

ICL Pathway Conducting Audit Data Extractions at CSR+

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Abstract: This document describes the process to be followed by Post Office Internal Audit (POIA), and other groups external to Pathway as defined in Schedule A03, when requesting audit data extraction services from ICL Pathway Internal Audit. It also describes those activities carried out within ICL Pathway to handle the request, manage the data extraction and despatch the results to the original requester.

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0 Document control

0.1 Document history

Version	Date	Reason
0.1	12/04/00	Initial draft based on CSR version IA/PRO/002
0.2	18/04/00	Following walk through on Audit Workstation and R-Query user guide
0.3	21/07/00	Review by Brian Mooney.
1.0	15/12/00	Version 1.0 for approval

0.2 Approval authorities

Name	Position	Signature	Date
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0.3 Associated documents

	Reference	Vers	Date	Title	Source
[1]	IA/MAN/005	0.3	21/07/00	Horizon System Audit Manual (CSR+)	PWAY
[2]	IA/REQ/004	0.2	21/07/00	Audit Data Retrieval Requirements (CSR+)	PWAY
[3]	IA/SPE/015	0.8	10/07/00	Audit Data Catalogue (CSR+)	PWAY
[4]	RS/MAN/010	0.2	15/03/00	SecureID Normal Token User Guide	PWAY

0.4 Abbreviations

Acronym	Meaning
AS	Audit Server
AW	Audit Workstation
AWO	Audit Workstation Operator
CD-W	Writeable CD
CSR+	Core System Release +
DLT	Digital Linear Tape
FTMS	File Transfer Management System
OBCS	Order Book Control System
PA	Pathway Auditor
PIN	Personal Identification Number
PLUI	Pathway Legato User Interface
POCL	Post Office Counters
POIA	Post Office Internal Audit
PWAY	ICL Pathway
RFI	Request for Information
SLUI	Standard Legato User Interface
TMS	Transaction Management System

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1 Introduction

The Horizon system generates significant amounts of data that is of interest to Internal Audit and other groups. The Horizon System Audit Manual (CSR+) [1], and the supporting <Product> Audit Trail Specifications provide further information on the structure, form and content of this data, referred to in this document as 'audit data'.

Subject to certain constraints the audit data must be made available to POIA or other authorised groups within timescales established in the Audit Data Retrieval Requirements (CSR+) [2].

This document establishes the process for requesting audit data extractions and subsequent activities undertaken to locate, retrieve, extract & filter and prepare for despatch on behalf of authorised requesters.

2 Scope

Should future releases of Horizon bring about changes to the way that data is extracted this process will be updated to reflect those changes.

This process applies to ALL audit data extraction requests from outside ICL Pathway. Requests for audit data extraction from within ICL Pathway will also be subject to this process although use of the Request For Information (RFI) form is optional.

3 Terminology

Within this process certain terms are used which have specific meaning within the Horizon Audit Solution. They are:

- Gatherer** : The module responsible for collecting the audit files from the hosts, agents, correspondence servers and interface mechanisms. This module is also responsible for the application of the audit file naming policy.
- Sealer** : The module responsible for calculating the checksum seal of each audit data file before it is written to DLT (tape) by the **Hoarder**. This value is recalculated by the **Retriever** and compared to the original value when first sealed. Used to ensure data integrity during storage on DLT.
- Hoarder** : The module responsible for writing audit data files onto DLT at pre-defined intervals.
- Retriever** : The module responsible for retrieving audit data from the buffer file where it is placed by Legato when requested by the Audit Workstation.
- Extractor**: **Retriever** brings back complete files or groups of files from the DLTs. Further work may be required to filter out unwanted

information, especially true of the TMS files, using a number of tools available on the Audit Workstation.

Legato : Legato Networker is the storage management application selected by Pathway to store and manage audit data onto DLTs.

A more complete explanation of these modules can be found in [2].

