PLANET/ACS
Project Charter

Project Information

Project Title:	PLANET/ACS
Project Approval Date:	24 July 2003
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Project Summary:

Return to Sender (RTS) mail that currently arrives at a CFS site is handle manually to sort the reason for return, NIXIE or COA. The NIXIE mail is also sorted by reason. The mail that is identified as ACS endorsed is also separated for the special handling. PLANET-ACS is designed to take advantage of the codes embedded in both the PLANET code and the DPBC. If the mailers will uniquely identify their mail pieces within the PLANET Code, then a scanning of that PLANET Code will identify the mailer for the information to be sent to, and provide him with an electronic file that identifies the mail piece and the reason for non delivery. CFS trigger cards could automatically change the reason when the hand sort by reason is complete. The file could be automatically sent at the end of the day to each mailer that had codes within PLANET. Changes of address could also be automated by using the same bar code scanner to scan the PLANET code to get the mailer ID and the unique mail piece ID then scan the new DPBC. The USPS would again provide an ACS style electronic file. The disposition of the mail piece will have already been determined by the Mailer ID code in the PLANET Bar code and the attributes within the Universal Mailer File. Further enhancements may be in Phase II where the CFS Extract code could be pre-keyed through the scanned information or a list of prospective COA's be shown for selection.

Project Vision:

PLANET/ACS will provide mailers with ACS information with only a PLANET code and a DPB Code.

Project Mission

PLANET/ACS must validate the assumption that current Bar Codes can be read and interpreted by current Postal Infrastructure to handle mail in accordance with Mailer's wishes through automation.

Project Goals:

1) Conduct a Pilot test at a plant with a major mailer
2) Develop software to read the combination of PLANET Code and Delivery Point Bar Codes.
3) Align process and concept to be a part of PARS for nationwide adoption.