
From: Pinder Brian[/O=ICL/OU=UKSOUTH FEL01/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=PINDERB]
Sent: Thur 08/12/2005 1:07:03 PM (UTC)
To: Jenkins Gareth GI [GRO]
Subject: RE: Marine Drive - Security Confidential

Gareth

F.Y.I.

This is the response I intend to send to Graham re your question if thats OK

Comments from Gareth Jenkins:

If there have been human errors in recording the transactions, could an explanation be that:

(a) There was nothing wrong with Horizon, because it simply reflected the information entered on to it; but

This is certainly True (ie Horizon simply reflects the information entered into it).

(b) If staff entered the wrong numbers into Horizon there may have been no real loss (even though Horizon would show a loss), because there could be a human error in accurately recording transactions.

Again, this could be True. However if there is some sort of miss-entering of data into Horizon, then there would be another corresponding error which should be picked up eg as a Stock Error or some AP Client being credited with an incorrect amount. Also, any such error should show up as part of the Balancing Process.

If so, would that be a likely explanation?

Not able to comment on this.

Gareth Jenkins
Distinguished Engineer
Applications TDA
Post Office Account

From: Jenkins Gareth GI
Sent: 08 December 2005 08:26
To: Pinder Brian
Subject: RE: Marine Drive - Security Confidential

Brian,

I have been asked by the Fraud Investigation Team to answer several questions, to assist an enquiry regarding a PO employee (sub postmaster) alleging that the Horizon System may have lost his money. I can manage 5 of the 6 questions but wonder if you could explain or provide an answer or opinion to the following question, the answers are being directed back to Graham to formalise our response.

If there have been human errors in recording the transactions, could an explanation be that:

(a) There was nothing wrong with Horizon, because it simply reflected the information entered on to it; but

This is certainly True (ie Horizon simply reflects the information entered into it).

(b) If staff entered the wrong numbers into Horizon there may have been no real loss (even though Horizon would show a loss), because there could be a human error in accurately recording transactions.

Again, this could be True. However if there is some sort of miss-entering of data into Horizon, then there would be another corresponding error which should be picked up eg as a Stock Error or some AP Client being credited with an incorrect amount. Also, any such error should show up as part of the Balancing Process.

If so, would that be a likely explanation?

It is a possible explanation, but without doing a detailed analysis of everything that has gone on in the Branch it is difficult to speculate as to what has happened. Certainly the most likely explanation is miss-operation or Fraud. However I appreciate that that is not sufficient for a prosecution. Without understanding what exactly is being alleged, (by POL and the sub-postmaster), I don't feel I can add anything further.

I have spoken with Dave Baldwin on this and he recommended I speak with you, I will also be liasing with him on my final response as we are fundamentally of the opinion that Horizon does not "eat money" merely accounts for it placement.

This is obviously urgent and a quick response would be appreciated.

Hope this helps. Happy to discuss further if you want to look at some more specific areas of Horizon.

Regards

Gareth

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