



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

FMCSA Data Quality Improvement Program

SAFETYNET: Common Issues

March 4, 2021

U.S. DOT Volpe Center

- Nelson Cañas, Senior Analyst & Data Quality Specialist

State Partner

- James Wright, Maine State Police, Motor Carrier Enforcement Unit

Learning Objectives

- Understand why records are rejected and how to prevent rejections
- Use the Activity Logs to find rejected records
- Locate records that are missing due to interrupted downloads
- Archive and delete old records correctly
- Identify records by using the Verify checkbox



Agenda

Throughout the session we will discuss:

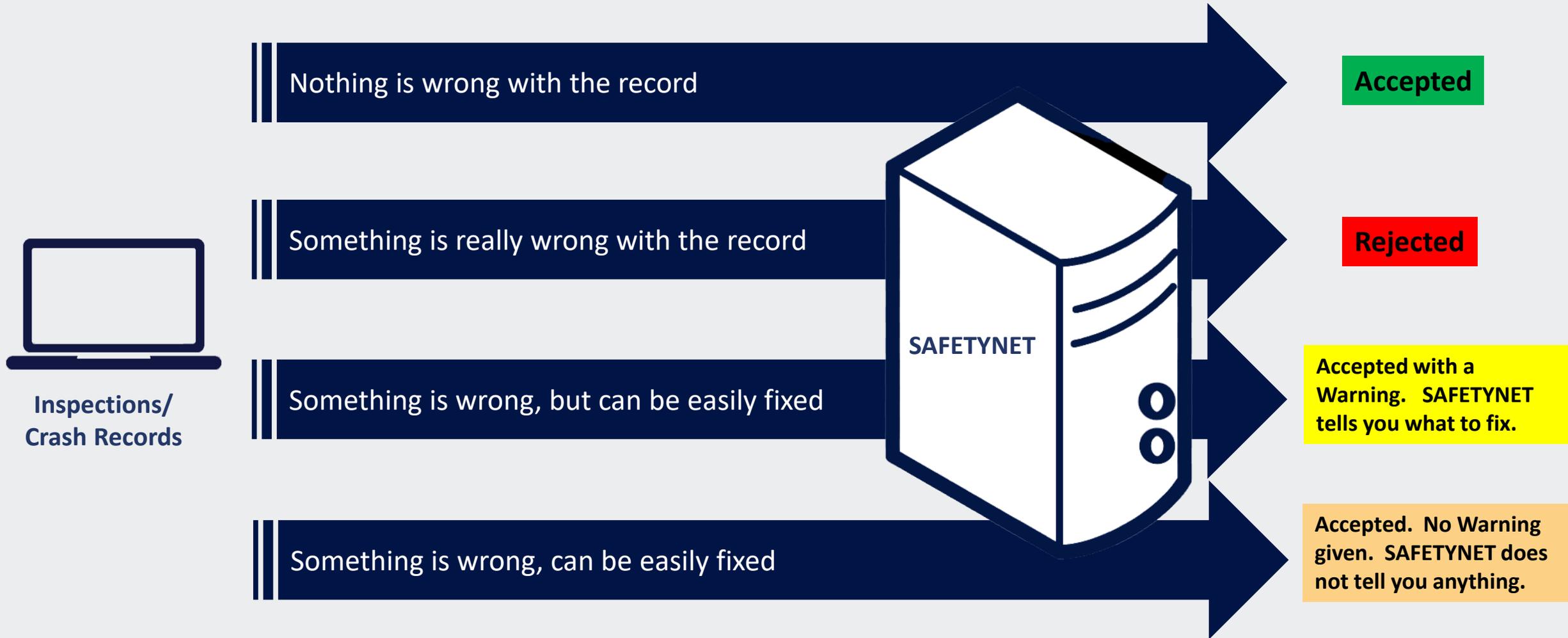
- Rejected records
- Activity logs
- Interrupted downloads
- Record management
- Verify checkbox
- Missing confirmations

