

Message

From: Chris Aujard [GRO]
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CHRISTOPHER AA0452485-80B7-40D2-ADE7-6F6FEAE19CC3F88]
Sent: 29/05/2014 18:25:32
To: Paula Vennells [GRO]
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Paula.vennells8c63d283-a511-46c3-a93e-dc6f2ae7a78d]; Martin Edwards
[GRO]
Edwards1f838e9d3-cc99-4040-b432-33552e99ed2ddd]; Alwen Lyons [GRO]
GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Alwen.lyons648ee5c4-f2a8-40e2-9f55-1b9b1e4f6d52]; Julie
George [/O=MMS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Julie
Georgee2337f53-5bc7-4902-bf28-7f244bd4e4082ce]; Rodric Williams [GRO]
GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Rodric.Williamse9c114f4-b03f-4595-b082-ce89be5c79d47b]
CC: Chris Aujard [/O=MMS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP
(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=Christopher Aa0452485-80b7-40d2-ade7-6f6feae19cc3f88]
Subject: FW: Project Zebra

Dear all – following the 2 longish calls that I have had with Deloitte today, they have now come back in the email below with a revised statement of the “deliverable” that they are proposing to produce for us. From my read of matter, it looks basically OK, but I would be interested in feedback (especially from Rod). If the general consensus is that it is OK, I would propose to ask Alwen to circulate the email to the Board with following message from me:

Dear all – as was trailed last Friday, Deloitte have been running significantly behind schedule in the production of their report for the Board. A further draft version of it was produced on Bank Holiday Monday, but unfortunately (and despite the involvement of additional partner from the forensic team and verbal assurances to the contrary) the document produced was both opaque and failed properly to address the “exam questions” they had been set. The matter was accordingly escalated further within Deloitte this week and in consequence they have now agreed to re-work the document into a more succinct “Board Briefing” note, addressing head on the alleged failings in the system. The email setting out their approach is set out below.

The situation is far from satisfactory and Deloitte are in no doubt that they have significantly blotted their copy book. They are also suggesting they need until Wednesday next week to finish the job, which again we are pushing back on, hard. That said, we felt it important to let the Board know where matters stand currently, and the reasons for the delay. I should add that there is no suggestion from Deloitte that there is somehow something “wrong” with the system, or that it is not fit for purpose, rather our experience is that their internal review partner approach is such that any positive (and helpful) statements that are made in early drafts are edited out before the draft is released to us.

I am very sorry to be the bearer of the news of yet another delay.

Regards

Chris

From: James, Gareth (UK - Manchester) [GRO]
Sent: 29 May 2014 18:37
To: Chris Aujard; Rodric Williams; Julie George
Cc: Whitton, Andrew J (UK - London); Noon, David A (UK - London); White, Ian (UK - Leeds); Tantam, Mark (UK - London)
Subject: Project Zebra

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Chris,

Further to our conversations today, I wanted to confirm the next steps we propose to take regarding Project Zebra. These seek to create a shorter document for you (intended for Board circulation) which focusses on certain key (and most relevant) aspects of our wider work to date.

This "Board Briefing" document will focus on the four questions we agreed by phone, being:

1. What comfort can be taken that Horizon only allows complete transactions (baskets) to be processed?
2. What comfort can be taken that the transactions completed in Horizon are 'digitally sealed', to protect their integrity and make it evident if they have been tampered with?
3. What comfort can be taken that Horizon's Audit Store maintains and reports from a complete and unchanged record of all sealed baskets?
4. What comfort can be taken that Horizon provides visibility to sub-postmasters of all centrally generated transactions processed to their Branch ledgers?

For each of the above questions, we will:

- List those relevant high level system design and process control features that we identified in documentation provided to us;
- Describe the facts relating to the extent and nature of the Assurance Work we have seen;
- State what additional work could be undertaken to increase the level of comfort.

Our comments will be framed in the context and limitations of our work.

We estimate that this deliverable will take until close of play on Wednesday next week to produce and issue through our review and signoff activities.

Please confirm that these points of focus are an accurate view of the next steps discussed this afternoon.

Thanks and regards

Gareth

Gareth James

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