

United States Postal Service®

INDUSTRYALERT

July 11, 2017

Discontinued Support for File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

REMINDER: Only 6 weeks left to convert to a Secure Transmission Method. Effective August 31, 2017, the United States Postal Service (USPS) will discontinue support for File Transfer Protocol (FTP) for mailers to send and/or receive shipping files and data through the Product Tracking & Reporting (PTR) system. Mailers using FTP to send and/or receive shipping files and data through PTR will need to set up a secure transmission method utilizing one of the methods below:

Option1 - Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)

SFTP is a secure connectivity option available to exchange files using USPS's SFTP server (or if the customer prefers, their own SFTP server). We support SFTP login using Key Authentication or username/password. USPS prefers AES or 3DES algorithms if you choose to encrypt your data using PGP (Pretty good privacy). We also support key login using OpenSSL keys rather than username/password login. Mailers must complete trading partner setup through our Data Transfer Services (DTS) group. Allow at least 30 days to complete this setup. For additional information refer Publication 199, Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (IMpb) Implementation Guide for Confirmation Services and Electronic Verification System (eVS) Mailers, Section 6 Communications, 6.1 Transmission methods, "SFTP" at

https://ribbs.usps.gov/intelligentmail_package/documents/tech_guides/PUB199IMPBImpGuide.pdf.

Option2 - Electronic Data Interchange Internet Applicability Standard 2 (EDIINT AS2)

This option requires that the Business Partner use an EDIINT AS2 capable software product. Mailers must complete trading partner setup through our Data Transfer Services (DTS) group. Allow at least 30 days to complete this setup. For additional information refer Publication 199, Intelligent Mail Package Barcode (IMpb) Implementation Guide for Confirmation Services and Electronic Verification System (eVS) Mailers, Section 6 - Communications, 6.1 Transmission methods, "EDIINT AS2" at

https://ribbs.usps.gov/intelligentmail_package/documents/tech_guides/PUB199IMPBImpGuide.pdf.

Option3 - Parcel Data Exchange (PDX)

Parcel Data Exchange (PDX) is a web services application that interfaces between the USPS's PTR system and Customers to provide data transfer services. Customers can use this secure method to upload manifest files and receive scan event extract files. For additional information refer the PDX Online user guides on RIBBS at

https://ribbs.usps.gov/evs/documents/tech_guides/pubs/PDXOnlineUserGuide.PDF.

Mailers using a USPS certified software vendor or a third party service provider, should contact them to determine the secure connectivity options available or consult your internal technical team prior to contacting the USPS.

Please contact the USPS Confirmation Services Technical Support Team with the selected option at delivery.confirmation@usps.gov or (877) 264-9693. If contacting via email please provide contact name, title, company name, email address and phone number.

For additional information, reference the FTP Fact Sheet posted on PostalPro at <https://postalpro.usps.com/node/3636>.

In addition:

Effective September 30, 2017, USPS will no longer support FTP for mailers enrolled in IMb Tracing or Informed Visibility (IV).

Migrations will be performed in two steps: First, IMb Tracing customers will be migrated to IV once the pilot is complete. That date will be shared with the impacted users when it is available. Then, IV participants will also need to transition to Secure FTP once they have migrated from IMb Tracing.

Migration documentation is available on both PostalPro and RIBBs under Informed Visibility (<https://postalpro.usps.com/visibility-and-tracking/informed-visibility-iv>), and the Informed Visibility Help Desk can be contacted at InformedVisibility@usps.gov.

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