Rejected Records

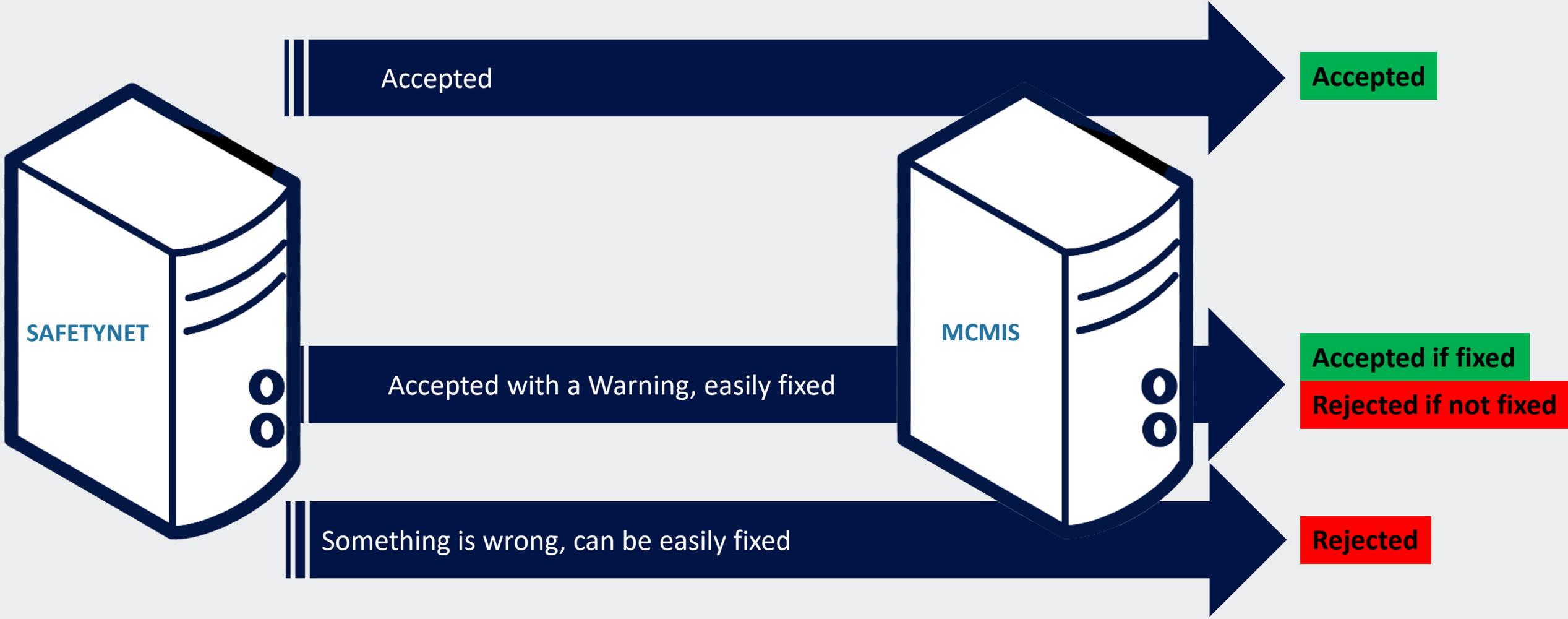
- Records can be rejected in two places
 - SAFETYNET and MCMIS
- Crashes and Inspections go through a validation check
 - This does not check for data quality
- All rejection errors are entered in the Activity Logs
 - As 'Errors' if rejected by SAFETYNET
 - As 'Fatal Errors' if rejected by MCMIS



