued within Post Office Ltd, and the end point is where the Reference Data has been released within Fujitsu Services for delivery to the live counters.

The delivery of the Reference Data to counters, following release authorisation, is covered by the SLT [see section 3.2].

This Interface Agreement applies to both Product and Branch Changes where:

- a Basic Product Change and HelpDesk Branch Change is a change which consists solely of Reference Data which requires no additional Fujitsu Services actions and may be submitted to Fujitsu Services without notice
- an Advanced Change Product Change is a change which requires additional Fujitsu Services activity and is subject to advanced notification
- an Advanced Branch Change is a change which is subject to advanced notification

Note: Reference Data for Branch Change is usually necessary to support activities such as: a new Branch Opening, a Branch Relocation, conversion of a Branch franchise, a Branch Closure. Reference Data also supports changes to branch details such as: opening hours, telephone number, name and address but excludes the addition or removal of individual counters. The specific activity for branch change is described in [ref 11]

3.2 Service Level Target

The contractual provisions relating to the distribution of Reference Data to Branches are defined in Contract Schedule B4.4.

For convenience the Service Level Targets that appear in Schedule B4.4 are shown below:

- 96% of Counter Positions will have received the correct version of the Reference Data by the start of Post Office Core Day on the day following the Agreed Release Date (i.e. by Day B);
- 97% of Counter Positions will have received the correct version of the Reference Data by the start of Post Office Core Day two days after the Agreed Release Date (i.e. by Day C);
- 98% of Counter Positions will have received the correct version of the Reference Data by the start of Post Office Core Day three days after the Agreed Release Date (i.e. by Day D);
- 100% of Counter Positions will have received the correct version of the Reference Data by the start of Post Office Core Day nine days after the Agreed Release Date (i.e. by Day J).

For definitive information regarding the above service levels please refer to Schedule B4.4 of the contract which takes precedence over this CCD.

3.3 Operational Business Change processes for Product Change

The Operational Business Change (OBC) process for product change is defined in [ref. 1] and the types of change that qualify for the OBC process are defined in the Reference Data Change Catalogue (RDCC) [ref. 2]. Changes not found in the RDCC must be requested via the normal Change Control Procedure.

A summary of the process is given below.

Note:

Not every Change Type follows every step of the process [see section 4.2].

The timescales for each stage of the process are defined in [section 4.2].

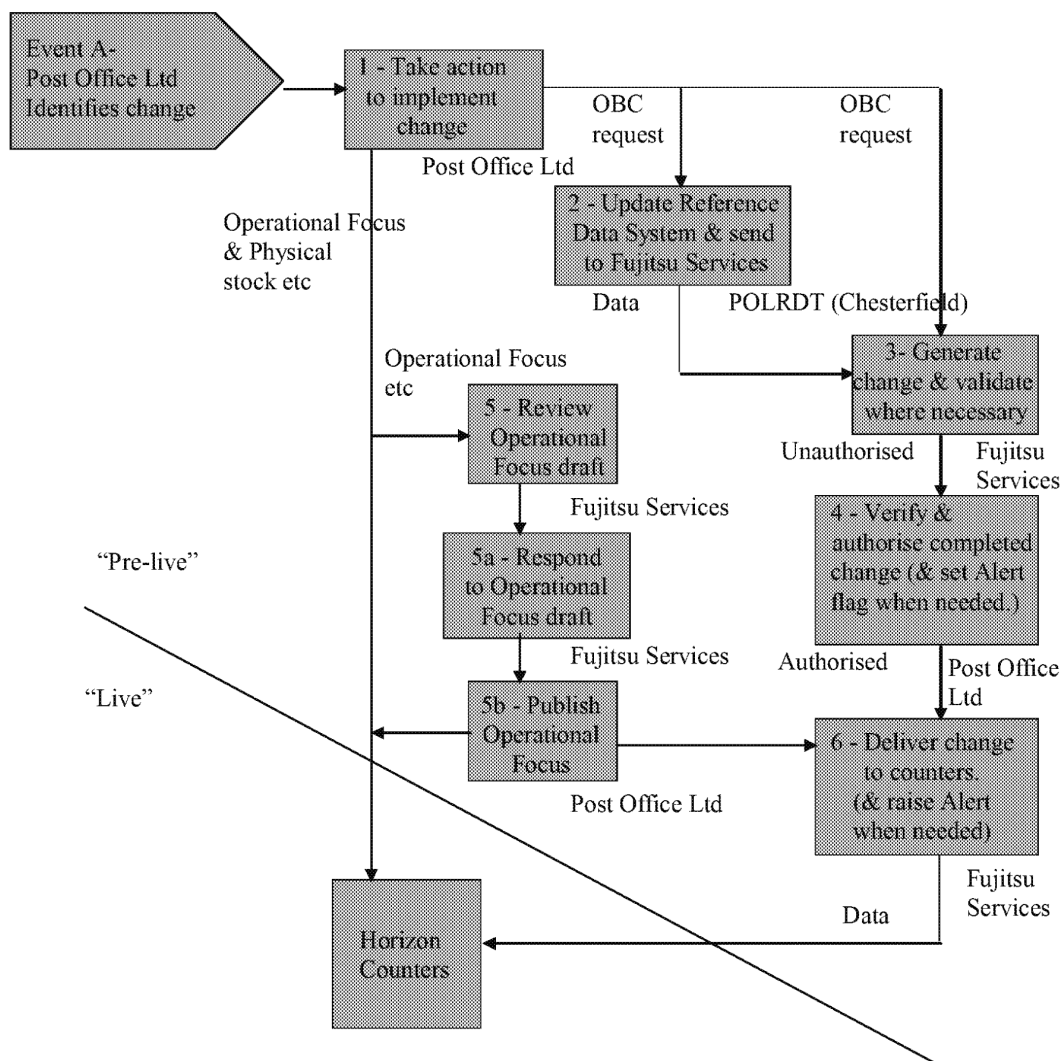
The types of change that the process applies to are defined in [section 4.2].

The responsibilities of each party are defined in [section 9].

Note: the diagram and description refers to the process for Operational Changes once any required agreement has been reached regarding the viability of the change (as may be the case with APOP/ADC changes)

3.3.1 Process Diagram

Note: feedback loops exist at all stages for error correction, but are not shown,



Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

3.3.2 Process Steps

	Step	Taken by	Description
A	Event A – Identify change	Post Office Ltd	The relevant unit in Post Office Ltd identifies the business need to introduce, change details of, or withdraw a product.
1	Take actions to implement the changes	Post Office Ltd	<p>The relevant unit in Post Office Ltd identifies if the change is a Basic Reference Data change, or an Advanced OBC change.</p> <p>The relevant unit raise the required OBC forms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request Post Office Ltd Reference Data Team (Bracknell) to change the Reference Data (for both Basic and Advanced Changes) Where necessary POLRDT(Bracknell) raise relevant OBC forms and send to POLRDT(Chesterfield) for keying into RDS and request an OBC – Product Change from Fujitsu Services (for Advanced Changes). <p>Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) confirm the change requested is an Advanced OBC change and request Fujitsu Services to make the change.</p> <p>Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) supply any required additional information to support the Advanced OBC change.</p> <p>Post Office Ltd ensure that all necessary communications and supporting actions for the OBC are complete.</p>
2	Update Ref. Data system & send to Fujitsu Services	Post Office Ltd POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Post Office Ltd RDT changes the Reference Data in RDS to meet the OBC requested and send it to Fujitsu Services and other users within Post Office Ltd. N.B. This step is not used where no RDS data is required
3	Generate Change and validate where necessary	Fujitsu Services	Fujitsu Services receives the Reference Data from POLRDT (Chesterfield) (for all changes) and receives the OBC form and necessary additional information from Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) (for Advanced Changes).

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058

Version: 14.0

Date: 17 July 2007

	Step	Taken by	Description
			<p>Fujitsu Services initiates any required internal actions e.g. ensure Reference Data is appropriate for the OBC requested as defined in the RDCC [ref. 2], generate Type C Reference Data, test changes. Changes are tested and validated by Fujitsu Services where necessary.</p> <p>Fujitsu Services generates and delivers the RDMC Verification Report and the Comparison Report to Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) and delivers the actual Reference Data change to the verification counters, as appropriate.</p> <p>Note: Fujitsu Services does not send Pure Basic and Migration Special Changes to Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) for authorisation, as they are pre-authorised by Post Office Ltd.</p>
4	Verify & authorise completed change	Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell)	<p>Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) undertake OBC counter and report verification (as appropriate) and confirm the change as delivered is the change required, and authorises the release of the OBC to the live estate. Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) may also request an alert be raised if the data is at risk of not being available by the time it becomes effective. (see section 2.5)</p> <p>N.B. Some changes are Pre-Authorised – please refer to [ref 22]</p>
N.B. The following steps may start after step 1 and run in parallel			
5	Review Operational Focus articles	Fujitsu Services	<p>Fujitsu Services reviews, and responds to, all relevant Operational Focus or other Horizon update articles before publication and distribution (when required) to confirm that the contents correctly reflect the system and will not have an unnecessary impact on Helpdesk resources. Post Office Ltd shall accept all amendments reasonably requested by Fujitsu Services in pursuit of the delivery of contractual services.</p> <p>The process is described in [ref 17]</p>
6	Change delivered to counters	Fujitsu Services	<p>Fujitsu Services releases Reference Data for all authorised OBCs to the live estate.</p> <p>Fujitsu Services will raise Delivery Alert on the Release Day, if the Alert Flag is set and the change is to be effective next day. (see section 2.5)</p> <p>Where agreed with Post Office Ltd, the release may be</p>

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

	Step	Taken by	Description
			held pending communication to the Branches e.g. via Operational Focus. (However if release delay risks the Start Date, there may need to be another change processed to amend the start date of the change).

