



Tote Integration across regions

WORLD TOTE ASSOCIATION WEBINAR

NOVEMBER 15, 2022

J CURTIS LINNELL, THOROUGHBRED RACING PROTECTIVE BUREAU

Tote Integration across regions

- ▶ History in North America
- ▶ General Principals of Tote Security
- ▶ Standards for Tote Integration
- ▶ Standard Files to all Totes
- ▶ TRPB Wagering Analysis and Security Platform
- ▶ Technical Initiatives by North American Totes
- ▶ World Pool Discussion

Tote Integration across regions

- ▶ Inter Tote System Protocol (ITSP)
- ▶ Limited common pooling “B” pool
- ▶ In the US, pari-mutuel betting was under State law, however cross-state commingled pools covered by Interstate Horse Racing Act (IHRA). Host association, both regulators (host & guest) & horsemen's group all cited in the act.
- ▶ In Canada, pari-mutuel betting is under Federal law, however Provinces had the right to tax betting in their own jurisdiction. Solution: net pool pricing

Tote Integration

- ▶ North America had multiple Tote Sources
- ▶ Protocol necessary for all these Tote Sources in commingled pools
- ▶ Inter Tote System Protocol (ITSP) was developed
- ▶ ITSP is a betting command & pools protocol
- ▶ 5.13 followed by 5.14 etc.
- ▶ UTC was adopted as the system time for all Totes
- ▶ Forum to open up ITSP for development with participation by all Totes
- ▶ International Tote Protocols Group
- ▶ ITSP 7

Security & Control – Tote protocols

- ▶ First Principal: Host in Control
- ▶ Typically Race Host = Pari-Mutuel Host
- ▶ On initial link between Guest & Host, events, takeout rates, betting interests, etc. are all communicated and must match for connection to proceed
- ▶ Host determines final pools, prices race, and makes race official