Rejected Records - SAFETYNET



Rejected Records - MCMIS



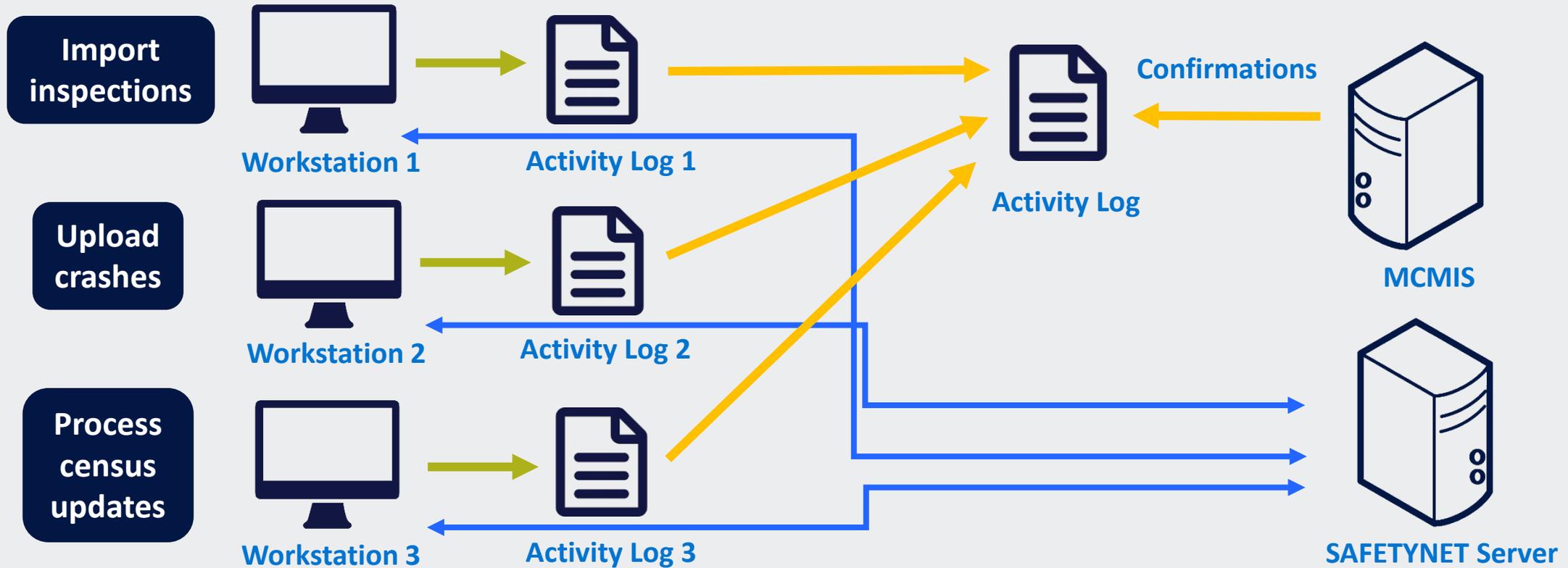
Rejected Records – What to do?

- Always check the **Activity Log** after every import
- **Run the Data Quality Tool** to find the issues SAFETYNET hides
- Always check the **Activity Log** to review the MCMIS Confirmations
- Might need to **get back to the record source**: officer/agency
- When corrected, the records will be automatically included in the next upload
- Rejected records that are corrected and re-uploaded **will affect the timeliness measure**