3.4 Icon Change

Whilst the introduction of Icons (the pictures which appear on buttons) on the Horizon desktop is not contractually a part of the OBC process, the scope of this document has been extended to include the process for introducing new, or amending existing, Icons. The process and agreed timescales for Icon change are described in [ref 20].

3.5 Operational Business Change processes for Branch Change

The process for effecting changes at branches is fully described in [ref 11]. In some cases there will be a need for Reference Data to support the physical changes at branches (e.g. temporary closure for refurbishment). In some cases there will be a need to change Reference Data when there is no physical work required (e.g. change of opening times).

Whilst the definitive process is in [ref 11] it is worth noting the general steps within this document:

1. Post Office Ltd submit Reference Data via RDS to RDMC
2. Fujitsu Services produce reports and send them to the relevant Post Office Ltd unit
3. Fujitsu Services release the data no earlier than 48 hours after receipt
4. Post Office Ltd check reports and if errors are found submit a fresh change
5. Should Post Office Ltd find an error during the 48 hour window a direct request to Fujitsu (usually by telephone) may be made to stop the release of the data. In this instance the release is no longer pre-authorised and becomes a change which requires authorisation

Note: Reference Data for branch temporary closures is only sent by Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu when the temporary closure is expected to exceed 10 days.

4 Types of Change

4.1 Introduction

Change types are pre-defined for inclusion into the OBC – product process. This definition can be found in the Reference Data Change Catalogue (RDCC) [ref. 2]. Each pre-defined change type is grouped as shown in the table in section 1.

The RDCC Product Change categories that apply to these changes are listed in sections 4.2.1 and 4.2.5 below. The assumptions listed in the RDCC must be adhered to, in order to apply these categorisations.

Change types for Branch Changes are defined in [ref 11]

4.2 Product Changes

4.2.1 Standard Changes

The order of the change types in this section is significant and is an indication of the level of risk with each type and therefore the amount of checking that is deemed to be necessary. The change types are of varying risk from those which need little or no checking, as the effect of an error would be minimal on the Live estate, to those which need extensive checking, as the effect of an error may be significant on the Live estate. Those changes, which are deemed to require minimal or no checking, are classified as Basic - Pure. Those changes, which are deemed to require most checking, are classified as Advanced – Complex or Advanced Complex Extended.

A complete list of changes applicable to each type is held within the RDCC. Should Post Office Ltd decide that additional checking is required a change may be submitted in a type with a higher risk position in this section. However the converse is not true, in that a change can never be requested with a lower risk position than the type shown in the RDCC.

Appendix A: Standard Changes - Details, shows a representative list of the changes for each type.

4.2.1.1 Basic - Pure

Basic Changes do not require advanced notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (OBC form). The delivery of the Reference Data file using agreed mechanisms is the request for change. The file must identify that its contents are Basic Pure changes. The file may contain more than one change of the same type. All Basic files contain only Class 1 Reference Data items. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for the type of change. Pure changes do not require verification and are pre-authorised for release.

4.2.1.2 Basic – High Risk

Basic Changes do not require advanced notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (OBC form). The delivery of the Reference Data file using agreed mechanisms is the request for change. The file must identify that its contents are a Basic High Risk change. The file may contain more than one change of the same type. All Basic files contain only Class 1 Reference Data items. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for the type of change. High Risk changes require a Verification and a Comparison report and authorisation by Post Office Ltd before release.

4.2.1.3 Advanced Simple

Advanced Simple changes require advanced notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (an OBC form) to request the change. Associated Reference Data files must be identifiable as such through the BCR number. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for this type of change. Fujitsu Services has actions to take to implement the change (in addition to processing the Type A Reference Data file from Post Office Ltd) e.g. update documentation, but these actions can occur after the change has been released and therefore do not extend the lead-time for the change. These changes require a Verification and a Comparison report and authorisation by Post Office Ltd before release.

4.2.1.4 Advanced Standard

Advanced Standard changes require advanced notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (an OBC form) to request the change. Associated Reference Data files must be identifiable as such through the BCR number. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for this type of change. Fujitsu Services has actions to take to implement the change (in addition to processing the Type A Reference Data file from Post Office Ltd) e.g. process Type B files, and these actions must occur before the change has been released, therefore the lead-times are longer than for Simple or Basic changes. These changes require a Verification and a Comparison report and authorisation by Post Office Ltd before release.

4.2.1.5 Advanced Complex

Advanced Complex changes require advanced notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (an OBC form) to request the change. Associated Reference Data files must be identifiable as such through the BCR number. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for this type of change. Fujitsu Services must generate Type C Reference Data to implement the change and test that the change works as requested in the OBC form. These changes require a Verification and a Comparison report and authorisation by Post Office Ltd before release.

4.2.1.6 Advanced Complex Extended

This category of change has been introduced to differentiate from ordinary Advanced Complex changes as the lead-time is longer to allow for additional validation/verification which is necessary because of the additional complexity of the change. In all other respects this category is identical to Advanced Complex.

4.2.2 AP (including ADC and APOP)

AP changes are similar to Advanced Complex changes and require notification from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services (an OBC form) to request the change. Associated Reference

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Data files must be identifiable as such through the BCR number. Fujitsu Services checks the contents of the file are appropriate for this type of change. Fujitsu Services has actions to take to implement the change e.g. test Tokens and supply test files to the appropriate Post Office Ltd Client for Post Office Ltd End to End testing of changes. These changes require a Verification and a Comparison report, additional testing and authorisation by Post Office Ltd before release.

(as described in relevant AP documentation)

- Introduce new AP client, service or token
- Change client name (new token data)
- Cease AP Client, product or token
- Introduce new Smart Card

ADC changes are implemented using the same basic process mechanisms as AP although the timing may differ.

Notes on AP/ADC and APOP change:

- Changing AP/ADC product details when an end-to-end test file is not required falls outside the category of AP change and is to be treated in the same way as any other product change
- Ceasing AP/ADC Client, product or token when the service is Live, i.e. it is not being withdrawn from a current CTO/ADC cycle, is to be implemented as an Advanced Simple change, with the client service list being amended after the event
- APOP/ADC changes may affect the transaction flow on the counter and the content (including XML tags by use of an ADC data type with ZZ_IncFields attribute) of client files. It is also possible that incoming client files (submitted via the EDG gateway) may have similar effects. For this reason APOP/ADC changes may be subject to advance notification to and agreement from Fujitsu Services that the effect of the change is acceptable to Fujitsu Services.

4.2.3 System Parameters - Pure

With the introduction of Network Banking there is the need to provide a relatively speedy method of changing some specific system parameters within defined limits. This new category provides the mechanisms by which Post Office Ltd can request such changes. Provided that the requested change falls within the limits specified within the Agreement, Fujitsu Services will process the request and deliver the change directly to the Live estate as there is no verification possible for such changes.

4.2.4 Icon Change

Changes to Icons are processed in a similar way to other OBC changes however, in most cases Icons are produced in batches rather than individually. Full details of the process for Icon changes are described in [ref 20]

4.2.5 Fast-track changes

4.2.5.1 Basic Express

A Basic Express change is a subset of Basic High Risk changes and must comply with the definitions in [section 4.2.1.2]. However, the lead-times [see section 5.9] specified for a Basic Express change can only be achieved where verification can be performed on the basis of the Verification Report and not a Comparison Report. The type of change must be such that there is minimal risk of error occurring elsewhere within the system as a result of applying the change and is therefore limited to:

- Change price of non-value stock
- Change price of revaluable value stock *
- Change min/max quantity/value
- Change Long/ Medium / Short name
- Add/Amend/Cease End of Session prompt
- Add/Amend/Cease Transaction prompt
- Add/Amend branch exclusion for urgent suspension
- Disable/Enable End of Session prompts at specified branch(es)
- Disable/Enable Transaction prompts at specified branch(es)

The limits for use are:

- ◇ only for the categories of change which conform to the above e.g. ‘Ticket and Travel’ products or to meet the requirement for Tight Timescales
- ◇ only OBCs that must be active on completion of the change within 48hrs □
- ◇ OBCs must be received by Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) by 10am on a working weekday and
- ◇ only normal volumes of change as defined in [section 7.2]
- ◇ the Change Number must start with defined prefixes [ref. 15 and 22]. If a Change is delivered to Fujitsu Services with this prefix but the contents do not meet the specified criteria it will be processed according to the normal lead-times. Fujitsu Services will inform Post Office Ltd using the incident process.

- * Note: When a Basic High Risk change is to change the price of revaluable value stock, Horizon counters will prompt counter staff on each of the three calendar days prior to when revaluation will need to be performed, provided that the Reference Data is already at the counter. Should a similar change be put through the Basic Express mechanism, this prompting period may be for less than three calendar days. It is Post Office Ltd’s responsibility to provide any additional notification required to users.
- Where the change is as described above, the requirement for completion within 48hrs may be extended, if required, to allow for this 3 calendar day period.

4.2.5.2 Migration Special

A Migration Special change is a specific subset of Basic Pure changes and must comply with the definitions in [section 4.2.1.1]. Migration Specials are pre-authorised for release and no verification is required.

Migration Special changes are additions or removals to the Reference Data defining which non-core products a particular branch can or cannot sell. This Reference Data is needed so that the correct range of Products is available at the branch

Note: The term ‘Migration Special’ was originally used during the roll-out of the Horizon system and although it has no specific meaning in the context of the Horizon system today it is still well understood within users of the Reference Data change process and hence the name remains for this category of change.

The limits for use are:

- ◇ additions to Non-core Product to Branch mappings only
- ◇ Reference Data must be received by Fujitsu Services by 10am for release to be actioned on the day of receipt or a phone call is required before 4 p.m. requesting a later file to be released
- ◇ Reference Data files must be identifiable as Migration Specials

Migration Specials differ from the standard Basic Pure change for adding non-core associations to a branch by virtue of:

- ◇ the urgency with which the data needs to be delivered to the branch.
- ◇ Migration Specials refer to one branch or one product – the normal Basic Pure change may have any combination of products and branches.