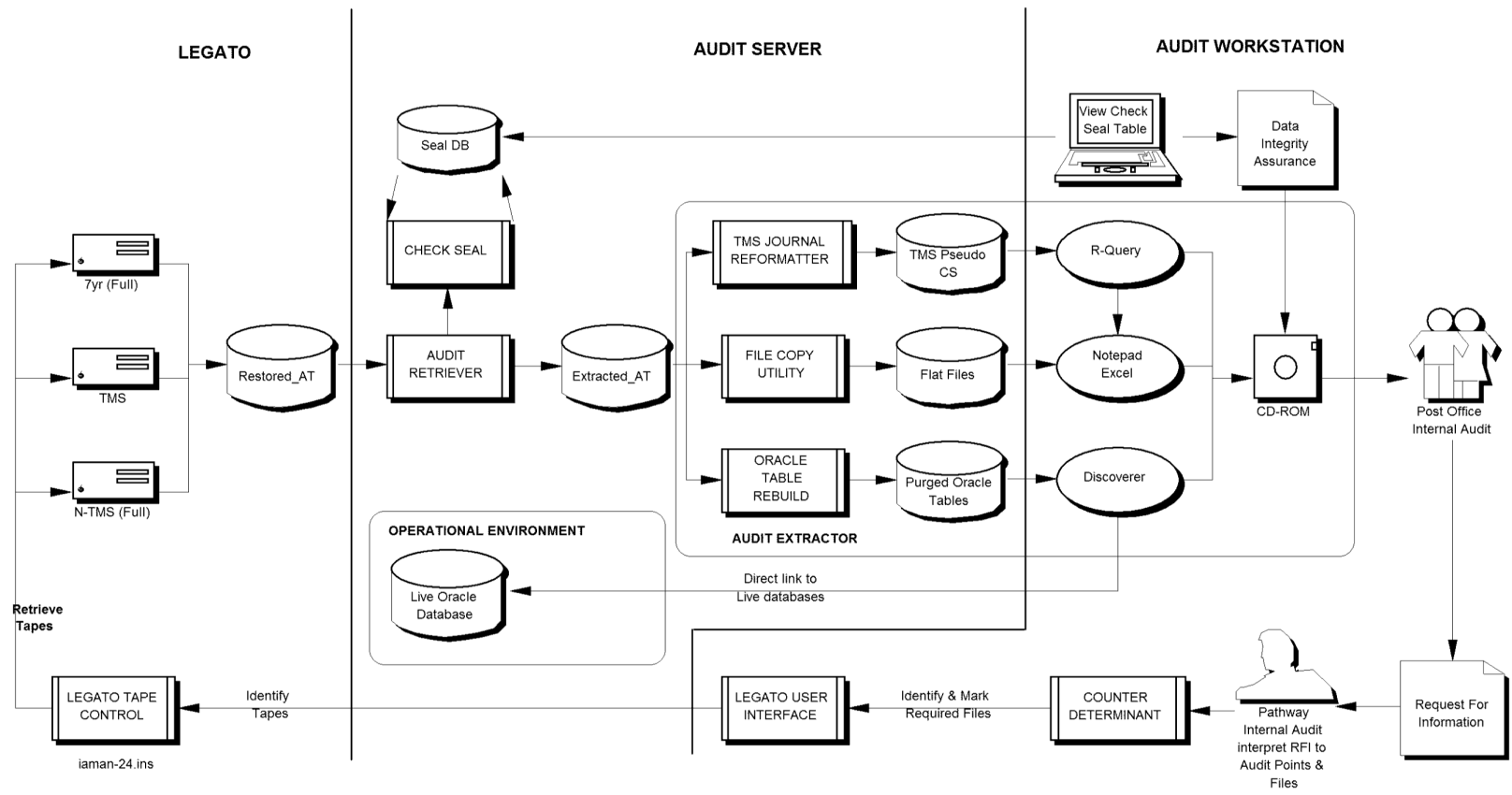
4 Audit Data Integrity

The integrity of audit data must be guaranteed at all times from its origination, storage and retrieval to subsequent despatch to the requester. Controls have been established to provide assurances to Post Office Internal Audit that this integrity is maintained.

During audit data extractions the following controls apply:

- a. Extractions can only be made through the three Audit Workstations, which exist at Feltham and the 2 Data Centres. These are all subject to rigorous physical security controls appropriate to that location. Specifically, the Feltham AW – where most extractions will take place – is located in a secure room subject to proximity pass access within a secured ICL site.
- b. Logical access to the AW and its functionality is controlled by dedicated Logins, password control and utilises the NT and Pathway security features defined in the overall Horizon security policy.
- c. All extractions are logged on the AW and supported by documented RFIs, authorised by nominated persons within POIA. This log can be scrutinised on the AW.
- d. Extractions will only be made by individuals previously notified to POIA. Currently this is limited to the Pathway Audit Manager. Any additions will be notified to POIA.
- e. Agreement has been reached with POIA regarding their rights to witness extractions without warning or to request repeat extractions that they can witness.
- f. Checksum seals are calculated for audit data files when they are written to DLT and re-calculated when the files are retrieved.

5 Retrieval Schematic



6 Overview

The process assumes that audit data has been Gathered, Sealed and Hoarded onto DLTs by the Audit Archive Server. Files will be one of three types :

- a. Flattened and compressed TMS Journals from the Correspondence Servers.
- b. Flattened Oracle tables output from regular OBCS database purging cycles.
- c. Transaction files to and from PO systems and their associated FTMS control files.

The process is invoked through the receipt of an RFI into Pathway Internal Audit. Expressed in business terms, the RFI must be interpreted into its component Audit Points and Sub-points. This then enables specific files to be identified which, through the Legato index, targets a specific DLT. Data is retrieved by the Audit Retriever, formatted as appropriate and then further Extracted against the RFI criteria. Depending on the extraction method the data can be extracted to standard MSOffice products before being placed onto CD-W or floppy disc for despatch to the RFI originator.