Poll #1

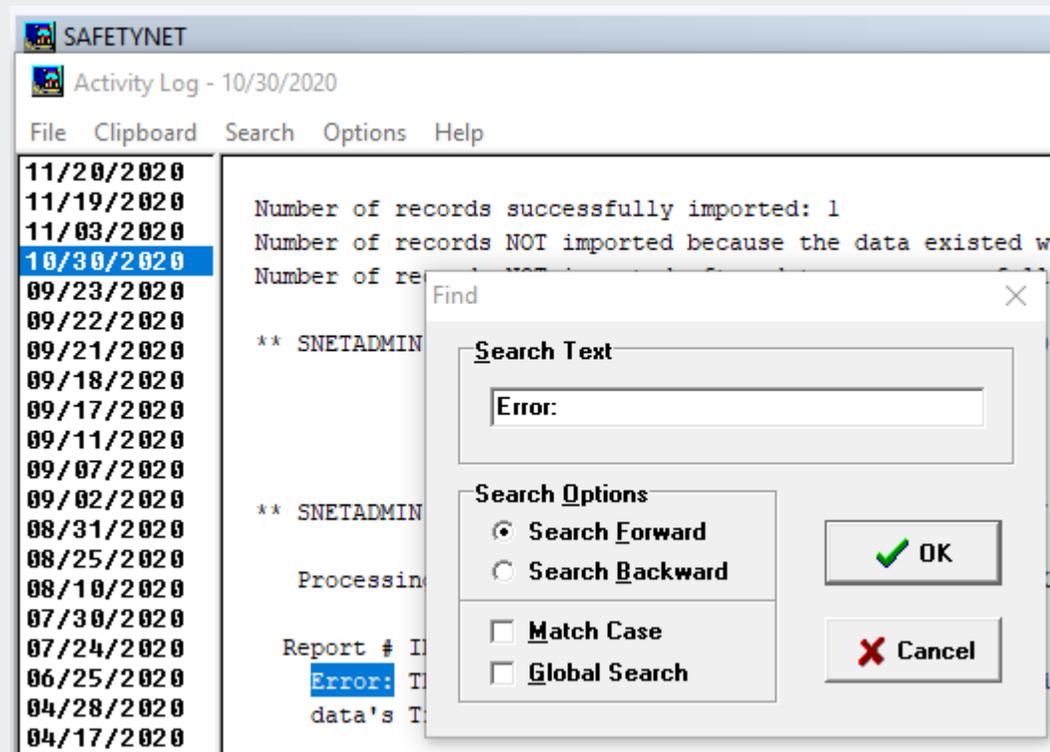


Activity Logs



Activity Logs – What should I do?

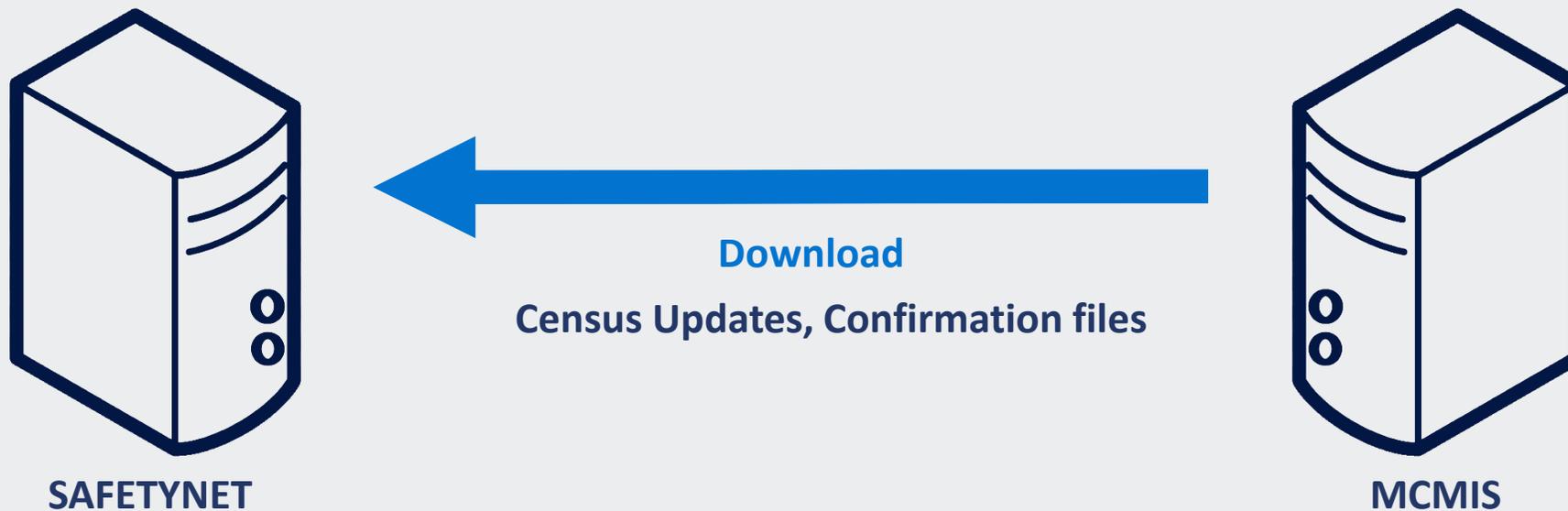
- Check them – ALWAYS!
- Keep Activity Logs for 6 to 12 months
- Use the Search-Find function and look for **Error:** (include the colon)