Where possible Post Office Ltd should use the Basic Pure change for addition of non-core association records.

Once Fujitsu Services has confirmed that the Reference Data is of the required type it will be released to the ‘Live’ environment.

4.2.5.3 Tight Timescales

4.2.5.3.1 Requirement

Fujitsu Services recognises that there may be occasions where Post Office Ltd will be required to implement changes to Reference Data to timescales which are outside the control of Post Office Ltd, for example changes announced in the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s Budget. The implementation of Reference Data in support of such changes must be handled in a very bespoke manner. Fujitsu Services will use reasonable endeavours to meet the requirements requested by Post Office Ltd.

4.2.5.3.2 Definition

A Tight Timescale change that cannot be processed using the normal timescales defined for such a change. It may be caused by either:

- an emergency situation where normal lead-times cannot be adhered to because of legal circumstances outside of Post Office Ltd control, or
- to allow Post Office Ltd to exploit commercial opportunities
- emergency introduction of a Transaction or End of Session prompt to cover legal obligations (e.g. Money Laundering)

Each instance of such change must be notified in writing by Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services and agreed between Post Office Ltd Head of Sales and Service and the Fujitsu Services Customer Service Director or their nominated authorised deputies.

4.2.5.3.3 Types

Analysis by Post Office Ltd of the business requirements indicates that the types of change that require to be actioned in Tight Timescales are:

- Price changes
- Emergency cessation of a product
- Product introduction or change where the product has been created in advance with interim details.

a) Price Change

The most frequent Tight Timescale changes are price changes. These may be processed via the fast-track Basic Express route.

b) Emergency cessation

From the CSR+ version of Horizon the ability to transact a product is controlled by the use of Item Transaction Modes and therefore these types of changes may be processed via the fast-track Basic Express route.

c) Product introduction or change (with interim details)

A new product (or product change) can be introduced in advance of all details being available e.g. to meet a late-breaking business opportunity. Mandatory details should be provided initially, although some will have interim values

e.g.

- product name may be set to “test name” or other identifiably interim name
- the Branch Trading Statement mapping may be to a line marked as “temporary”
- the button for the product may not be introduced until a later date, with the product only available to be sold by PLU initially

The “interim” product should be verified using standard processes for product change [see sections 3.3 and 5.6].

To set up the interim product the normal lead-times should be adhered to. When the interim product cannot be set up with the normal lead-times, it will be dealt with as a high priority exception [see section 10.3].

The interim details will be later replaced using:

- a Basic Express change for the final information relating to price and name. This must be identifiable as part of the Tight Timescale change, and will be verified via the Verification Report for Basic Express, before the change is released
- standard changes that occur after the go live of the product e.g. the introduction of the button, or the change of the Branch Trading Statement mapping.

**Fujitsu
Services**

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

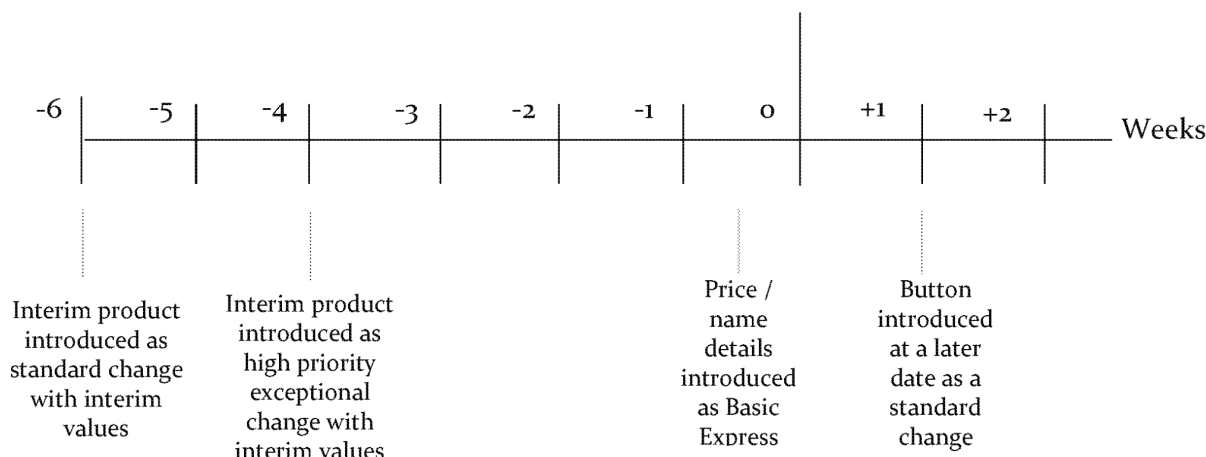
Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

An example of the timeline is shown below:



4.2.5.3.4 Limitations when information is available at a very late stage

Whilst acknowledging that Post Office Ltd may not have control over legal or governmental changes it must be recognised that the ability of the end to end process to produce, check, authorise and release Reference Data takes a finite time and therefore it may not be possible in all circumstances to meet the requirements. To this end the following are guidelines to the limitations for Tight Timescales changes where the information is only made available at a very late stage (e.g. 4 p.m. on a budget day).

- The time to key the data into the RDS system, extract and transmit to Fujitsu Services must be considered (probably a minimum of 1 hour)
- The time that RDMC takes to process the incoming data must be considered (approximately 30 minutes)
- If counter checks at Post Office Ltd are required an absolute minimum of 2 hours is required for RDT system processing. It is therefore likely that this time will not be available and therefore checking of the data can only be by review of reports – minimum of 30 minutes to produce and transmit to POLRDT (Bracknell)
- The time that Post Office Ltd will take to validate reports, or view data on counters should time be available for extract, needs to be considered (estimated as a minimum of 30 minutes)
- In order to meet normal operational schedules, authorisation to release a Tight Timescales change should be received by Fujitsu Services by 7:30 p.m.
- The introduction of new items is impossible overnight. If there is a possibility that new items will be needed their skeleton data must be set up in advance, as described above in section 4.2.5.3.3.c
- Changes to Menu Hierarchy can only be achieved within Tight Timescales when sufficient time is available – under normal circumstances, where the normal lead-time is not available, a Business Critical Advanced Change may be appropriate
- An overnight change should therefore only be of the type which amends the price or name of items

On the basis of the above timings, the latest time for commencement for an overnight Tight Timescales change, such as Budget announcements, to be with POLRDT for keying is 5 p.m. for a change to be checked by report and 3 p.m. for a change to be checked by counter. Whilst these timings are theoretically possible any error which occurs in data preparation or is discovered during checking may affect the ability of all parties to complete the exercise. Therefore, wherever possible more time should be given.

4.2.5.4 Live Fix

The time scale for incident correction is driven by the impact of the incident, the complexity of the solution and the Start Date (or Agreed Date) for the change to be live at the branches. (see section 10.4)

4.2.5.5 Business Critical Advanced Change

It has been recognised that the Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd operational units have the ability, in some circumstances, to shorten the OBC lead time without adversely impacting the success of the change, or any other change in the system.

A Business Critical Advanced Change category has been introduced to permit operational units to decide, where possible, to deliver change within a shorter time than the specified lead-time. BCAC does not replace Tight Timescales but rather offers an alternative, operational, method (similar to Basic Express) of progressing Advanced changes without the need for authorisation to be obtained at a senior level within both Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services.

- Each instance of a Business Critical Advanced Change must be agreed by each of the groups involved in the processing of the change (normally Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services Reference Data Teams) before the change is submitted to Fujitsu Services for action. This must include agreement on the effective date for the Reference Data
- The lead-time requirement for such a change must be shorter than that which would normally be required to complete the change
- The agreed lead-time requirement must be achievable
- Any errors or modifications which occur in the delivery of such a change are likely to cause failure to achieve the agreed lead-time
- Only minimal changes to the Menu Hierarchy are possible within shortened lead-times. If the introduction of a new item is required in short timescales this should be considered via the PLU in the first instance with buttons to follow
- A maximum of 1 such change is permitted within any single week and 2 such changes in any rolling 4 week period
- RDORF may, by agreement, modify the maximum quoted above
- RDORF will review each instance of such a change to establish why it was necessary to invoke this process (without prejudice to any business confidentiality)

4.3 Branch Changes

Note: From June 2005 all branch changes are pre-authorised. Please refer to section 3.5.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

4.3.1 HelpDesk

Help Desk (HD) changes are those changes which are considered to be of very low risk in the event that the information is incorrect (e.g. change of a phone number at a branch). They do not require advanced notification to Fujitsu Services and provided that any file received by Fujitsu Services only contains changes consistent with being HD then the change is considered to be pre-authorised and will be released with no further activity.

4.3.2 Advanced

Advanced Branch Changes are mostly associated with physical activity in branches. The Reference Data is supported by an OBC form defining the actual requirement. Reports are provided to the Post Office Ltd unit responsible for such changes to enable them to ensure that the change is as required.

5 Lead-time for Product Changes

5.1 Introduction

The lead-times quoted in this section are the end-to-end times covering both Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services activities. Each party must meet each milestone applicable to it in order that the subsequent milestones and the end-to-end lead-times are achieved. The types of change that relate to each category are defined in [section4.2].

These lead-times apply for the volumes given in [section7].

The lead-time runs from initiating a change until the change is Released to the live system. Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Notes:

For simplicity, the models used do not show activities that occur in parallel.

day = working weekday (Mon-Fri, excluding English Public Holidays)

adow = any day of the week, includes non working weekdays (Mon-Sun)

times = latest time action can occur to meet the schedule

Where a time is given next to a milestone, the time is critical to achieving that milestone. Where the time is not given, the default is for the handover between organisations to be complete by 8am. Failure to achieve a milestone by the given (or default) time potentially extends the lead-time of the change.

Whilst there are indications of the time taken at each stage of the processing these cannot be taken to be definitive, i.e. the overall lead-time should be taken as the most significant information.