The following paragraphs present an overview of each step in the extraction process and are ordered to reflect the actual processing of a Request For Information (RFI) by ICL Pathway Internal Audit.

6.1 Request For Information

All POCL requests for audit data must be made via the Request For Information form. This will contain a description, in business terms, of the times, outlets, events, items activities and required Excel reporting format that the Auditors are interested in. This request has to be interpreted by Pathway Internal Audit and mapped onto the Audit Points and Files described later in this document.

Internal requests (e.g. from Pathway investigations personnel) will typically be in the form of an internal e-mail.

6.2 Marking Files and Tapes

Based on this interpretation as many files of audit data that are needed to satisfy the request are 'marked' for retrieval. Legato is notified of these files and it in turn identifies the DLTs containing these files. Legato provides system prompts for Operators to load tapes and it copies the data into a local buffer area.

6.3 Audit Track Retriever

Polls the Legato buffer area and retrieves any data files found into temporary disk storage (Export File) on the Archive Server prior to the extraction of relevant data for use by the auditors. The Retriever provides a second copy of the file which is input to the Check Seal function.

6.4 Audit Data Check Seal

To assure the integrity of the audit data while on the DLT the checksum seal for the file is re-calculated by the Audit Track Sealer and compared to the original value calculated when the file was originally written to the DLT. The result is maintained in a Check Seal Table.

6.5 Audit Trail Extractor

This is a facility that uses various tools to extract or reform the retrieved audit data in accordance with the RFI. It also places the information onto a CD-W, or other suitable media, for despatch to the RFI originator.

7 Retrieving & Extracting Audit Data

7.1 Receiving the RFI

a) All **POCL requests** for audit data extractions must come to Pathway Internal Audit in the form of a Request For Information. An example of this form can be found at Annex A. The RFI may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to Pathway.

RFIs will only be accepted from the following named individual :

Chris Paynter : PO Internal Audit : **GRO**

or one named delegate, to be confirmed in writing by POIA Internal Audit.

If other parts of the Post Office, or other organisations, require audit data extractions they must be channelled through POIA to Pathway Internal Audit at Feltham.

Contractual turnaround times for the provision of data apply.

b) **Internal requests are recorded in file AUD/1/3/2.** They should be logged to record the following information: Requester name, address, justification (e.g. PINICL no.) and their urgency assessed. Turnaround times are agreed rather than covered by contract; a reasonable turnaround time will probably be 5-10 days.

These requests will typically be in the form of an internal e-mail, allowing the requestor's identity to be verified. Requestors should state what media are acceptable (e.g. CD-W, email of WinZipped file up to 500kB) and are bound by company policy including over the despatch of confidential data. For TMS files - also referred to as "message store" or "Correspondence Server"- they should also specify the output file format(s): text, MS-Excel or MS-Access. (See Section 8 for more information).

7.2 Interpreting the RFI

It is necessary to interpret the RFI by identifying the audit points and sub points that generated the records that are required and, through the Audit Data Catalogue [3], the files produced at those audit points and sub points.

An Enquiry Catalogue of often requested extractions will accumulate which means that this part of the process would be simply about targeting the files by the date spread.

7.3 Login Audit Workstation

Carry out following procedure to Login and obtain necessary shares

1. Login : jho[RELEVANT]
2. Password : *****
3. Domain : PWYDCS

At this point the SecureID Authentication is invoked. See [4].

Carry out the following procedure to authenticate yourself as an authorised user

- | |
|---|
| 1. Enter passcode : <personal 6 digit PIN and 6 digit SecureID token display> |
|---|

The AW will present a blank desktop with a START icon in the bottom left of the screen. Using pullup <Programs> will reveal the extent of products available for any subsequent extraction work.

7.4 Preliminary Housekeeping

It is highly likely that an average RFI will need a significant number of files to satisfy it. To avoid the AW filestore becoming clogged with hundreds of files it is strongly recommended that a working directory is established on the AW to hold all files relevant to a particular RFI :

- | |
|--|
| 1. Select <Windows_NT_Explorer> from the drop down menu. |
| 2. Set up <New Folder> as D:\audit\RFI Reference No. |

7.5 Counter Determinant

Note that this step is only required if retrieving TMS Journal files.

It is recommended that this step is carried out BEFORE entering the Retrieval GUI.

The architecture of the Correspondence Server has Post Office outlets spread across 4 separate clusters. These clusters are separately archived thus it is necessary to identify the particular cluster that services the outlet, or outlets, for which audit data is being extracted.