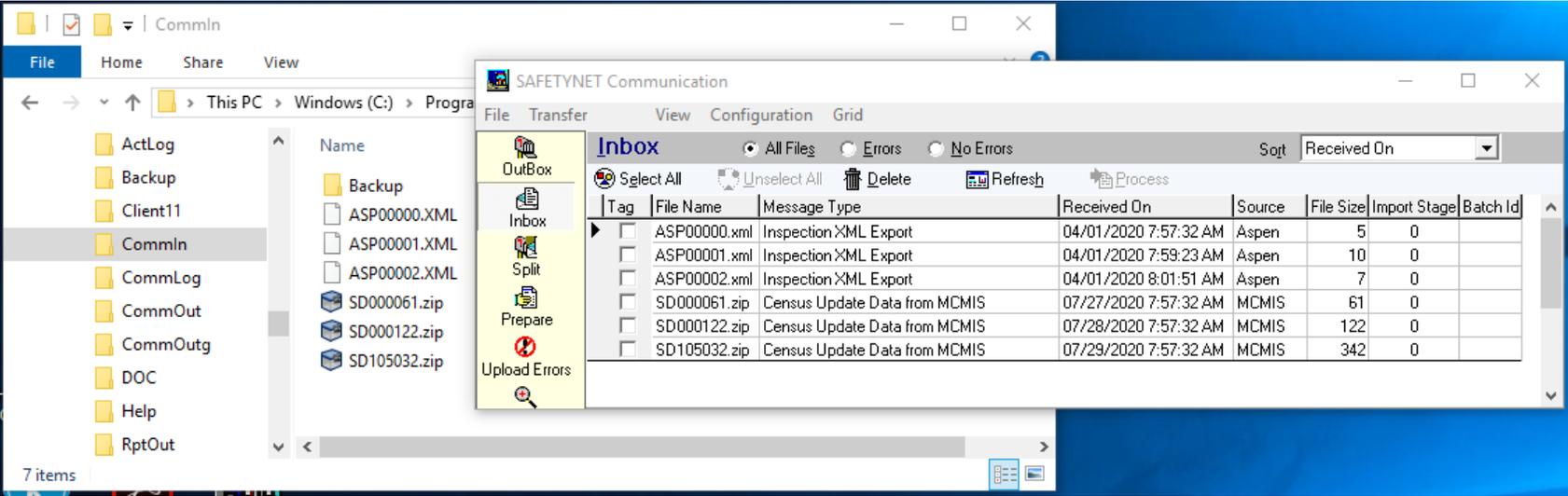
Interrupted Downloads – Inspection Files



