

ACK Roll-Out Manager

1. Introduction

This document is an overview of the Roll-Out Manager to be used by ACK partners for initial roll-out of an ACK EFT estate.

Objectives:

- i) To provide a mechanism whereby the configuration parameter files required by the ACK software (ACKTerm / ECP) running at point of sale may be configured, stored and managed at a central location for later distribution.
- ii) To provide a mechanism whereby the configuration parameter files required by the chip card reader and PIN pads (TACs and AIDs etc) used at point of sale may be configured, stored and managed at a central location for later distribution.

Meeting the objective:

The objective is met by the ACK Roll-Out Manager which provides a mechanism to generate XML files for each instance of ACKTerm/ECP Standalone or Winsock Server which also contains the configuration parameters for the chip and PIN devices.

A program suite has been developed using a Jet Engine (Access) database which permits individual store details from which an export function creates the parameter files required for each site within an estate.

The fundamental components provided are:

ACKMM - the ACK Maintenance Manager allows a master XML file to be configured as a template.

A data-input facility that permits store-specific and estate-wide details to be entered for all ACK components throughout the estate. This is currently a Visual Basic application front-ending a Jet Database engine.

Chip and PIN device parameters:

In addition to ACK specific configuration details, the usefulness and value of the roll-out manager is further enhanced by the set the configuration parameters used by the chip+PIN devices, including the following data:

- ? Terminal Action Codes
- ? Application IDs

2. Development Environment

The Roll-out Manager has been developed in Microsoft Visual Basic 6, using Jet database storage. The target runtime environment is Win32 (i.e. Win 2000, XP).

3. Master XML File

A master configuration template which contains parameters common throughout the estate is created using the ACK Maintenance Manager (AckMM) which writes them to a master XML configuration file (called AckLtd.xml).

4. Naming Convention

Each branch in the estate will be given a unique name up to 6 characters long. The format of this name is not enforced, provided it is unique for each branch. Typically it will be a 4 digit number. This unique name will be used as a “key” field in the database. Each branch will then be allocated a unique till number up to 2 digits long (0 – 99). The XML file name for each till will be a concatenation of the branch name and till number.

5. Parameters that Vary By Branch

5.1. Merchant ID (MID)

5.2. Scheme

The default scheme parameters will be controlled by the master XML configuration. However, a mechanism to “override” a particular scheme configuration at the branch level will be provided. Available overrides as follows

5.2.1. Enable/Disable

5.2.2. Multiple Use Limit

5.2.3. Consecutive Use Limit

5.2.4. One-In-N Interval

5.2.5. Transaction Floor

5.2.6. Transaction Ceiling

5.2.7. Merchant Number

6. Parameters that Vary By Till (or ECP WinSock Server)

6.1. Terminal ID (TID)

6.2. ECP License

The roll-out manager will apply the appropriate license based on the prefix of the configured TID of the Till.