N.B. The lead-time should be used in relation to when data is required to be delivered to counters on the Live estate, which may be earlier than the start date on the data.

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.2 Basic - Pure

Changes that involve changing Type A Reference Data only and do not require verification.

End-to-End lead time = 5 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	1 day	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	1 day	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	2 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 4 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 5 (8am) *</i>	
Fujitsu Services process change	1 day	Release change (release day)	Day 5 (8pm)	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

* Note:

Basic – Pure Reference Data files (identifiable as such by virtue of the OBC prefix used) arriving by 10am, on a working weekday, will be released that night by Fujitsu Services, for distribution.

Basic – Pure Reference Data files received by Fujitsu Services by 4pm and accompanied by a notifying 'phone call', on a working weekday, will be released that night by Fujitsu Services, for distribution.

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.3 Basic – High Risk

Changes that involve changing Type A Reference Data only and required verification.

End-to-End lead time = 10 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	1 day	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	1 day	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	2 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 4 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 5 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services process and validate change	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 6 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate RDMC verification & comparison reports	2 days	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 8 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	2 days	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 10 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	Immediate	Release change (release day)	Day 10 (8pm)	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.4 Advanced Simple

Changes requiring advanced notification that involve Type A Reference Data changes only before release.

End-to-End lead time = 10 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	1 day	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	1 day	Deliver notification to Fujitsu Services	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes Reference Data	1 day	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	2 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 4 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 5 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services process request for change	2 days	Preparations complete	Day 4 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services processes Reference Data and validate change	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 6 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate RDMC verification & comparison reports	2 day	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 8 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	2 days	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 10 (8 pm)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	Immediate	Release change (release day)	Day 10 (8 pm)	Fujitsu Services
Update systems & documentation	Varies		Day 11+	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.5 Advanced Standard

Changes that, in addition to Type A Reference Data, require activities such as loading Type B Reference Data, managing additional information, MIS updates or testing.

End-to-End lead time = 14 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	1 day	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	1 day	Deliver notification to Fujitsu Services	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes Reference Data	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 4 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	3 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 7 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 8 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services process request for change	2 days	Preparations complete	Day 4 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services process Reference Data	2 days	Ready for validation	Day 9 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
RDT validate change	1 days	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 10 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate RDMC verification & comparison reports	2 day	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 12 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	2 days	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 14 (8 pm)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	Immediate	Release change (release day)	Day 14 (8 pm)	Fujitsu Services
Amend MIS mapping	1 day		Day 14 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Update documentation	Varies		Day 12+	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Ref: CS/PRD/058

Version: 14.0

Date: 17 July 2007

5.6 Advanced Complex

Changes that require update Type C Reference Data.

End-to-End lead time = 25 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	2 days	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	2 days	Deliver notification to Fujitsu Services	Day 4 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes Reference Data	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 6 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	5 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 11 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 12 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services processes request for change	2 days	Preparation complete	Day 13 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
RDT Create Type C Reference Data	5 days	Ready for validation	Day 18 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
RDT Validate changes	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 20 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate RDMC verification & comparison reports	2 day	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 22 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	3 days	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 25 (8 pm)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	Immediate	Release change (release day)	Day 25 (8 pm)	
Amend MIS mapping	1 day		Day 25 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Update documentation	Varies		Day 25+	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Fujitsu
Services

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.7 Advanced Complex Extended

Changes that may require updated Type C Reference Data and/or extended validation/verification.

End-to-End lead time = 30 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	2 days	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 2 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	2 days	Deliver notification to Fujitsu Services	Day 4 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes Reference Data	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 6 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	5 days	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 11 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 12 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services processes request for change	2 days	Preparation complete	Day 13 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
RDT Create Type C Reference Data	10 days	Ready for validation	Day 23 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
RDT Validate changes	2 days	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 25 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate RDMC verification & comparison reports	2 day	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 27 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	3 days	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 30 (8 pm)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	Immediate	Release change (release day)	Day 30 (8 pm)	
Update documentation	Varies		Day 30+	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.8 AP and ADC Client Take-On and APOP

As described in AP/ADC Client Service Introduction and Change Processes & CS Services Catalogue documents [ref. 3 & 4] following advanced notification to Fujitsu Services where required.

5.9 Basic Express

Changes that involve only Type A Reference Data and are one of the named change types in [section 4.2.5.1]. From a volume perspective Basic Express are a subset of Basic – High Risk.

End-to-End lead time = 2 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	2 hours	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (10am)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	3 hours	Deliver Reference Data to POLRDT (Chesterfield)	Day 1 (1pm)	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	7 hours	Send to Fujitsu Services	Day 1 (8pm)	Post Office Ltd
<i>Fujitsu Services System processes</i>		<i>Available to Fujitsu Services</i>	<i>Day 2 (8am)</i>	
Fujitsu Services process change	2 hours	Deliver Reference Data to Post Office Ltd	Day 2 (10am)	Fujitsu Services
Fujitsu Services generate verification reports	2 hours	Deliver Reports to Post Office Ltd	Day 2 (noon)	Fujitsu Services
Post Office Ltd check reports and verify change	4 hours	Notifies Fujitsu Services of authorisation	Day 2 (4pm) *	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process authorisation	2 hours	Release change (release day)	Day 2 (6pm)	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

*** Note: As Basic Express is a form of Fast Track change and therefore outside the norm it is a Fujitsu Services requirement that authorisation is received by 4 pm.**

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.10 Migration Special

To meet the need to apply a quick change to the Product to Branch mappings for an branch

End-to-End lead time = 1 working day

Action	Result	Milestone	Owner
required change identified	Notify POLRDT (Chesterfield)	*	Post Office Ltd
POLRDT (Chesterfield) input Reference Data	Send to Fujitsu Services	*	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process change	Release change (release day)	*	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

* Note:

Migration Special Reference Data files (identifiable as such by virtue of the OBC prefix used) arriving by 10am on a working weekday, will be released that night by Fujitsu Services, for distribution.

Migration Special Reference Data files received by Fujitsu Services by 4pm and accompanied by a notifying 'phone' call, on a working weekday, will be released that night by Fujitsu Services, for distribution.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

5.11 System Parameters - Pure

Changes that involve changing system parameters and do not require verification (i.e. are pre-authorised).

End-to-End lead time = 3 working days

Action	Duration	Result	Milestone	Owner
Business generates change	1 day	Deliver OBC to Post Office Ltd	Day 1 (6pm)	Post Office Ltd
Post Office Ltd processes change	1 day	Deliver information to Fujitsu Services	Day 2 (10am)	Post Office Ltd
Fujitsu Services process change	2 days	Release change	Day 3 (8pm)	Fujitsu Services

Delivery to Counters following release is as described in section 3.2

* Note:

System Parameters – Pure requests arriving by 10 a.m., on a working weekday, will be processed and the data released by Fujitsu Services for distribution on the night following.

At the Network Banking release of the Horizon system the only System Parameters that may be amended using this category are:

MCWP
MAAWP

Amendments will be within limits defined within the Agreement.

6 Lead-times for Branch Changes

The lead-times for supplying Reference Data for Branch Changes are defined in [ref 11]

7 Volume of change

7.1 Introduction

The measurement of volumes of change has been revised with effect from the signing of CCN1100 on 31st December 2002. All previous definition of volumes is superseded by the volumes quoted below.

7.2 Committed volumes

The service provided by Fujitsu Services as specified within this document is constructed as follows

- a) it has the capability to handle an overall maximum of 300 business as usual changes within one month with the following limits within each of the categories

- Branch Changes	140 per month
- Pre-Authorised Product Change	40 per month
- High Risk Product Change	50 per month
- Advanced Product Change	100 per month
- Automated Payment Change	120 per month

N.B. This maximum includes rework, which is expected to be a maximum of 30 files in any month.

- b) to enable Post Office Ltd to manage the volume and categorisation of changes that are supplied into this service and to facilitate Fujitsu Services capacity management and alignment of resources to meet these requirements for managing Reference Data changes, the framework for a Work Index system has been agreed. The Work Index system will specify in units an indication of the amount of work required for each file or associated activity
- c) The monthly Work Index limit will be 5000 units which will be equivalent to the workflow represented by the 300 changes and the identified constraints as specified in a) above

[DN: It has proved impossible to create a direct correlation between 300 changes and 5000 work units due to the fact that the two figures are measuring completely different things – changes is a simple statement of the number of individual requests whereas work units reflect the effort required. This needs further consideration for a future release of this document]

The Reference Data Operational Review Forum will oversee the introduction of the Work Index system and will be responsible for its continued development. The RDORF will monitor and review the effectiveness of the process and any issues which arise from these limits.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

The baseline for Reference Data record changes is given in the AIS [ref. 5].

Data, which is required specifically for the implementation of a new system release (e.g. NWB), is exceptional to these committed volumes and as such will not be counted within any measurement against this Interface Agreement.

7.3 Network Reinvention

For the period March 2003 to December 2004, Post Office Ltd were running a Network Reinvention programme. Within the context of this agreement in addition to the volumes stated above (and not included in the Work Index system) the service was amended to handle additional Branch and Pre-authorised or High Risk Product Changes. The maximum volumes of Network Reinvention changes to be handled in any one month at that time were 300 Branch Changes and 23 Pre-authorised or High Risk Product Changes and the maximum volume of all Branch Changes that could be guaranteed to be processed in any working weekday was 22 (see Note below). A separate naming convention was agreed for Network Reinvention changes so that they are shown independently in RDORF reports.

Note: Whilst the Network Reinvention programme was in place, in order to provide the required level of service Fujitsu Services could only guarantee to process a maximum of 22 Branch Changes in total (i.e. Business as Usual and Network Reinvention) in any working weekday. Priority was always given to Business as Usual changes. Any Network Reinvention changes not processed on any working day were then given priority on the next working day after Business as Usual changes have been processed. In this context changes received after 10 a.m. on any working weekday are considered as business for the following working weekday.