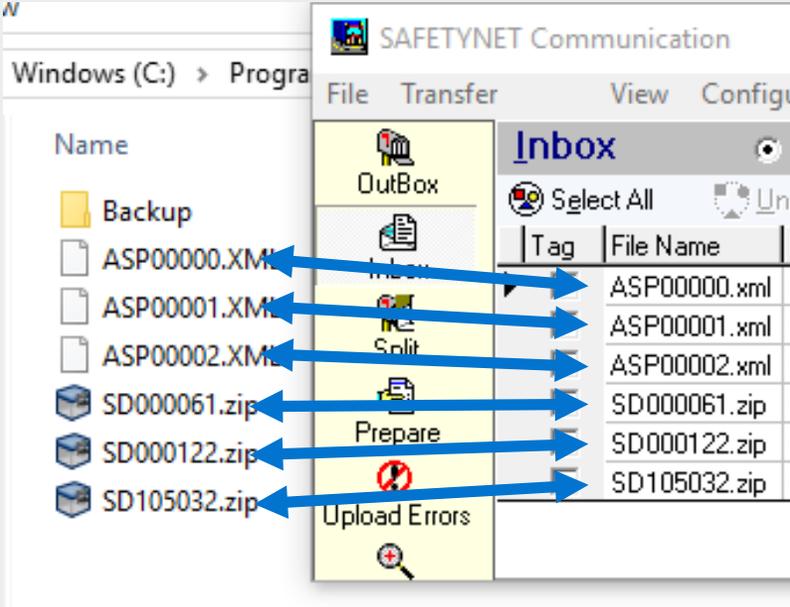
Interrupted Downloads – From MCMIS



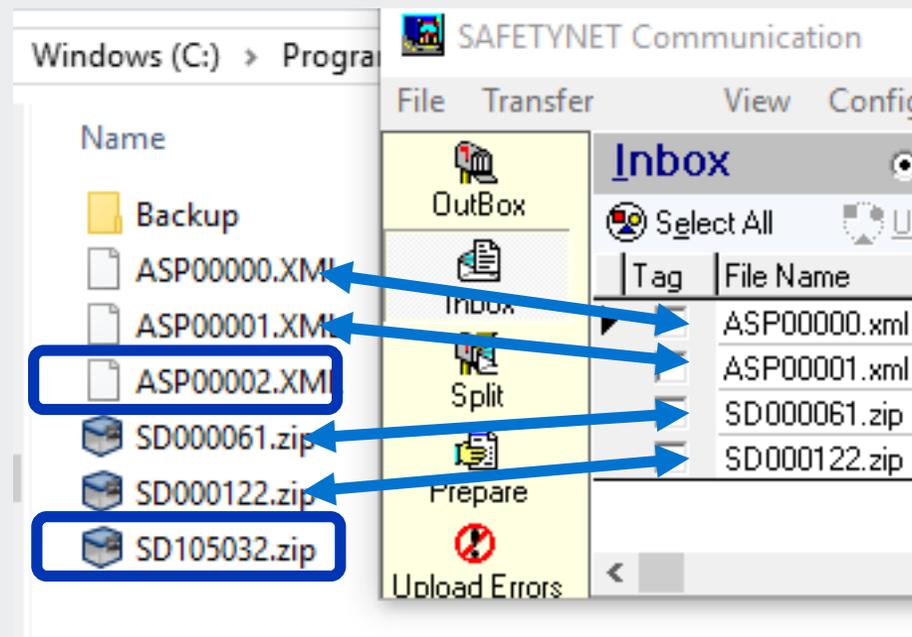
Interrupted Downloads – Commln vs. Inbox



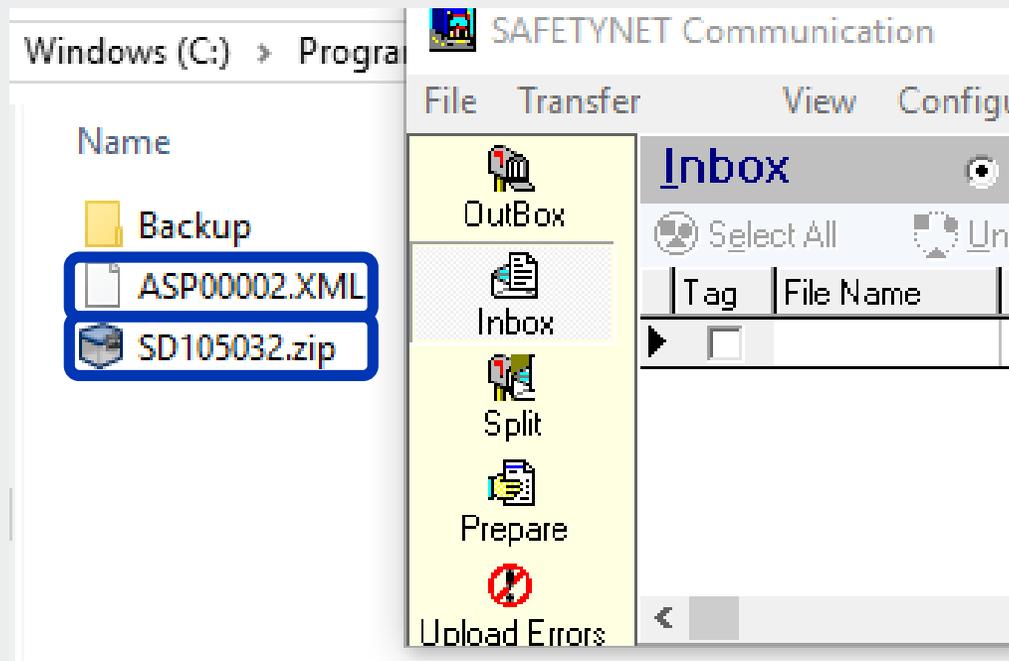
Interrupted Downloads – Commln vs. Inbox



