



PCC OTC Bulletin

August 7, 2006

POS 5.1 Software Released

The Release 5.1 POS software is now available. A controlled rollout will occur. The Standard Operating Procedures for Release 5.1 are available for download on the PCC OTC static website at: <https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/Downloads/r51downloads.htm>. The upgrade can be downloaded from the ELVIS system utilizing our Centralized Deployment feature. Installing the upgrade will take approximately 30 minutes, depending on your computer's speed.

Agencies will be contacted via telephone directly by the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland to establish a date for the software upgrade.

What's New for POS?

Some of the enhancements you should expect to find with POS Release 5.1 are:

Batch Scanning

In POS Release 5.1, Agencies can choose to process their checks in one of two processing modes, single or batch mode. The 'Single Check Mode' allows checks to be processed one at a time, as they were handled in previous versions of the POS. The new 'Batch Mode' allows checks to be continuously scanned into the check scanner without inputting the data information until the last check is scanned. Once the last check is scanned into the system the operator will input the corresponding data for each check. The Batch Mode processing will only work with the EC7000i scanners. If you would like to purchase an EC7000i scanner to take advantage of this new feature, please send an email to the PCC OTC mailbox at pccotc@clev.frb.org.

Check Franking for the EC7000i scanners

The EC7000i scanners are now capable to 'Frank' checks which automatically stamps the words, "Electronically Presented" onto each check at the end of the transaction. This will save the operators from having to manually apply the text with a rubber stamp as they do today.

MICR Codeline Correction for Erroneous Scans

Release 5.1 incorporates a MICR codeline correction for erroneous scans. Authorized users can correct characters within the MICR line of the check when incorrectly interpreted by the scanner. This feature should allow for a greater percentage of your items to be processed in PCC OTC, possibly eliminating the need to deposit items through your authorized Treasury's General Account (TGA) depository. Please note that this feature is not available to correct items that the scanner successfully reads.

Image Quality Edits

Image quality edits are performed on each check. If the check passes the image quality test, item processing continues. If the check fails the image, i.e., (too dark, too light, etc.) the operator has the opportunity to rescan the check, accept the check as is (this option is not advisable), or cancel the transaction.

Enhanced Duplicate Check Detection

If the POS detects a duplicate item within a batch, or between batches (based on previously processed and stored batches on the same PC), a prompt appears requesting that the operator resolve the issue. Duplicate checks are determined and detected if the MICR and the check amount match those of another check. Retention of batches allows duplicate check detection for many batches instead of just one batch.

Batch Control/Balancing Options

Authorized individuals can choose configuration settings to make batch control optional or mandatory at either the start of the batch, or at batch close. As an example, the batch control screen, if used, will require the operator to input the total dollar amount and count of the items within a batch. The operator can obtain a tally from the source documents. This can be as simple as an adding machine tape of the associated Agency paperwork that is received with the checks. The batch control figure and the POS batch totals are balanced against each other and, if out of balance, the operator needs to correct the error. The use of this feature can help Agencies to ensure that the batches are balanced against source documents prior to being transmitted for item collection. This feature may catch POS transpositions or data entry errors that frequently occur.

If you have any questions regarding the upgrade to Release 5.1, please contact the PCC OTC Customer Service at the phone numbers or email address listed at the bottom of this bulletin.

*Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
PCC OTC Customer Service
PO Box 6387
Cleveland, OH 44101
Tel 800-624-1373 or 216-579-2112
DSN: 510-428-6824, press 4, then 5, then 4
Fax: 216-579-2813
email: pccotc@clev.frb.org
<https://www.pccotc.gov/pccotc/index.htm>*