Since the formal period of the Network Reinvention programme has concluded but in recognition that there are still a small number of occasions when similar activities are required, Fujitsu Services will continue to accept such changes in addition to normal committed volumes but with the following service limits:

Maximum number of Network Reinvention Changes in any one month – 20
Daily maximum guaranteed (combined BAU and Network Reinvention) - 15

8 Deliverables

To ensure milestones are not put at risk all deliverables must be:

- Complete and identifiable e.g. cross referencing change numbers
- Error free [see section 10.4 for managing errors]
- Correctly dated (see section 8.3)
- Delivered by the relevant deadlines set out in the Interface Agreement [see sections 5 and 6 for required milestones]
- Delivered through the agreed mechanisms.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

8.1 Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services

Post Office Ltd shall deliver to Fujitsu Services:

- 1) Reference Data for Advanced and Basic changes
- 2) Operational Business Change forms for Advanced changes and System Parameter Pure
- 3) Supporting items and/or information appropriate for changes e.g. AP tokens, Operational Focus
- 4) Authorisation for Advanced and High Risk Basic Product changes and Advanced Branch changes (where appropriate)

Note: This applies to changes which are within the scope of the OBC process, i.e. following agreement where necessary for changes such as APOP/ADC.

8.2 Fujitsu Services to Post Office Ltd

Fujitsu Services shall deliver to Post Office Ltd:

- 1) Reference Data direct to Live Counters, for OBCs that are pre-authorised by Post Office Ltd.
- 2) Reference Data to Verification Counters, for Product Change OBCs to be verified, and that:
 - include Type C Reference Data for Advanced changes when necessary
 - has been validated to ensure changes work as requested on the OBC forms.
- 3) Verification and Comparison Reports (as appropriate for Product Change) that identify exactly what changes to the counter have been implemented
- 4) RDMC report (as appropriate) for Advanced Branch Changes
- 5) Reports to RDORF on volumetrics

8.3 Future Dating

Reference Data records contain a 'Start Date' which is the date on which the change is to become effective on the Horizon counters. This date should always be in the future when the data is created and remain a 'future date' throughout processing and distribution so that it is still a future date when it arrives at the counters.

However it is advisable that the future date is within the range of dates available on validation and verification counters (currently a maximum of 12 weeks) as it may not be possible to validate/verify a change which is further in the future. Furthermore, if the change has more than one effective date (e.g. Remit In followed by Serve Customer) and the difference between these two dates is more than 4 weeks less than the maximum date range of verification counters (i.e. a maximum of 8 weeks between start dates), the change should be submitted as two separate changes to allow validation of the individual parts. Failure to do this may result in the second part of the change having to be released before it has been validated.

There is a risk to Post Office Ltd if the OBC process is not initiated sufficiently in advance of the Effective Date to allow for:

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

-
- the IFA lead-time for processing, validation, authorisation and release to the Live system for that particular type of change
 - the distribution time to branches
 - additional contingency where Post Office Ltd consider the Reference Data to have business critical importance

Where, for whatever reason, Post Office Ltd are unable to initiate the OBC process sufficiently in advance, then Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services would establish an Effective Date to supersede the Start Date.

Fujitsu Services reserves the right to log as a pre-live incident, the receipt of any Reference Data which is not future dated. This is because data which has an immediate start date (i.e. any date in the past at the time when the data reaches the Horizon counter) may have an adverse effect and may create additional calls to HelpDesks.

The scheduling of non-future dated data by Post Office Ltd delaying authorisation of the release of Reference Data is not an approved method.

9 Roles & Responsibilities

The primary interface for changes described in this document is between Post Office Ltd Reference Data Team and Fujitsu Services Reference Data Team. Where other units within each of the organisations requires an interchange with the other organisation in relation to a business as usual change they should address their requirements via the appropriate team.

9.1 Post Office Ltd – General

Post Office Ltd shall, without limitation:

9.1.1 Administration and Control

- a) Appoint and communicate to Fujitsu Services the name of an owner for this Interface Agreement. The owner shall maintain and communicate to Fujitsu Services the list of change authorisers for Product Reference Data.
- b) Measure & report on the performance of processes carried out by Post Office Ltd under this Interface Agreement.
- c) Arrange and chair regular Reference Data Operational Review Forums
- d) Participate in the Service Review process, to cover all aspects of the process and its operation, including the provision of forecasts of changes to volumes which might affect those defined in section 7.2.
- e) Review the OBC process, documentation and forms to identify and implement improvements jointly with Fujitsu Services.
- f) Maintain details of the Post Office Ltd contacts relevant to these processes within the change contacts list in the OLAs [ref. 12 & 13].
- g) Ensure that all staff involved in the OBC process are aware of their role and responsibilities

9.1.2 Implementation

- a) Ensure Post Office staff and clients are aware of changes in time to make the necessary preparations
- b) Resolve queries from Fujitsu Services that are material to an OBC
- c) Communicate issues and exception information to Fujitsu Services, as reasonably necessary to assist them, to enable them to manage and control all their relevant change activity on the Fujitsu Services side of the change interface.
- d) Provide the Postmaster communication (e.g. Operational Focus, Memo View) to Fujitsu Services for comment before release and make any amendments reasonably required by Fujitsu Services [ref 17]
- e) Identify potential variations to the service as soon as known e.g. peak activity
- f) Process and communicate Advanced Product changes, in accordance with timescales in [section 4.3], to Fujitsu Services ensuring, where necessary, that changes are submitted separately in units of release.
- g) Verify relevant Product and Branch changes and provide authorisation ready for release [in accordance with section 9.6]
- h) Ensure that the Post Office Ltd copy of reference documents, e.g. copy of the Menu Hierarchy, is available to Post Office Ltd staff who require it

9.1.3 Files & Reference Data

- a) Ensure the date contained in the Reference Data is in accordance with the required lead-times [see sections 5 and 6]
- b) Where possible, all Reference Data which should be applied as a unit, as defined by business rules or the OBC, should be supplied in a single file. Where this is not possible, subsequent files must be identifiable as the same unit of release.
- c) Recognise that the file is the unit of release and all changes within one file are constrained by the longest lead-time.
- d) Allocate unique Business Change Request number (Change Control Number).
- e) Ensure all required change information and data is submitted to Fujitsu Services e.g. menu hierarchy information [ref. 14] AP CTO/ADC packs etc.
- f) Ensure the accuracy and integrity of the change information and Reference Data provided to Fujitsu Services
- g) Reference Data for Mails Application produced from Design Studio, checked according to guidelines supplied by Fujitsu Services
- h) Ensure that a complete set of Mails Help files is submitted whenever any change is required to the help data

9.1.4 APOP/ADC changes

- a) Provide advance notice of the introduction or changes to APOP/ADC services or transactions which result from new or changed Reference Data or incoming files to the APOP service which may affect the transaction flow or the content of outgoing client files
- b) Gain agreement from Fujitsu Services that such introductions or changes are acceptable to Fujitsu Services and will have no detrimental affect on the Horizon system (whether counters or other back-office functions) so far as can be determined from the information provided. Such information must describe the business purpose of and the proposed methods of implementing the change in AP-ADC reference data and/or APOP meta data and/or file(s) passed over the EDG interface, these being the available physical means of changing existing AP-ADC and APOP services and transactions. The information must provide a sufficient level of detail to enable Fujitsu Services to judge whether the proposed change is suitable for the OBC processes described in this document
- c) Accept full responsibility for any change which has been authorised by Post Office Ltd where such change modifies the behaviour of APOP or ADC service or transactions or outgoing client files where agreement from Fujitsu Services has not been sought or where Fujitsu Services has declined such agreement

9.2 Post Office Ltd - Reference Data Team

Post Office Ltd RDT shall, without limitation:

- a) Process and transmit basic Reference Data changes to Fujitsu Services over routes & timetables, as specified in the OLA [ref. 12].
- b) Supply Reference Data to support advanced change in accordance with specified standards [see section 0.3].

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

-
- c) Allocate unique Business Change Request number (Change Control Number), using prefixes and suffixes as defined in [ref 22], where necessary.
 - d) Ensure that the content of any file is consistent with the change identifier, prefix and suffix.

9.3 Post Office Ltd Network Business Support Centre (NBSC)

NBSC shall, without limitation:

- a) Provide an interface to log Post Office Ltd Live incidents raised by Post Office Ltd or Fujitsu Services.
- b) Monitor, track and provide updates on Post Office Ltd Live incidents, to resolution.

9.4 Fujitsu Services responsibilities

Fujitsu Services shall, without limitation:

9.4.1 Administration and Control

- a) Appoint and communicate to Post Office Ltd the name of an owner for this Interface Agreement.
- b) Measure & report to RDORF the performance of Fujitsu Services processes carried out under this Interface Agreement.
- c) Participate in the Service Review process, to cover all aspects of the process and its operation, including the provision of a monthly OBC Reference Data Summary report which summarises activity for the previous month and the volume of change received over the previous year.
- d) Review the OBC process, documents and forms to identify and implement improvements jointly with Post Office Ltd.
- e) Maintain the details of the Fujitsu Services contacts relevant to these processes within the OBC Product Change contacts list in the OLAs [ref. 12 and 13].
- f) Ensure that all staff involved in the OBC process are aware of their role and responsibilities

9.4.2 Implementation

- a) Ensure Fujitsu Services staff and suppliers are aware of changes in time to make the appropriate preparations, where necessary
- b) Review the Postmaster communication/instructions and notify Post Office Ltd of any amendments reasonably required, before issue.
- c) Communicate issues and exception information to Post Office Ltd, as reasonably necessary to assist Post Office Ltd, to enable them to manage and control all their relevant change activity on the Post Office Ltd side of the change interface.
- d) Receive and progress Basic and Help Desk Reference Data change requests through the Reference Data change procedures
- e) Receive and progress advanced Reference Data change requests. These may be sent electronically by Post Office Ltd to the OBC Product Change Mailbox or via fallback routes (e.g. fax)

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- f) Assess Advanced Product changes and identify and deliver the change services needed to satisfy specific changes
 - g) Ensure that supporting Fujitsu Services processes are implemented to manage the delivery of change services
 - h) Ensure that appropriate updates to the Menu Hierarchy are forwarded to Post Office Ltd librarian for onward distribution within Post Office Ltd
 - i) Provide invoices for the completion of work, when appropriate [see section 10.6]
 - j) Release correctly authorised changes to meet the Effective Date [see section 9.6]

9.4.3 Files & Reference Data

- a) Provide changed Reference Data, Verification and Comparison Reports for Product Changes in accordance with agreed procedures [see section 0.3]
- b) Provide Reference Data and RDMC reports for Advanced Branch Change
- c) Provide Post Office Ltd with guidelines for checking Mails Reference Data
- d) Ensure that Mails Help files are correctly processed against the previously delivered data so that the increment sent to the Live counters achieves the change required

9.4.4 APOP/ADC changes

- a) Review all advance requests for new or amendments to APOP or ADC services or transactions and provide feedback in a timely manner

9.5 Help Desk

The Help Desk shall, without limitation:

- a) Provide an interface to log Fujitsu Services Live incidents raised by Post Office Ltd or Fujitsu Services.
- b) Monitor, track and provide updates on Fujitsu Services Live incidents, to resolution.