- | |
|--|
| 3. Select <Counter_Determinant.CMD> from the C:\ drive |
| 4. Type 6 character FAD code <enter>. |
| 5. Type <ctrl & z> <enter> |
| 6. Cluster identity will be displayed. |
| 7. Note that multiple FAD codes can be entered at the same time. |

7.6 Targeting the Data Files

At this stage of the retrieval procedure the AWO can choose to use the Pathway Legato User Interface (Para 7.7), an ICL Pathway developed intelligent front end, or the standard Legato User Interface (Para 7.8). While there are no hard and fast rule around which interface to use the PLUI has obvious benefits when attempting to identify and mark a large number of files for retrieval.

Note that if you are using the standard Legato User Interface it is still necessary to register the RFI on the RFI database.

7.7 Using the Pathway Legato User Interface

The Audit Data Retrieval Service utilises a complex Graphical User Interface (GUI) to help identify and mark files and also associate those files with the originating RFI.

1. Select <Audit ExtractorClientStartup> from the <Shortcuts> folder.
2. At dialogue FORM1 select <Data Centre> required.
3. At dialogue AUDIT FILE EXTRACTOR enter <Requester> from drop down menu.
4. Select <New> if new RFI
5. Complete remaining selection fields :

<Date Received>	Mandatory	Date RFI received in Pathway.
<Date Required>	Mandatory	Date data required by requester.
<Catalogue Entry>	Optional	Enter search criteria into Search Catalogue
<Receipt Reference>	Mandatory	Original RFI reference
<Access Reason>	Mandatory	Reason for running retrievals
6. Select <Specify Selection Criteria>.
7. Complete remaining selection fields :

Time Period	<From date>	Mandatory	Start date of retrieval
	<To date>	Optional	End date of retrieval (assumes today)
File Source	<File name >	Optional	Wild card allowed
Wigan/Bootle	<Select from drop down>	Mandatory	
	<PO FAD>	Optional	FAD code for retrieval
	<Audit Point>	Optional	
	<Audit S Point>	Optional	
	<Tape Pool>	Optional	
8. Tick <Generate volume information with file list> if you wish to see the associated DLT names.
9. Select <Search for Files> or
<Save Selection Criteria> or
<Return to Menu>
10. A list of file names will be displayed in the response part of the dialogue
11. <Mark> the required files.
12. Select <Restore Selected Files>

It is highly unlikely that a single file will hold the information required by the RFI. Indeed, the broader the date spread or complexity of request the greater the number of files that will have to be retrieved from DLT.

7.8 Using the Standard Legato User Interface

The RFI must be registered on the RFI database before commencing the retrieval activity.

1. Select <Audit ExtractorClientStartup> from the <Shortcuts> folder.
2. At dialogue FORM1 select <Data Centre> required.
3. At dialogue AUDIT FILE EXTRACTOR enter <Requester> from drop down menu.
4. Select <New> if new RFI
5. Complete remaining selection fields :

<Date Received>	Mandatory	Date RFI received in Pathway.
<Date Required>	Mandatory	Date data required by requester.
<Catalogue Entry>	Optional	Enter search criteria into Search Catalogue
<Receipt Reference>	Mandatory	Original RFI reference
<Access Reason>	Mandatory	Reason for running retrievals
6. Select <Return to Menu>.
7. <Exit>

The default Legato approach, where the primary search index is the instance of a DLT hoard, does not allow for quick and easy identification of the required files. If files to be retrieved are spread across more than 1 hoarding instance then they have to be retrieved on a hoard instance basis. For example, if 3 hoarding instances happened in a day and all 3 contained files of interest to a particular RFI there would have to be 3 separate retrieval runs.

1. Select <Legato_Client_Bootle.CMD> from main program menu
2. Select <Directed Recovery> from <Operations> drop down menu
3. Confirm <mboarc01> as Source Client in dialogue. <OK>
4. Confirm <mboarc01> as Destination Client dialogue. <OK>

Note that Bootle is assumed as the primary retrieval location. There is no difference in the audit data held at each Data Centre. If Wigan is selected then the <Legato Wigan Client CMD> should be selected and <mwiarc01> used to confirm Source and Destination dialogues.

5. Select <Change Browse Time> from View drop down menu
6. Select appropriate date button
7. Select appropriate Hoard time (note 7:30p)
8. Locate files through Legato directory structure and naming convention [3]
9. <Mark> files using <✓> button on toolbar
10. Select <Recover Options> from Options drop down menu
11. Enter d:\Archiveserver\INTERFACES\RESTORED_AT into dialogue box
12. Select <traffic lights> button on toolbar

Note: The 'View Versions' facility on the Legato User Interface can be used to identify when hoardings took place.

7.9 Targeting the DLTs

Most Retrievals will be made from the TMS18Mnth and NonTMS18Mnth tape pools. DLTs in these pools are replaced every 5 days or when full and despatched to the DataVault (DV) offsite storage facility for safekeeping. Each file that is marked has an associated Volume Name and this must be notified to OSD if the DLT has already been sent to DV.