Interrupted Downloads – Commin vs. Inbox



Interrupted Downloads – ComIn vs. Inbox



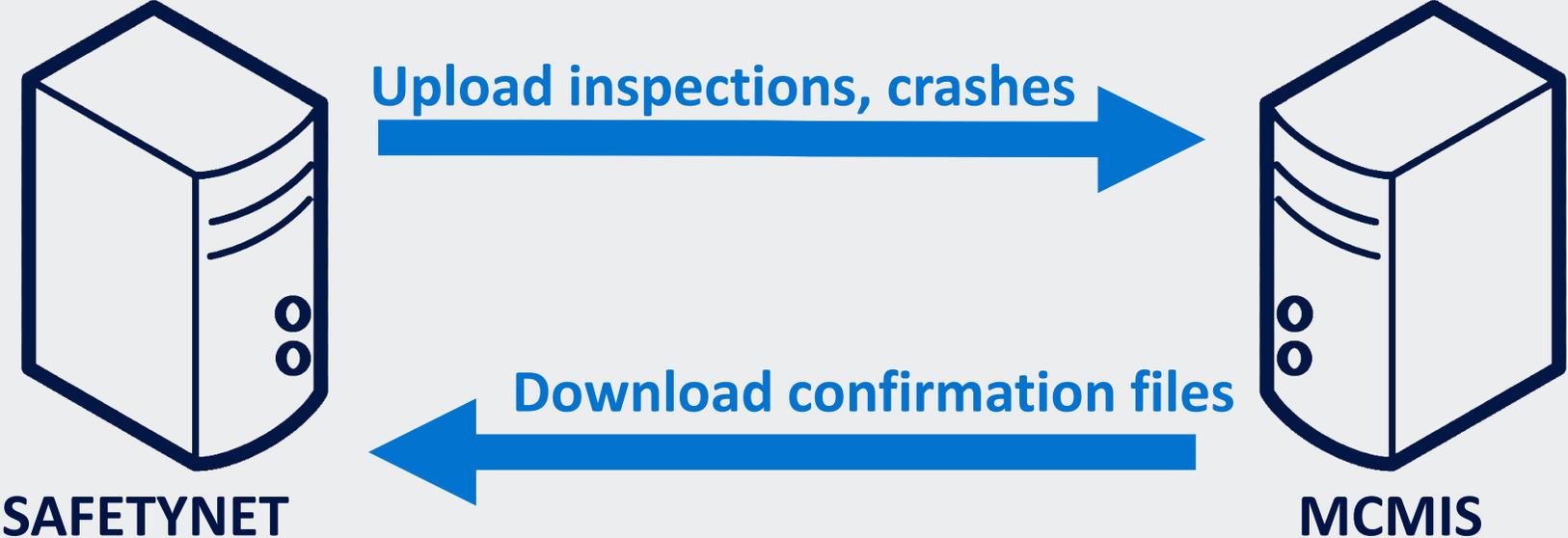
Interrupted Downloads – What should I do?

- Process everything in the SAFETYNET Inbox
- Check the \\SAFETYNET\COMMIN folder for any unprocessed files
 - If any, import files manually
- Don't forget to move any manually processed files to the \\SAFETYNET\COMMIN\Backup folder

Poll #2



Missing Confirmations



Missing Confirmations

- If you did not receive a confirmation file the day after the upload:
 - Do not re-upload the records
 - Contact tech support
- If you did receive a confirmation but there is no entry in the Inbox (Interrupted Download):
 - Do not re-upload the records
 - Contact tech support
 - Send the confirmation file to tech support, if requested

Missing Confirmations – What should I do?

- When in doubt... call tech support!
- But first... make sure you uploaded the file
- Remember that uploading is a two step process:
 - Prepare
 - Upload

Record Management – Archiving Records

- SAFETYNET maintains two databases:
 - MAIN
 - ARCHIVE
- Archive records when:
 - Inspections are older than 3 years
 - Crashes are older than 5 years
 - As needed
- Restore records back to MAIN anytime

MCMIS keeps:

- Inspections for 3 years
- Crashes for 5 years

Record Management – Deleting Records

- Brand new records
 - Records have not been uploaded yet
 - No other system is affected
- Records already uploaded
 - MCMIS has a copy of record
 - When deleting from SAFETYNET, records are deleted from MCMIS as well
 - Inspections are not deleted from SAFER!

MCMIS keeps:

- Inspections for 3 years
- Crashes for 5 years

Record Management – Deleting Records

- Records already uploaded – **but they are really old!**
 - An attempt is made to delete the record from MCMIS
 - Record is not found in MCMIS
 - MCMIS rejects the delete request
- To avoid rejections
 - Archive old records first THEN delete records from Archive
 - A deleted request is not sent to MCMIS

Record Management – Demo



Demo:

1. Archive records from January 2019
2. Restore archived records

Hint – Use this query:

Query Conditions									
(((Field	Comparison	Value)))	And/Or
			Crash Date	>=	01/01/2019				And
			Crash Date	<=	01/31/2019				

Record Management – What should I do?