9.6 Verification, authorisation & release

Note: for details of the process [see section 3.3].

- 1) Post Office Ltd shall
 - Verify the OBC form before keying the Reference Data.
 - Use the RDS system built in validation rules on the Reference Data keyed in.
 - Verify the Reference Data once it has been keyed, before it is sent to Fujitsu Services.
- 2) Fujitsu Services shall
 - Check that all the Reference Data required for an OBC has been received.
 - Check that the contents of a file are appropriate for that file / change type.
 - Confirm that the Postmaster communication/instruction is appropriate
 - Raise any queries with Post Office Ltd relevant to the progression of an OBC
 - Produce a Verification and Comparison Report (where necessary) for changes delivered to the verification counters.
 - Where possible, confirm that the change works technically, before sending data and reports to Post Office Ltd for verification.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

-
- 3) Post Office Ltd shall
- Perform Authorisation
 - Gain the agreement of Fujitsu Services, where Post Office Ltd wish to release a change that contains a known deviation from the original intention (including an inappropriate communication).
 - Gain the agreement of Fujitsu Services that new or changes to APOP/ADC services or transactions are acceptable to Fujitsu Services
- 4) Fujitsu Services shall
- Explain to Post Office Ltd's reasonable satisfaction any queries which Post Office Ltd have arising from the validations carried out, or, where the change is part of the technical implementation, accept responsibility for that element of the change.
 - Not unreasonably withhold its agreement to release changes which Post Office Ltd approve as acceptable deviations from the original intention.
 - Release the Reference Data for authorised changes to the live system provided Post Office Ltd has complied with its obligations set out in [section 9.6 para 3].

Note: certain changes are pre-authorised. When a pre-authorised change is received by Fujitsu Services, being identified by the correct naming [ref 22] the change will be released according to the prescribed schedule for such a change without any other form of authorisation.

Each party accepts responsibility for those aspects of a change for which it has responsibility to test.

Post Office Ltd will accept full responsibility for the introduction of or any amendment to APOP or ADC services or transactions where Fujitsu Services has not been made aware in advance of the nature of the change or has been made aware and has not agreed that the change is acceptable to Fujitsu Services.

Business tests for the purpose of verifying changes to Reference Data are conducted by Post Office Ltd and are described in [ref. 14]. These tests include, where appropriate, review of Verification and Comparison Reports and the functional testing of Reference Data on test counters supplied by Fujitsu Services. Authorisation from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services to release Reference Data is made on the basis of these tests.

10 Orders and exceptions

10.1 Release of Reference Data

The release of Reference Data shall be in accordance with Schedule B4.4 Annex 2 paragraph 3.2. Specifically the Agreed Release Date (i.e. Day A) for each change shall be set on the following principles:

**Fujitsu
Services**

**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**

Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

1. The date by which the Reference Data is required to be effective on the counters in the live estate is the “Effective Date”
2. Where the Authorisation Date is 10 days or less before the Effective Date the Agreed Release Date will be no later than the next Working Day following Authorisation.
3. For the avoidance of doubt, for Tight Timescale requests in accordance with paragraph 4.2.5.3 of this document, the Agreed Release Date shall be the same as the Authorisation Date.
4. Where the Authorisation Date is more than ten days before the Effective Date the Agreed Release Date will be no later than the first Working Day following the tenth day before the Effective Date
5. If there is more than one set of Reference Data which needs to be released at or about the same time and in the view of Fujitsu Services releasing all Authorised data would impose a risk on the delivery of some of that data, in order to achieve maximum distribution by the Effective Date:
 - a) the order in which Reference Data will be released will be based on business criticality of the Reference Data, as assessed by Post Office Ltd and by agreement with Fujitsu Services
 - b) a new Agreed Release Date will be agreed for any Reference Data changes which are delayed as a result of modifying the order of release of the changes
6. Where authorisation relates to Mails data the Agreed Release Date will be in accord with the above principles when taking account of the necessary delays for delivery and release of Mails data as described in 14.2 (Time between changes)

10.2 Orders

- The receipt in the CS Reference Data team mailbox of the OBC form is the confirmed request from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services, for Advanced Product and System Parameter Pure Changes

The receipt in an agreed mailbox of the OBC form is the confirmed request from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services, for Advanced Branch Changes.

- The receipt in an agreed mailbox of the OBC form for an ICON batch is the confirmed order for any chargeable ICON within that batch.
- The receipt of a Reference Data file containing only Basic (Class 1 or HD Reference Data) in the RDMC, is the confirmed request for change from Post Office Ltd to Fujitsu Services.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

- The receipt of a correctly completed Authorisation Form from Post Office Ltd is the confirmed authorisation to release the change.
- The receipt of pre-authorised change files (e.g. Migration Special, Pure Basic, HD or System Parameter Pure, branch change) clearly identified as such and containing that type of change, is the authorisation for release of the changes.
- Requests for non-OBC changes (i.e. those not defined in the RDCC [ref. 2]), unless agreed by all parties in advance of any update to the RDCC, will not be accepted and need to be submitted as a formal (non-OBC) request to Fujitsu Services. However, the change request may also initiate an update to the RDCC so that new changes are introduced to the OBC process, where agreed. In many cases once a formal request has been approved the delivery mechanisms will be the same as, or similar to, those used for OBC.

10.3 Exceptions

Exceptions, e.g. to volumes or lead-times, will be processed using available resources without any guarantee of service delivery. Both Post Office Ltd and Fujitsu Services shall notify the other party when a request is recognised to be an exception.

Note: An agreed Deviation to the Service (e.g. Reference Data necessary for the implementation of a new system release such as Network Banking) is not an exception.

Post Office Ltd may wish to change the priority of an exceptional change so that it is given preference over normal changes. In this instance the agreed lead-times may be extended pro rata for displaced activities.

10.4 Errors and Rework

The Volume of Reworks for BAU changes (i.e. excluding Network Reinvention) is included in the limits quoted in section 7.2 above but is expected to be a maximum of 30 per month for BAU changes. This section relates to errors or rework for both Product and Branch Reference Data, where appropriate.

10.4.1 Recording Pre-Live Incidents

All observed errors will be recorded as pre-live incidents in accordance with the OLAs (refs. 12 & 13). The change will be suspended awaiting corrective action, potentially delaying the achievement of that milestone for all changes affected by the error. For example, a file containing records that are rejected will not be processed until the rejected records are corrected and any other change which is in any way associated with the rejections may also be delayed. Where the achievement of a milestone is at risk, corrective action will be taken by the appropriate party or parties, by agreement, in order to achieve the final milestone, where possible.

A pre-live incident will be raised for late deliverables.

If the Start Date contained within the Reference Data record is not future dated or is set to a date prior to the Required Date a pre-live incident will be raised i.e. the Start Date is either

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

prior to the date on the OBC form, or is not consistent with the overall lead-times (see section 8.3).

If it is known that the final milestone will not be achieved, or an alert has been requested and the data is being released and will become active on the following day an Alert may be necessary as described in section 2.5.

Pre-live incidents are recorded on the Peak system used internally by Fujitsu Services Ltd. As some Peak's relate to work required by Post Office Ltd it is necessary for Post Office Ltd to have visibility of Peak data. Details of the passing of information between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd are shown in Appendix E – Peak control between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd

10.4.2 Rework categorisation and thresholds

Rework files are files which are, or appear to be, either Amendment files or Error Corrections files to a change that is currently being progressed. They necessitate additional activity by all parties and as such may have an impact on lead-times.

Appropriate steps shall always be taken to establish and eliminate the root cause of Rework. This will be monitored by the RDORF

10.5 Escalation

Disagreements about the service e.g. whether a change is exceptional, will be raised, and wherever possible resolved, at the RDORF. If agreement cannot be reached at the RDORF, either party may invoke formal escalation mechanisms.

10.6 Charging

- AP Client Take-On (including ADC and APOP) is charged as specified [see ref. 4].
- Deviations to the service will be charged as per the Commercial Terms.
- Invoices will be raised and paid in accordance with the Agreement.

11 Appendix A: Standard Changes - Details

Section 4.2.1 gives details of the hierarchy of changes which are Standard Changes. The complete list of changes applicable to each type can be found in the RDCC [ref 2]. Below is a representative sample of the changes for each type.

N.B. It should be noted that whilst a change may fall into a specific category if there is an associated change which falls into a different category with a longer lead time on which the first change is dependent, both changes will adopt the category of the second change.

