

# January 2013 Traditional ACS™ Required Change Q & A

1. What do I need to **change** on my Traditional ACS mailpiece?  
Only the Service Type ID (STID) that describes your requested service. It will be a number in the 500 or 600 series that corresponds to the service and option you choose.
2. What **doesn't change** on my Traditional ACS mailpiece?  
Everything else on the piece and the other elements in the barcode stay the same – your return address, postage indicia, printed Ancillary Service Endorsement, the Traditional ACS Participant ID and (optional) keyline in the address block delimited by # signs. Delivery of the records remains the same. Even the other four elements of the barcode stay the same, only the Service Type ID must change. No more 080, 082, etc.
3. **When** do I need to make this change?  
For consistent results, make the change between January 27<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you don't convert to the new STIDs at that time, when the software in the plants begins to upgrade in March, you could get the information in the OneCode ACS format from the unconverted sites, and may not get the ancillary service you really want from them.
4. There are STIDs for Full Service with Traditional ACS records. Does that mean Traditional ACS now qualifies for the Full Service free ACS?  
No. Traditional records cost the same - they are not eligible for free Full Service ACS. These STIDs allow Traditional ACS requesters to receive Full Service postage discounts when they meet the Full Service requirements.
5. What will happen to the STIDs I used before?  
Those STIDs still apply to the OneCode ACS or Full-Service ACS choices.
6. For a Periodical or Standard Flat using the new traditional ACS STID, must the Ancillary Service Endorsement (ASE) must still appear on the piece?  
**For any class or shape except Periodical**, Traditional ACS requires the ASE and Participant ID and optional keyline as always. Periodicals do not require an ASE.
7. When using the new traditional ACS STID, does the participant code need to appear on the piece?  
Yes, along with the optional keyline if it applies.
8. Do I need to change my current MID or is a new MID required when using the new Traditional ACS STID(s)?  
No, this change makes that unnecessary – a mailer can choose any service with the same MID.
9. Is there a difference in the way the data is returned when using the new Traditional ACS STID(s)?  
The Traditional ACS format has not changed.
10. How long has the EPF system been in place for Traditional ACS users?  
For the last 18 months, EPF has been in place. RIBBS is for posted information only.
11. If the client would choose to receive all manuals and not participate in Traditional ACS, must they close their ACS account?  
No, they continue to have the option to use

Traditional later, but a certain time frame of inactivity could cause their account to go inactive, and eventually be closed for nonuse.

12. Is there a way the client can get some training from the USPS on accessing and using Traditional ACS return data? **There are several guides that can be found at: [https://ribbs.usps.gov/acs/documents/tech\\_guides/](https://ribbs.usps.gov/acs/documents/tech_guides/)**
13. Will there be any effect on mailers who use Traditional ACS as a backup for OneCode or Full Service in case the barcode cannot be read? **No. Mailers using Traditional ACS as a backup will not change to the Traditional STIDs, they will continue to request OneCode or Full Service ACS using those existing STIDs.**
14. Do the OneCode and Full Service STIDs change in January? **No. Those STIDs are not required to change by the Postal Automated Redirection System (PARS) upgrade beginning in March. The change to the Traditional STIDs is the only required change related to the new software.**