In order to achieve next day delivery OSD must be notified before 1200hrs. Emergency recoveries can be organised but these incur an extra charge and should be avoided where possible.

Requests must be submitted in the form of an 'OCP' – a MS-Word file. This can be emailed to the id: 'OSD Pathway SM'. An example is given as Annex B

Note: The 'View Versions' facility on the Legato User Interface can be used to identify whether the DLTs containing the data are in place.

For example, following the directory tree down as far as the 'TMS Pool' branch will show an entry 'TMS'. Highlighting this enables 'View Versions' to be used.

It may thus be possible to ensure that the DLT is retained on-site for long enough for the data to be extracted, minimising turnaround time.

7.10 Reformatting Retrieved Data

Before detailed extractions can take place using R-Query, Wordpad, Discoverer or other appropriate tools it is necessary to 're-format' the retrieved data into a format suitable for access. There are three options :

- a. TMS Re-formatter to rebuild a pseudo Correspondence Server.
- b. Winzip for flat files that were zipped prior to Hoarding.
- c. Oracle Table Re-formatter to rebuild Oracle tables.

7.10.1 Reformatting TMS Journals

Once the TMS Archive files have been deposited in EXTRACTED_AT they must be 'built' into a pseudo Correspondence Server for R-Query to access. Further filtering is available to restrict the number of Outlet records that are included in the re-build activity based on the original RFI.

This utility is invoked at the Data Centre. Before requesting prepare a text file containing the FAD codes to be included [fads.txt]. If all Outlets are to be included the text file should contain 'ALL'.

Notify DC Operator of file name and location and ask for <Restore_Audit_Data> to be run. It has a parameter that defines the date range :

```
Restore_Audit_Data -d 19990521:19990522 -f c:\temp\fads.txt
```

This module can be found in c:\Program Files\Pathway Agents on the Audit Server.

Requests must be submitted in the form of an 'OCP' – a MS-Word file. This can be emailed to the id: 'OSD Pathway SM'. Provide details of date range required and the FAD code(s) to be included. An example is given as Annex C

Note: Running this utility deletes the previously generated Correspondence Server in the working area.

Unzipping Zipped Flat Files

It is strongly recommended that files to be unzipped are transferred from the AS to the AW in their zipped state and unzipped on the AW. This can produce space savings of the order of 90%.

1. Select <Winzip.CMD> from main program Menu.
2. Select <Open> and identify zipped file through dialogue screen.
3. Select <Extract> and establish a new 'Unzipped' directory for unzipped datafiles.
4. Unzipped file will be placed into new Directory
5. Open unzipped files using the <Wordpad.CMD> utility from main program menu

7.10.2 Oracle Archive Tables

These are stored in text format.

7.11 Checking the Seals

When Legato recovers a file from DLT a copy is made and subjected to a re-calculation of the integrity seal. This value is compared to the original value on the Seal Database and an entry made in the Check Seal table of MatchOK, MatchNOTOK or MatchFAIL. This activity carries on independently of any further extraction or filtering activity on the part of the AW Operator.

1. Select <Microsoft_Access.CMD> from main program menu.
2. Using **File/Open Database...** open the share'd 'Audit_Seal_DB.mdb' database that exists on the mapped drive (F:)
3. A list of 4 database 'tables' will be displayed.
4. Position the mouse cursor on the **<QUERIES>** tab and click.
5. A list of 2 database 'queries' will be displayed.
6. Double click on the **<Seals Match Check – Normal>** icon.
7. You will obtain an extract of the data that is in the **<Check Seal Table>** of the database.
(Note: only 5 of the available fields from this table, will be displayed. These are:
Request ID Audit Track Match? On At
8. From this point on, all of the 'Access' facilities to: sort, filter, export to spread sheet etc. are available.
9. Should you need to examine the records in the 'No Initial track table' i.e. the exceptions, then you will have to double click on the 'Seals Match Check – Exceptions' icon.
10. You will obtain an extract of the data that is in the 'No Initial Track Table' of the database.
(Note: as above, only 5 of the available fields from this table, will be displayed. These are:
Request ID Audit Track Match? On At
11. From this point on, all of the 'Access' facilities to: sort, filter, export to spread sheet etc. are available.

7.12 Despatch of Audit Data

Despatch of the extract data is by the most appropriate means depending on the nature and volume of the extracted data, and subject to any special requests made on the RFI.

For **POCL requests**, the return part of the RFI should be completed with details of the media used for despatch as well as the date and time of despatch.

The Audit Data Extraction Database must be updated to record the date that the extraction activity was completed.

1. Select <CD_Writer_Software.CMD> from main program menu
2. Maximise dialogue box
3. Select files required in top dialogue box
4. Drag & drop to bottom dialogue box
5. When complete select **RED** dot <Red>
6. Save layout as RFI_id

The media is despatched to the POCL contact using Royal Mail Special Delivery. This ensures that a receipt is provided to Pathway confirming delivery.