11.1 Product Changes

11.1.1 Basic - Pure

- Increase product availability (non-core)
- Change clerk instructions

11.1.2 Basic – High Risk

- Change product price
- Revaluation
- Change min/max quantity/value
- Change whether voidable or reversible
- Change between existing methods of payment
- Change product names
- Cease Item Transaction Mode for a product
- Restart Item Transaction Mode for a product
- Change ability to print receipt

- Add routing gateway (NWB/DCS)
- Change name only – in routing gateway (NWB/DCS)
- Change Bank name only - in Issuer Scheme (NWB/DCS)
- Add Banking Operation (when associated item already exists) (NWB/DCS)
- Change presentation sequence override only - in Banking Operation (NWB/DCS)
- Add method of entry (NWB/DCS)
- Change method of entry (NWB/DCS)
- Add IIN range for existing non Chip and Pin bank card (NWB/DCS)
- Change IIN range for existing non Chip and Pin bank card (NWB/DCS)

- Add/Amend/Cease End of Session prompt
- Add/Amend/Cease Transaction Prompt
- Disable/Enable End of Session prompts at specified branch(es)
- Disable/Enable Transaction prompts at specified branch(es)

Changes to Mails which are achieved by amending Reference Data within Design Studio only

[DN: Please see note regarding Chip and PIN in section 11.1.6]

11.1.3 Advanced Simple

Non core product becomes core
Change use of additional fields

11.1.4 Advanced Standard

Change discount indicator (not used)
Change value to non-value stock
Change client name – non AP
Change calendar
Remove AP client
Change pick-list for existing product

11.1.5 Advanced Complex

Add new product - non value stock
Add new product - make value stock available to rem-in
(up to 6 weeks prior to it being made available for sale)
Change screen layout (Menu Hierarchy)
Change accounting node
Add Item Transaction Mode with Item Transaction Mode Code

Change Picklist ordering:

- Add/Change/Remove non-value stock product group ordering
- Change non-value stock item ordering within product group
- Add/Change/Remove advice notes product group ordering
- Change advice notes item ordering within product group

Changes to Mails which require Fujitsu Services data alone or in conjunction with
Post Office Ltd Reference Data from RDS or produced within Design Studio

Change End of Session prompt screen heading text

11.1.6 Advanced Complex Extended

Changes to Mails data for Tariff Change

Changes to Horizon reports text fields or content which can be achieved directly using
Fujitsu Services Reference Data.

*[DN: The majority of changes to Horizon reports and receipts can only be achieved
by code changes and are therefore subject to a Work Order. This mechanism within
the OBC processes is limited to those changes which can be made through Reference
Data only and requests for such changes not currently listed in the Reference Data*

Fujitsu
ServicesFujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Change Catalogue must be confirmed with Fujitsu Services prior to raising the OBC. As changes of this nature are identified they will be added to the Reference Data Change Catalogue]

Network Banking and Debit Card Service changes other than those listed in Basic High Risk and System Parameter – Pure.

Change routing gateway – physical (name only change is categorised as HR)
Add Issuer Scheme
Change Issuer Scheme (change to Bank name only is categorised as HR)
Add Banking Operation (when associated item does not exist)
Add NWB Card
Change NWB Card
Add NWB Token Element
Change NWB Token Element
Add IIN range for existing bank card (NWB/DCS)
Change IIN range for existing bank card (NWB/DCS)

[DN: The introduction of all Network Banking entities and amendments to them, with the exception of those noted in Basic – High Risk and System Parameters – Pure, will be Advanced Complex Extended. It should be noted that in the future additional checking of Network Banking Reference Data may be deemed to be necessary, in a similar fashion to that currently used for AP, in which case lead-times will need further consideration.

Please note that Network Banking Contract Schedule N01 defines the lead-time for changes in this category to be Advanced Complex. At the time that Contract Schedule N01 was agreed the overall lead-time for Advanced Complex changes was 30 days however the lead-time for Advanced Complex has since been reduced to 25 days. The overall lead-time for Advanced Complex Extended changes is 30 days and is therefore consistent with the lead-time agreed within Contract Schedule N01.

The introduction of Chip and PIN functionality means that changes of IIN for Chip and PIN cards now fall into this category due to the fact that IIN data is also held in the PinPAD and amendments to PinPAD data require action from Fujitsu Services. Any other changes to data held in the PinPAD will also fall into this category.]

11.1.7 System Parameters – Pure

At the Network Banking release of the Horizon system the only System Parameters that may be amended using this category are:

MCWP
MAAWP

Amendments will be within limits defined within the Agreement.

N.B. There are similar parameters within the Debit Card Service which may only be changed using the Work Order mechanism.

11.2 Branch Changes

11.2.1 HelpDesk (HD)

Low risk changes to branch details – e.g. telephone number

11.2.2 Advanced

Higher risk changes to branch details e.g.

- Opening times (no physical changes to branch)
- Refurbishments, branch opening/closure, relocations (physical activity required and therefore Reference Data needs to be dovetailed with this activity)

12 Appendix B: Changing transactable products between Core and Non-Core

The following information is provided to give guidance on how to change products from Core to Non-Core (extreme care is required) and Non-Core to Core (much simpler). Additional information will be found in the document relating to Business Rules [ref 15]

12.1 Changing items from core to non-core

Although this sounds a simple task there are a number of factors which must be considered to achieve the change. The major factor is the controlled termination of the item at branches where it is no longer to be available, especially if those branches may have residual stock.

The cessation of Core or Non-core items globally can be controlled by the removal of Item Transaction Modes in the required sequence (usually Serve Customer, followed by Bulk Input Mode, followed by housekeeping modes). A non-core item being removed from an individual branch by cessation of the non-core link is handled similarly but by an automated process (referred to as graceful retirement) controlled by the Fujitsu Services system.

When an item is changed from core to non-core there clearly must be non-core links for those branches which are still required to transact the item after the change however graceful retirement will not be activated for branches which do not have any non-core links.

The following points need to be considered:

- Would the immediate termination of the item at branches cause an issue (i.e. could a Branch Trading Statement reprint be requested – is there any value stock being held at branches which will no longer be linked)
- If yes to the above is it imperative that the existing item is retained (most likely that there are other systems which rely on the data)

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

When considering the effect of immediate termination at branches it is very important to take account of the effect on Branch Trading Statement reprints and stock. If a branch requests a reprint which includes items which have now gone from their counters and yet have been transacted within the allowable reprint period, the reprint will be unable to correctly identify the items and may therefore produce erroneous data. If there is value stock at a branch it will not be accounted for.

It therefore follows that the action to be taken depends on the type of item being changed and whether graceful retirement is an essential activity.

1. Instant removal of the item is an issue but it is not imperative that the existing item is retained

This scenario is probably the most straightforward one to execute as the existing item can be ceased in a controlled fashion (ceasing the Item Transaction Modes as required) and the new item introduced at the appropriate time and with the necessary non-core links. It is therefore the preferred option for value stock items and may also provide the simplest way of handling all changes from core to non-core.

Note: this methodology is the only one which guarantees that no residual information remains at branches where the item is no longer used. Either of the following options may result in branches having some visibility of the item without the ability to use it. This is because of the way the menu-hierarchy/pick list are built by the Horizon Desktop.

2. Instant removal of item is an issue and the existing item must be retained

In this case the only solution is to make the item non-core and at the same time provide non-core links for every branch in the estate. This ensures that when the non-core links are ceased for branches which are no longer to transact the item the automated graceful retirement activity will take place and therefore Branch Trading Statement reprints will perform correctly and value stock may be remitted out or will eventually go into the discrepancy account.

Having created the non-core links to ensure that graceful retirement is activated there are still two options to remove the unwanted links, largely dependent on the number to remain but also governed to some extent by RDS bulk upload facilities:

- a) cease all non-core links and then re-instate those required (graceful termination will only occur on those not re-created)
- b) cease non-core links on those which are to be removed

3. Instant removal of item is not an issue

N.B. Please see note above regarding the Branch Trading Statement. In practice this option is only viable when there is an absolute guarantee that there are no transactions in the system which could be requested for Branch Trading Statement reprint, and there is no stock at any branches. This therefore suggests that the items in question should only be non-value stock.

If there is any doubt as to the likely outcome then this option MUST NOT be used.

If this option is viable the change is still relatively simple. The item record is changed to non-core and non-core links are created, effective at the same time that the item changes to non-core, for those branches which are to continue to use the item.

The item will then become unavailable at branches which no longer have the non-core links present.

12.2 Changing items from non-core to core

The process for changing items from non-core to core is much more straightforward than changing from core to non-core. However, to minimise risk of branches receiving the ending of the non-core links before the changed item information the change must be presented in two parts:

- i) change item to core
- ii) cease all non-core links (released when all branches have received i) above)

13 Appendix C: Permanent Closure of Branches

13.1 Background

Because of the rate of change of Post Office Branches (with some becoming permanently closed) there is a need for a mechanism which will reduce the risk of marking a branch permanently closed when in fact it is still operational. This process is therefore designed to reduce that risk whilst allowing for bulk data to be submitted for the tidy of the RDS and RDMC systems.

The mechanics of closing a branch and removing equipment, making changes to non-core links for another branch and installing additional counter terminals is all handled within existing OBC process (product and branch). Within the context of this process the only criteria is that at Day 0 (the last day of trading and public service) the branch is marked as Temporary Closure within RDS.

13.2 Process

No sooner than 35 days following the successful completion of the OBC processes to remove the equipment (35 days ensures that any residual data has been collected from the branch equipment) all branches which fall within the period will become subject to a single change (or group of changes depending on volume) within this process. In order to simplify the process it is invoked at the beginning of each month for branches which were temporarily closed up to 2 months previously, i.e. excluding those which were processed in the immediately preceding month.

Fujitsu
Services**Fujitsu Services/Post Office Ltd Interface
Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

Step 1. POLRDT (Chesterfield) will submit to Fujitsu Services a spreadsheet containing the FAD codes for each branch which is now deemed to be ready to be Permanently Closed following agreement within Post Office Ltd.

