

United States Postal Service®

# INDUSTRYALERT

## Intelligent Mail Parcel Barcode (IMpb) Requirements

Effective January 2014, the Intelligent Mail® package barcode (IMpb) requirements changed for parcels entered through commercial channels including, but not limited to:

- Priority Mail Express™
- Priority Mail®
- First-Class Package Services®
- Parcel Select®
- Parcel Select Lightweight®

To receive commercial prices beginning January 26, 2014, mailers must use a unique Intelligent Mail parcel barcode (IMpb) on their packages. The IMpb contains delivery information such as the destination address, ZIP Code routing and payment information.

Mailers are also required to submit an electronic Shipping Services File (SSF), version 1.6 or higher. The Shipping Services File is an electronically submitted document that contains mailing information about each package being sent. The Shipping Services File must contain delivery information which is the correct destination delivery address or ZIP+4® Code. The Shipping Services File Transaction ID must be provided either in the mailer's electronic documentation (eDoc) or on the postage statement when presenting mailings with a hard copy postage statement.

Effective February 28, 2014, mailers presenting IMpb mailings that are not in compliance will be charged the non-compliance per piece fee.

Mailers who are not able to make these changes should contact their Business Mail Entry Unit (BMEU) for guidance. Mailers can locate their District Business Mail Entry Unit using the locator tool on RIBBS at <https://ribbs.usps.gov/locators/find-bme.cfm>. Mailers may also contact the *PostalOne!* Help Desk at 800-522-9085 with any questions.

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