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Transition to TRACS 202C and iMAX

It is worth reiterating the current timeline and requirements for this transition.

iMAX transition from TRACSMail

The current TRACSMail email system will be kept running through the last day of February, 2009. Starting on March 1, all files sent to CAs or TRACS must be sent using iMAX. Remember that iMAX is a Web based system—not an email program. To use it you must have:

- Web access
- A secure systems WASS ID and password
- Your current TRACSMail ID and password. This does not change from what you now have and you will need both the WASS ID and TRACSMail ID to access iMAX.

If you do not already have a WASS ID and password, you should get one immediately. We are already hearing of delays due to the last minute rush. To register for an ID, go to https://hudapps.hud.gov/public/wass/public/participant/partreg_page.jsp. If you have a WASS coordinator for your company, speak to him or her first.

If you obtained your WASS ID after September 29, you will need to contact the HUD Help Desk at 1-800-767-7588 or e-mail them at tracs@hud.gov. You should ask to have your ID validated for web services authentication for iMAX. If you had an ID before that date, you should be all set to use iMAX.

All IPM products will handle iMAX transmissions in the same way that they handle TRACSMail. The only difference is that you will be required, due to HUD security concerns, to enter your WASS ID and password each time you send and receive files.

There is also a manual way to send and receive files through iMAX by picking the iMAX option after going to the WASS web site. Please do not use this option unless instructed to do so by IPM Client Care personnel. Our iMAX utility, built into our software, will take care of things for you.

TRACS 202C transition from 202B

The current plan is for TRACS to accept files in the old 202B format through the last day of March, 2009. Note that this date is one month after TRACSMail is discontinued. Given that CAs need time to process and retransmit files, they may set a slightly earlier deadline for 202B. This could be sometime around March 20.

Up through that date, you are free to send either 202B or 202C files to CAs or to TRACS. This means that, for a Section 8 property, you could conceivably submit your April voucher in 202B format if you beat this deadline. In practice, the May voucher is the first one that must be in the new 202C format.

After the end of March all of your certification and voucher files must be in the 202C format.

IPM-Software 202C and iMAX Updates

We are currently testing our 202C updates for HUDControl and CornerStone. You will receive your update in time to meet the HUD deadlines.

Using the WASS System

For more information about using the WASS System, please refer to sections 3 and 4 of the WASS User's Manual, available at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/reac/products/wass/files/wum.pdf>