Step 2. Fujitsu Services will check the status of each of the FAD codes listed and advise POLRDT (Chesterfield) if all of them are in the correct state for Permanent Closure (i.e. they are no longer receiving or transmitting data to/from the Data Centre).

Step 3. If the answer to Step 2 contains any FADs which are not in a suitable state POLRDT (Chesterfield) will be advised and the process is terminated, i.e. a completely fresh list must be submitted. When a list is confirmed as being OK RDT processes will retain the FADs for checking later in the process.

Step 4. RDS is updated for all of the FADs which are by now confirmed as OK. This will produce one or more files for delivery to RDMC. Each file will contain the data for one or more FAD codes, including the cessation of non-core links associated with that FAD. Change ID's will be prefixed TIDY [ref 22] and a control Peak will be raised periodically to enable audit.

Step 5. RDMC will load the data

Step 6. RDT processes will check the data against the list which was confirmed in step 3.

Step 7. If there are any discrepancies found between Steps 1, 3 and 6, or a branch has now become active, remedial action will be necessary before the data is released through the RDDS system. Note: this may include the necessity of introducing the branch as a new one.

Step 8. Once any anomalies from step 7 have been sorted out the data is released to RDDS (the data is pre-authorised and therefore no further authorisation is required from Post Office Ltd)

Should the final list processed through step 8 include any branches which have not been previously subject to a closure process within other Fujitsu Services systems, Fujitsu Services will request Post Office Ltd to raise an OBC20 to ensure that all other Fujitsu Services systems are consistent with the new status.

14 Appendix D – Mails

Mails is an Horizon desktop service which has replaced the Scales facility. It is based on the mails package developed by Escher, adapted to be integrated within the Horizon system. The Reference Data for Mails is produced directly by Post Office Ltd using an Escher supplied tool, Design Studio. The process for effecting change to the Horizon counters by POLRDT (Bracknell) sending data to RDT for implementation (that is over a non-automated interface). Verification and Authorisation are performed using normal processes.

In addition to the Reference Data for the Mails application the Horizon counter supports HTML which Post Office Ltd have developed to assist the counter staff when using the Mails application. The updating of this help data is handled using OBC processes even though the data is not strictly Reference Data.

Because of the way in which the data is transmitted to the counters there are constraints which need to be considered with regard to the frequency with which changes can be made. The following information is provided to give an outline of the way in which the system works and how the constraint can be viewed.

14.1 Subscription Groups

Subscription groups have been introduced to the Horizon system and their first use is for Mails. The use of subscription groups involves two groups being used and there is a mechanism to 'toggle' between those groups.

The messagestore which exists on each counter in the Horizon system contains data from itself and its neighbouring counters (nodes 1 to 31), from Correspondence Servers in the data centre for its own data (nodes 32 to 59) and from subscription groups in the Correspondence Servers, Groups 11111111 and above. (Note that the FAD code of the branch is the Group ID in messagestore terms). The Mails Application does not understand the temporal data which other parts of the Horizon system use however it also differs from other parts of the Horizon system in that it can be directed to a specific group id from where it should read its data. It is this ability which has been used to provide a temporal switching capability for Mails.

Whenever the Mails Application looks for its data, it first looks in the messagestore for a control object which tells it which subscription group is to be used. The switching between the groups, or 'toggling' is achieved by sending a 'trigger' object to the counter at the end of new data going into one of the subscription groups, the counter then changes the 'toggle' object in accordance with the start date in the 'trigger object'. The 'toggle' object is itself a normal, temporal, object and therefore causes the switch to the relevant subscription group to occur at the correct date and time.

Note: Mails help data is temporal and therefore does not to use mechanism. Mails help data is always held in subscription group 11111112.

14.2 Time between changes

Note: this does not apply to Mails Help

There are only two subscription groups available for Mails reference data and therefore there is an inevitable constraint on how quickly the data can change. One of the groups must contain the data which is current and there can only be one change 'in the pipeline' at any point in time. Whilst in theory it would be possible to push a second change into the original group once the start date had been reached for the second group, there needs to be time allowed for any offices which have failed to synchronise their messagestore with the data centre so that they don't suddenly get change occurring on what, to them, may be their active group.

For example:

1. Group A is currently active and has been since 1/1/2003
2. Group B has been loaded with data with a start date of 1/5/2003 (in the future)
3. On counters in offices which are communicating correctly with the data centre the 'trigger' object for the Group B data has created 'toggle' objects which will ensure that on 1/5/2003 the counter starts using Group B (referred to as "paragraph 3" offices)
4. On counters in offices where there has been a communications failure there is no Group B data and therefore no 'toggle' object (referred to as "paragraph 4" offices).
5. When counters in paragraph 3 reach 1/5/2003 they will switch to Group B and Group A becomes available for fresh data however offices in paragraph 4 are still using Group A (although this may have incorrect tariff or script data it is still consistent)
6. When offices in paragraph 4 establish connection to the data centre they will replicate the Group B data and when this completed the 'trigger' object will create the 'toggle' object and the counter will start using Group B immediately
7. If new data was loaded into Group A before offices in paragraph 4 had replicated Group B there is a risk that the Group A data arrives before the Group B data and causes the Group A data to become unstable. This is why there is an enforced delay between deliveries to the original group after a change is sent down.

There is an important point with regard to the delivery and start date. Whilst Group A in the example above must not be changed whilst offices are still potentially using it, if the delivery to Group B was made in plenty of time so that all offices had the data by the time it should start, Group A can be changed immediately. This cannot extend to a third change within the 21 day period.

For example:

- a) Group B in the above example (start date 1/5/2003) is available for replication by 9/4/2003 (21 days before start date)
- b) Group A can have fresh data loaded into it on 2/5/2003 with a start date at any time in the future because by 1/5/2003 all offices will have correctly 'toggled' to Group B

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- c) A further change cannot be delivered until 22/5/2003 at the earliest to allow the 21 days for b) replication to elapse (but note that the closer the start date is to 1/5/2003 the higher the risk that offices will not have replicated in time)

N.B. 21 days is a pragmatic timeframe although somewhat cautious. Normally offices will not be offline for that length of time but allowing for major issues, such as a complete shutdown in the communications network to an office, needs to be considered so that risk is removed as much as possible.

14.3 Lead-times for Mails changes

The lead-times for changes to Mails data will be the same as for all other types of changes and are broken down as follows:

- Changes (other than tariff) which can be made by Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) amending Reference Data within Design Studio – High Risk
- Changes (other than tariff) which can be made by Post Office Ltd RDT (Bracknell) amending Reference Data within Design Studio in conjunction with EPOSS Data from RDS along with associated Fujitsu Services data – Advanced Complex
- Changes of Fujitsu Services data only which relate to the Mails system – Advanced Complex
- Tariff change – Advanced Complex Extended
- Any change which requires changes to Mails scripts are subject to the change control process and are not processed through the OBC process
- Mails Help – Advanced Complex

14.4 Mails Help Data

This is not strictly Reference Data but it is handled using the same fundamental processes as Reference Data without any implied lead times. Whenever a change is required Post Office Ltd supply the complete web site to be used on the Horizon counters. RDT then run a process which produces an increment to the data currently on the counters and this data is then used to update the currently Live data. Normal validation and verification is performed on this data.

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Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCERef: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

15 Appendix E – Peak control between Fujitsu Services and Post Office Ltd

Please note that the Peak system has replaced the previous system called PinICL however the two names are often used interchangeably.

This section describes the agreed mechanisms for passing Peak's from the Fujitsu Services Peak system to Post Office Ltd and entering responses from Post Office Ltd into the Peak system. The passing of data between the organisations is necessary because Post Office Ltd do not have direct access to the Peak system.

The interface for all Peak's relating to Reference Data for both the Live service and data provided by Post Office Ltd to support new facilities required by Change Request is the Fujitsu Services Reference Data Team (RDT).

All Peak's which need to go to Post Office Ltd will be routed (Peak term) to the RDT team for onward transmission (in practice the largest number of Peak's destined for Post Office Ltd are raised by RDT).

When RDT receive a Peak to be sent onwards the Peak is routed to the appropriate Post Office Ltd team. In Peak terms these teams are:

POCLRefDataAP	[issues arising which are specifically AP related]
POCLRefDataNCA	[issues arising from branch data]
POCLRefDataRDO	[issues arising from RDS system or POLRDT (Chesterfield) keying]
POCLRefDataOSG	[issues arising from EPOSS data]

Please note that these identities were created when the Post Office Ltd name was POCL and the teams were as described by the names. Whilst the company name and the individual team names have changed the use of these Peak names will not be changed as they are for routing purposes only.

Once the Peak has been routed within the Peak system itself RDT will create an e-mail and copy in the contents of the Peak on to the e-mail. The subject line in the e-mail must contain the word 'Peak' and the number of the Peak for ease of recognition.

On a periodic basis (at least monthly) RDT will provide a listing of outstanding Peak's to all interested parties. RDORF monitors Peak trends and Peak's outstanding to ensure that issues are addressed in a timely fashion.

Post Office Ltd must always explicitly respond to the Peak and not rely on the delivery of any data to be the notification of an update to the Peak.

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Agreement for Operational Business Change –
Reference Data
COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE**Ref: CS/PRD/058
Version: 14.0
Date: 17 July 2007

When RDT receive the explicit response, the Peak will be updated, in most cases by copying the data in the e-mail into the Peak system. If the response indicates that no further action will be undertaken by Post Office Ltd the Peak will be routed to the originating team. RDT will advise the originator of the response that the Peak has been removed from the POCL stack.

Under some circumstances a Peak may be necessary to show that a problem has occurred but where no further action is required from Post Office Ltd e.g. where a file has been sent to RDMC twice. In order to record that the problem occurred RDT will create a Peak, route it to the relevant Post Office Ltd team and immediately route it back to RDT and, in most cases, close the Peak. A copy of the Peak will be sent to the relevant team in Post Office Ltd.