- How old are the records in SAFETYNET?
 - Inspections – older than 3 years?
 - Crashes – older than 5 years?



You may need to archive them!

If you need to delete old records, archive first

Verified Checkbox

INSPECTION [Editing]

Location/Activities | Carrier | Driver/Shipper | Vehicle/HM | Violations | Notes/Special Study | Locally Defined Fields

Report Number **IN0000401537** Carrier Name **PEARL RIVER OYSTER CO**

Location Details

Report Number **IN0000401537**

Start Date **06/29/2020** Start Time **12:35** Time Zone **ES - Eastern Std.**

End Date **06/29/2020** End Time **13:10** Level **1 - Full Inspection**

Location Code **SR-49** Location Description **STATE HWY/SR-49**

State **IN** County Code **001** ADAMS

Milepost Highway

Facility Type **Roadside** Inspector Code **IN7334** JULIE MILLER

Special Activities

Alcohol/Controlled-Substance Check? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown	Traffic Enforcement? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown	Post-Crash Inspection? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Conducted By Local Jurisdiction? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown	PASA Inspection? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	EScreening? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Size and Weight Enforcement? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown	Drug Interdiction Search? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Arrests
Border Enforcement Grant? <input type="radio"/> Domestic <input type="radio"/> Foreign <input type="radio"/> No	PBBT Inspection? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

Other Record | Report... | **Verified** | OK | Cancel | Help

Required Field Page 1 of 7

CRASH DATA [Editing]

Report/Location | Carrier | Driver/Vehicle | Conditions/Events/Outcome | Notes | Locally Defined Fields

Report Number **IN0011080645** Carrier Name **FUEL HUSKY LLC**

Report Information

Report Number **IN0011080645**

Crash Date **08/06/2019** Crash Time **06:30** Time Zone **ES - Eastern Std.**

Reporting Agency **Martinsville City Police**

Officer Badge Number **3991**

Location Details

Street/Highway **3255 OLD ST RD 37 N**

City Name **MARTINSVILLE**

State **IN** County Code **109** MORGAN

Other Record | Report... | **Verified** | Save | Cancel | Help

Required Field Page 1 of 6

Verified Checkbox

- Every record has one Verified Checkbox
 - What does it do? NOTHING!
- Use it as you see fit
- Can be queried
- Can be visible on the grid
- Common use
 - Check when records have been addressed already
 - Any other uses?

Verified Checkbox – Demo



Demo:

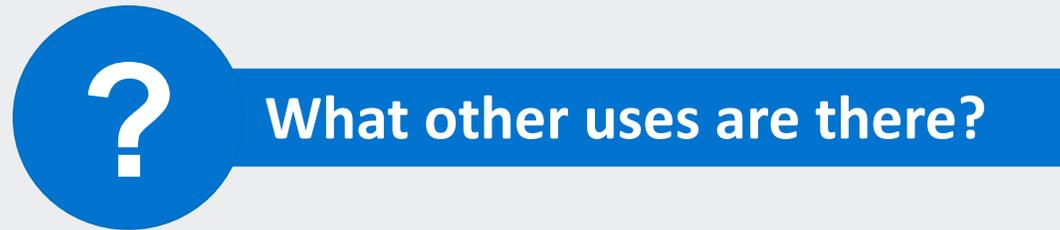
1. Look for records that still require your attention
2. Run a query to look for crash records from July 2020 and the Verified Checkbox is not checked

Query Conditions

(((Field	Comparison	Value)))	And/Or
			Crash Date	>=	07/01/2020				And
			Crash Date	<=	07/31/2020				And
			Verified	=	No				

Verified Checkbox – What should I do?

- Use it anyway you want
- Common use:
 - Still need to address/done addressing



Have Questions? Let Us know!



Nelson Canas

617-494-6019

Nelson.Canas.CTR@dot.gov

Jim Wright

James.A.Wright@Maine.Gov

Additional Resources:

Data Quality Website

<http://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/DataQuality>

FMCSA Tech Support:

617-494-3003

FMCTechsup@dot.gov

Thank You!