For **internal requests**, it will usually be convenient to email the extracted data file to the recipient, although in the case of large files (>100kB) this is ideally done at the end of the working day. The alternative is to arrange despatch/collection with the recipient.

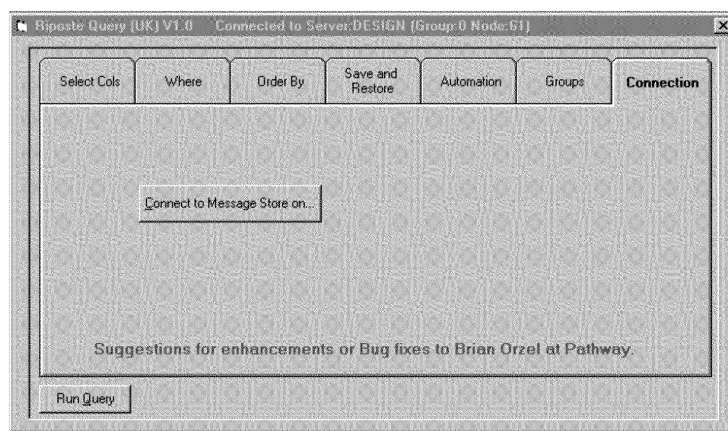
8 Introduction to R-Query

R-Query is an interrogation tool used to extract data from a Correspondence Server. It has powerful SQL type features which are used to define the extraction scenarios and the ability to output the results to standard MS-Office utilities.

It is a vital element in the Audit Workstation toolset and requires that a Correspondence Server exists on one of the Audit Servers. Details on how to achieve this pre-requisite can be found earlier in this procedure.

8.1 Invoking R-Query and Connecting to a Correspondence Server

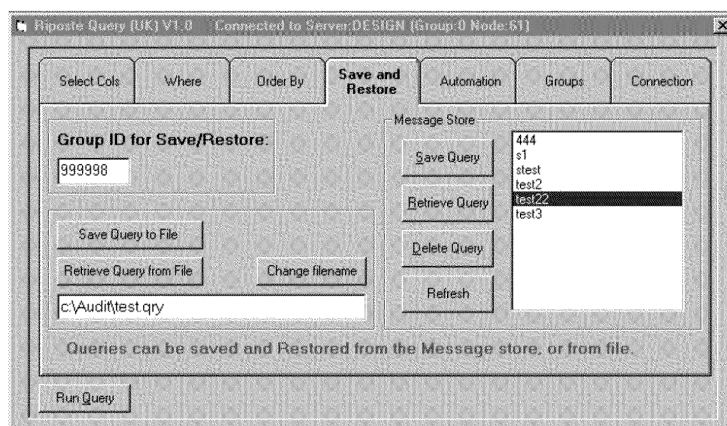
13. Select <Riposte-Query.CMD> from main program menu



1. Select <Connect to Message Store on>
2. When asked type <mboardc01> if connecting to Bootle AS or
3. <mwiarc01> if connecting to Wigan AS.
4. When asked to justify the usage of the system type <RFI Reference> See [1].
5. You will be automatically transferred to the <Save and Restore> Tab

8.2 Restoring Retrieval Scenarios

The <Save and Restore> dialogue provides the opportunity to restore scenarios that have already been scripted for further use.



Scenarios for re-use exist at two levels :

- Those that are associated with the current Correspondence Server.
- Those that have been saved to an external file or Catalogue.

Scenarios associated with the Correspondence Server exist only while that particular CS exists. If you believe that an extraction scenario is likely to be re-usable it's as well to remember that unless the scenario is saved to an external file it will not be available if a new CS is built for another retrieval exercise.

Use these steps to re-use scenarios associated with current Correspondence Server.

1. Go to <Message Store> window.
2. Select <Refresh> to list all scenarios associated with the current Correspondence Server.
3. Highlight the required scenario and select <Retrieve Query>.

OR

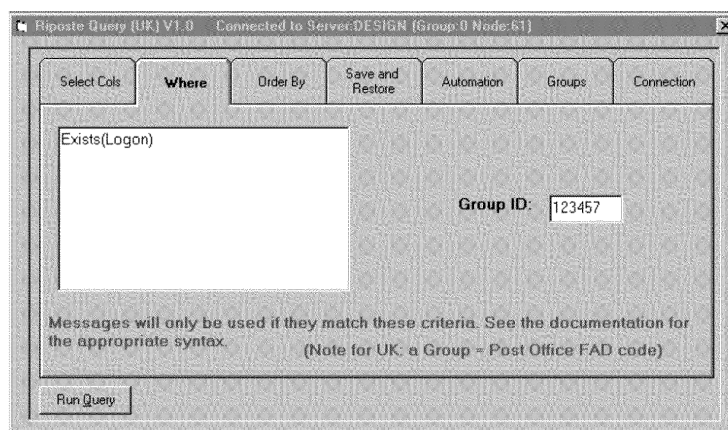
Use this step if retrieving scenarios from the Catalogue.