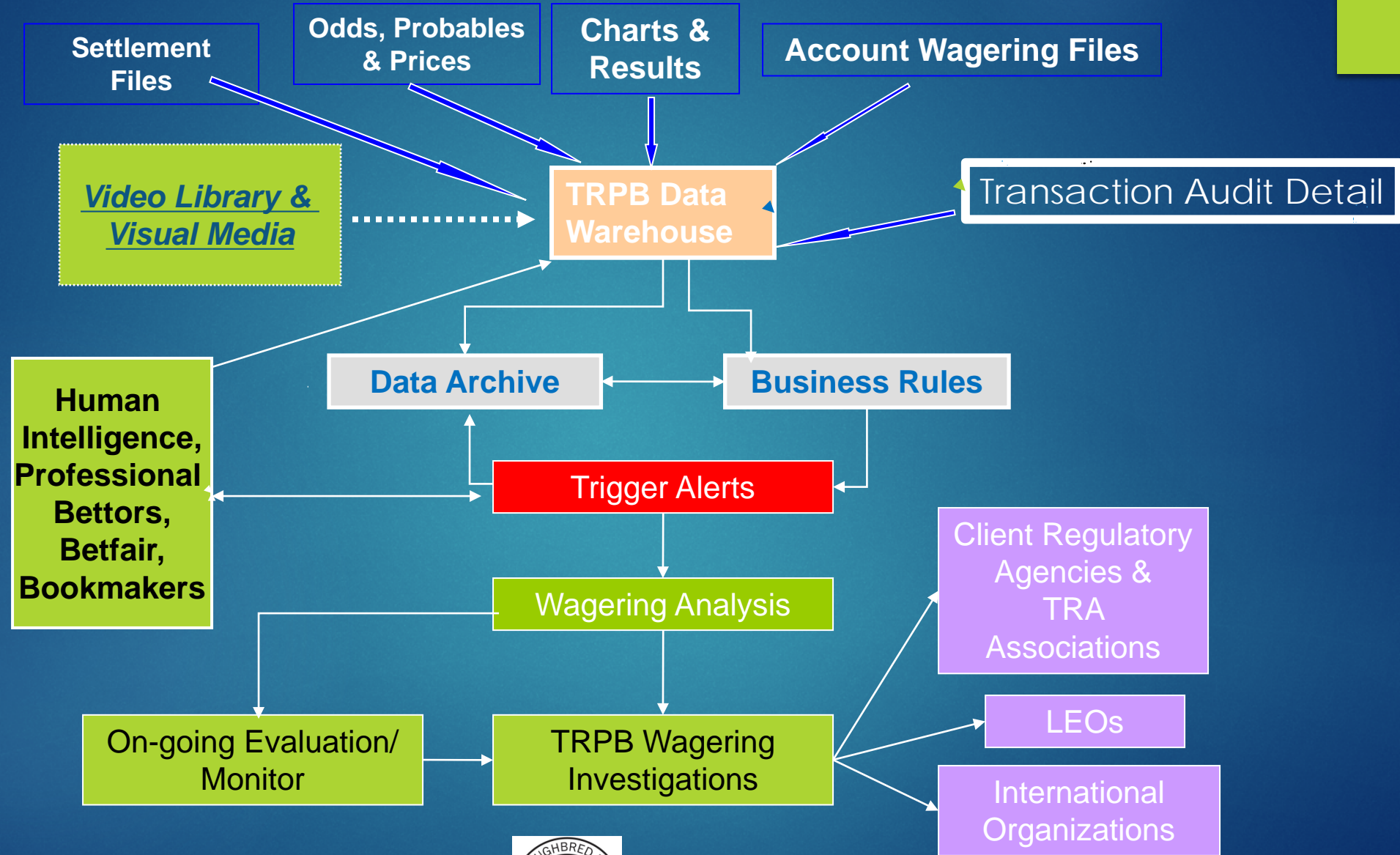
Standards required for Tote Integration

- ▶ Source Codes – every Tote has a code known to every other Tote
- ▶ Event Codes – every pari-mutuel event is known
- ▶ Customer Codes – every location has a code that connects to a source in the betting of an event
- ▶ The requirements for set of Codes initially established at the TRA1995 committee meeting, hence the TRA Codes
- ▶ CHRIMS agreed to host the process for requesting codes and the website to display codes at www.chrims.com
- ▶ TRPB approves Code Requests
- ▶ High rate of compliance

Standard Development files supporting Tote Integration

- ▶ TRA Settlement File – event location & event at end of session
- ▶ TRA Account Wagering File – every ADW company summarizes handle down to postal code
- ▶ Transaction Audit File – reporting of bet-by-bet detail at the close of betting to TRPB
- ▶ Race Audit File – reporting of the race results, liabilities, detail when the prices are official

WAGERING ANALYSIS & SECURITY PLATFORM



Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau

Technical Initiatives

- ▶ TRPB has fully migrated Wagering Analysis and Security Platform to Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- ▶ Development of QuickSight dashboards for BI
- ▶ Requirements for any Tote betting to provide Transaction & Settlement data directly to AWS
- ▶ Global Tote has established AWS services
- ▶ AmTote is developing Cloud Tote Services
- ▶ United Tote has a scale exemplified by the Kentucky Derby
- ▶ Widespread integration efforts with online sportsbooks

World Pool Initiatives

- ▶ Canadian & US Associations have been at the lead in supporting international commingled pools to promote international racing
- ▶ Commingling can address regional inequities in odds
- ▶ Eliminates the requirement of arbitrage between tote pools on the same event
- ▶ Promotes a strong market presence for pari-mutuels

Concerns with current World Pool Initiative

- ▶ Guiding principal of Host in Control may be weakened
- ▶ Not seeing a sustained effort by all international players to improve ITSP and implement the latest version
- ▶ Current World Pool does not participate in standard file types – notably TAF
- ▶ Currently relies on one Tote and there are others just as capable of hosting the World Pool

Questions, comments, discussion





TRPB
Fair Hill,
Maryland
410.398.2261
www.trpb.com

J Curtis Linnell
Operations@trpb.com