1. Locate stored scenario from the Catalogue via the <Retrieve Query from File> button using the <Change filename> to browse as required.

At this stage you will have retrieved the scenario complete with the parameter setting used on the last retrieval activity. If you want to change any of the parameters you will need to go to the <Where> tab.

Enter the required Post Office (FAD) code into the <Group ID:> field if it is not shown.

8.3 Changing Retrieval Parameters



Note that the current version provides significant amounts of assistance with regard to the structure of the query statement. An 'Examples' button allows search parameters to be retrieved and tailored (e.g.):

(Date DGE "29-May-2000") AND (Date DLE "01-Jun-2000")

for all dates between 29 May-1 June 2000.

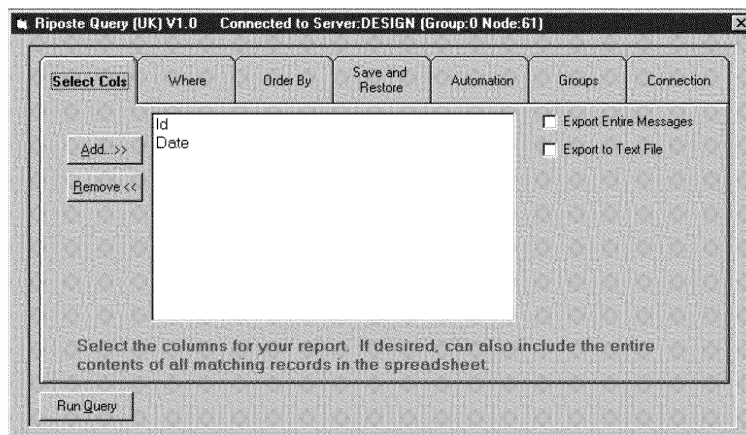
Date DEQ "31-May-2000"

for this day only.

Enter the required Post Office (FAD) code into the <Group ID:> field if it is not shown. If you want to change the TMS fields that will be visible following the retrieval you will need to go to the <Select Cols> Tab.

Note: Riposte Query can only work with one FAD code (GroupID) at a time. It will need to be run separately for each Post Office, remembering that by default it may delete the previous output file (see Section 8.7).

8.4 Selecting TMS Fields for Display



Note that the current version provides lists of available fields per Horizon application which can be selected by highlighting and pressing <Add>. Alternatively to reduce the numbers of fields displayed highlight field in the window and press <Remove>.

If you want to retrieve the entire message for your given selection parameters <Remove> all entries in the window and put a 'x' in the <Export Entire Messages> field.

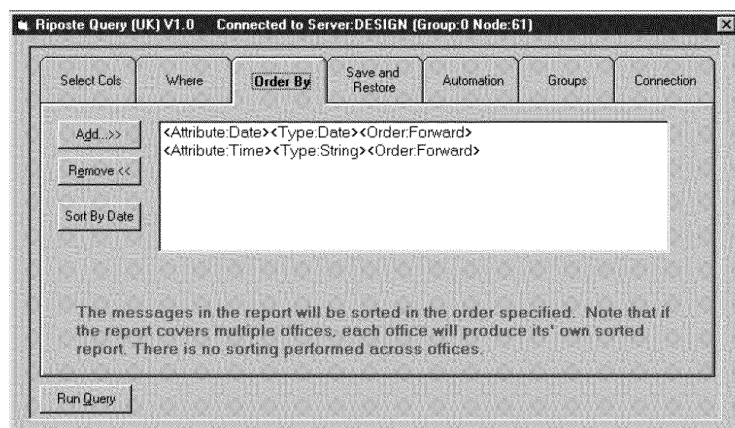
Optionally a field "Add CAP and BP rollover data" can also be checked.

You may now want to choose how the results of the retrieval will be presented. To do this go to the <Automation> Tab.

Note: For TMS extractions, "Export Entire Messages" will normally be checked; the field "GroupID" is typically the only one selected via the "Add" button, ensuring that all rows are linked to a FAD code in the output file.

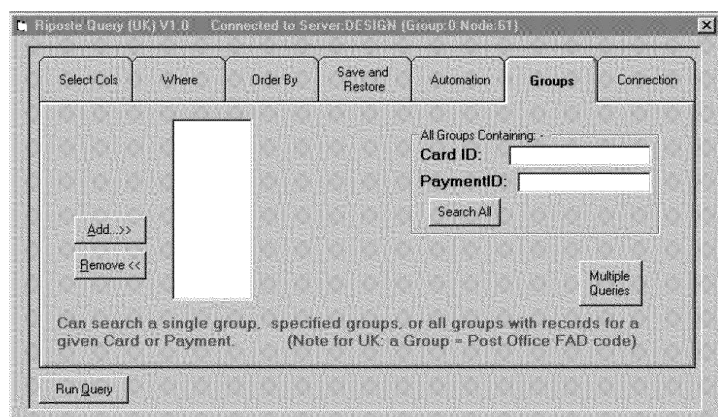
8.5 Order By Tab

Selecting the parameter “Sort By Date” is recommended to ensure ascending time sequence (where appropriate).

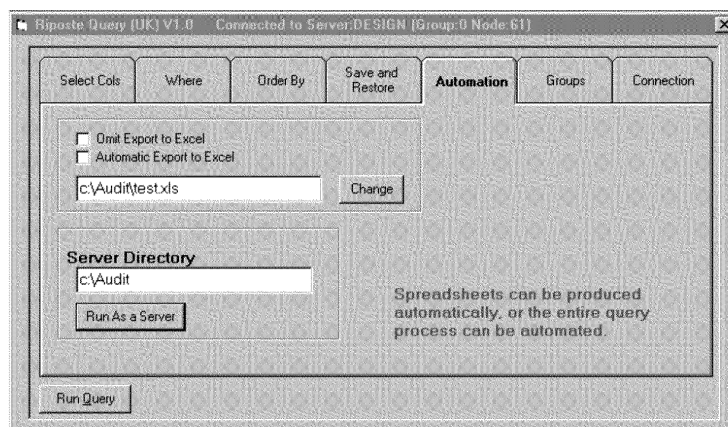


8.6 Groups Tab

The Groups tab on the R-Query tool is a remnant from the aborted Benefit Payment Card system. All of the fields should be blanked.



8.7 Select Output Medium



Note: By default a text output file is created as C:\Audit\test.txt. In the current version there is also an option to export to an MS-Access database (default name when selected: C:\Audit\test.mdb) and an Excel spreadsheet (default name when selected: C:\Audit\test.xls).

If you want to export the retrieved message to either an Excel spreadsheet or an Access database the enter 'x' in the <Automatic Export to Excel> or <Automatic Export to Access> field. Using the template.qry file found in d:\audit data gives the following report format:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Riposte Message Query (UK)						
2	Date:	06/01/97					
3	Time:	12:26:10 PM					
4	Group:	951641					
5							
6	Select:	Exists(Logon)					
7	Keys:	<Key: <Attribute:Date><Type:Date><Order:Forward>>					
8		<Key: <Attribute:Time><Type:String><Order:Forward>>					
9							
10	Date	Time	Logon				
11	23-Mar-97	15:24:02	SETUP01				
12	24-Mar-97	07:08:58	SETUP01				
13	24-Mar-97	10:38:30	SETUP01				
14	24-Mar-97	10:45:01	BBANT1				
15	24-Mar-97	12:20:18	BBANT1				
16	24-Mar-97	13:07:01	BBANT1				
17	24-Mar-97	13:59:05	BBANT1				
18	24-Mar-97	17:04:34	BBANT1				
19	25-Mar-97	08:12:04	BBANT1				
20	25-Mar-97	09:43:37	BBANT1				
21	25-Mar-97	10:28:52	BBANT1				

Details of the query statement used will appear on the spreadsheet and this provide the evidence to POIA of the search criteria used, in other words, how their RFI has been interpreted.

8.8 Running the Query

Normally you would not actually execute the retrieval scenario until such time as you had built the query statement (Section 8.3), selected the fields (Section 8.4) and chosen the output medium (Section 8.7). However, at any time in this sequence you can run the query statement by selecting <Run Query> using the button on the "Connection" tab screen.

Enter the required Post Office (FAD) code into the <Group ID:> field if it is not shown.

Once this has been done an intermediate screen will be displayed, allowing the file format to be confirmed – select the <Excel> or <Access> buttons or the "text" icon, as appropriate to commence loading the package and complete the data transfer. This will also allow the data format to be checked on-screen.

Note: In the case of very large Correspondence Server files spanning a number of days, an error may be generated on trying to save an Excel file. This will be because the maximum number of rows (records) has been exceeded. Should this occur, the range of dates should be covered, say one or two days at a time, and a number of output files generated.

In rare cases it will theoretically be possible to produce a text output file that is too big to be read by Wordpad. Should this occur, a possible response is to produce output files for a smaller range of dates, or to initially create data as an Excel working file which you can 'Save As' "Text, OS/2 or MS-DOS".

It is good practice to check that all output files can be opened before they are copied to floppy disk or CD-W for onward transmission.

A Annexes

- A Example RFI form – for POCL contact use
- B Example OCP form – tape reload request (page for data extraction user to complete)
- C Example OCP form – Correspondence Server rebuild (ditto)

(Three unnumbered pages follow)