

United States Postal Service®

INDUSTRYALERT

June 2, 2016

Mail Spoken Here

An electronic newsletter summarizing recent USPS news and development

USPS Notice of PRC filing - 2017 Promotions and First-Class Mail Parcels

The Postal Service filed a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to establish the 2017 Promotional Program in addition to adjusting certain prices in the First-Class Mail Parcels product. The proposed price adjustment does not constitute the Postal Service's annual, general market-dominant price adjustment, which is typically filed in the fall of the year.

If approved by the Commission, the revised First-Class Mail Parcels prices will take effect on Aug. 28, 2016. The first of the 2017 promotions will begin Jan. 1, 2017.

Apart from the promotions package, this filing will correct the price imbalance between First-Class Package Service and First-Class Mail domestic parcels by slightly increasing prices for all pieces that weigh up to three ounces to \$2.62.

Prices for Inbound International First-Class Mail Letter Post are set by the Universal Postal Union and are implemented every January. The most recent prices went into effect in January 2016.

The complete Postal Service price filing, including the new prices, can also be found on the PRC website under the May 16, 2016 Daily Listings section: <http://www.prc.gov/dockets>. The docket is also listed as R2016-5.

Collect on Delivery (COD) Electronic Funds Transfer (COD/EFT)

Come one, come all COD mailers!!

The COD/EFT service provides mailers with a way to receive remittances directly into their financial institution usually within 48 hours — and that saves both the money order fees and processing time associated with traditional remittance methods for COD cash payments.

The January 2016 version of the COD label highlights the utility of the EFT method, with its own section where COD/EFT participants can include “EFT” as one of the remittance methods.

Mailers wishing to enroll in COD/EFT may contact the USPS Customer Support Desk at 877-264-9693 to begin the enrollment process.

Intercept on Approach - Package Intercept: There when and where you need it!

The Postal Service comes through for commercial customers that need to redirect shipments after they have been inducted into the mailstream and prior to delivery with Package Intercept.

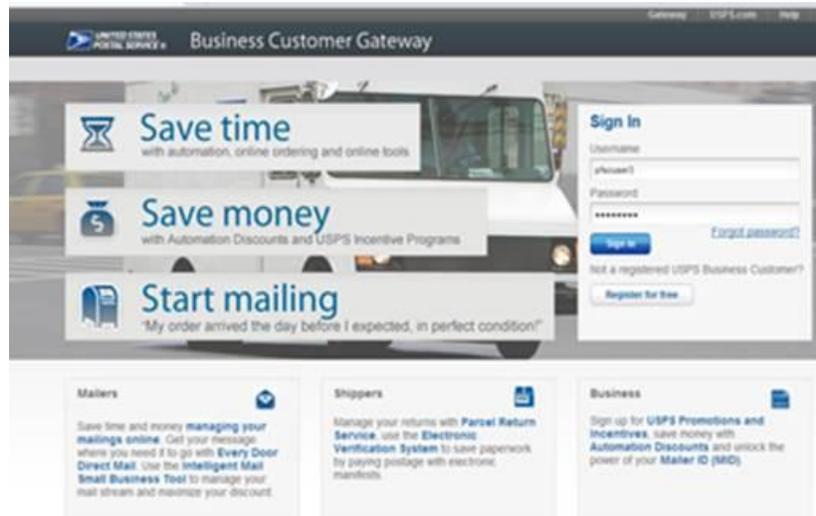
USPS's Package Intercept service allows commercial mailers to redirect an item to a different domestic address or ask that it be held for pickup at a Post Office or returned to sender prior to delivery.

The Business Customer Gateway is a USPS business customers' control tower — the hub from which they can manage all their shipments and intercept them, when necessary.

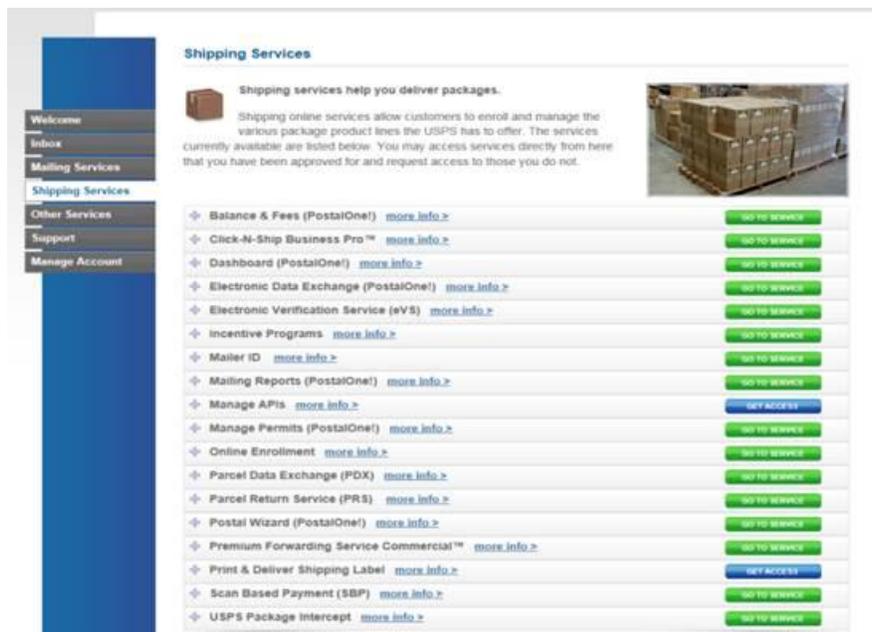
Business customers whose permits are linked to Centralized Account Processing Systems (CAPS) accounts can electronically tag those shipments using the Business Customer Gateway:

<https://gateway.usps.com/eAdmin/view/signin>

1. Simply log in to the Business Customer Gateway.



2. Find the “Package Intercept” option under the “Shipping Services” tab to the left.



- 3. Upload a file of multiple USPS Tracking numbers or enter an individual USPS Tracking or Extra Service number.**
- 4. Follow instructions to create the intercept request:**
- 5. Click “confirm” and then “submit.”**

Retail customers can request an intercept at <https://www.usps.com/>. They can then request that those shipments be directed to a new domestic address, held for pickup at a Post Office, or returned to sender prior to delivery on or before 2 a.m. CST.

The latest version of the USPS Package Intercept Guidebook can be found on RIBBS, at https://ribbs.usps.gov/shipproductsservices/documents/tech_guides/GuidePackageInterceptCommercial.pdf.

USPS Removes Parcel Select Lightweight (PSLW) Endorsement Requirement

Commercial customers are finding it easier and more convenient to ship items weighing 15.999 ounces or less.

On April 28, 2016, the Postal Service announced the removal of the requirement that PSLW shipments with USPS Tracking bear one of the required ancillary service endorsements.

Now, mailers may choose any of the available ancillary service endorsements — Address Service Requested, Change Service Requested, Forwarding Service Requested or Return Service Requested — depending on their individual needs.

The Domestic Mail Manual will be updated to reflect this enhancement on June 6.

PCC Week 2016

We're gearing up for National Postal Customer Council (PCC) Week which will be held from Sept. 19-23, 2016. The 2016 host is the Greater Dallas PCC, winner of the 2015 PCC of the Year – Large Market Award.

This is a great opportunity for the mailing industry to hear from members of the Postal Service's Executive Leadership Team and for PCCs to conduct content-rich educational workshops, network with each other, and recognize outstanding contributors to the PCC Network.

Stay tuned as [local PCCs](#) develop their programs and promote their events, including Postal Service headquarters speakers' participation.

USPS Takes Care with Dogs

USPS carriers have a new feature that will alert them to the presence of a dog at Package Pickup locations. Customers will be prompted to answer "yes" or "no" to the dog question the first time that they schedule a Package Pickup on USPS.com or USPS Mobile. The Postal Service will store that information securely, and no disruptions will occur with normal mail delivery or pickup.

When a USPS carrier approaches a location at which a dog is present, his or her hand-held scanner will announce an alert.

Postal Bulletin 22422 (5-26-16)/Federal Register Notice

DMM Revision: Optional Combined Parcel Mailings - Standard Mail and Parcel Select Lightweight — Minimum 200 pieces or 50 pounds of parcels per class.

DMM Revision: Extra Service Refunds - Extra Service fees will not be refunded for undeliverable Certified Mail, Return Receipt for Merchandise (RRM), and Signature Confirmation mailpieces when they have received the proper event scan (e.g., UAA, Refused, etc.).

DMM Revision: Full-Service Automation Option (Mail Anywhere) - Added a new sub-section on the Mail Anywhere program. The Mail Anywhere program will provide qualifying full-service mailers the opportunity to use the same permit at any location. DMM 705.23

DMM Revision: Business Reply Mail - Mailer ID Based Intelligent Mail Barcode – Effective July 11, 2016 the USPS will add a barcode option allowing Business Reply Mail (BRM) customers sharing a BRM 9-digit ZIP Code the ability to trace the mail separately using a Mailer ID (MID) based Intelligent Mail barcode (IMb).

IMM Revision: International Postage Refunds - On May 26th, the USPS revised *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, International Mail Manual (IMM), sections 941.32 and 943.2, to reflect the actual process for handling requests for international postage refunds when the other country is at fault or when the request relates to mail originating in another country.

IMM Revision: Priority Mail International Parcel Service Established with Cuba - Priority Mail International parcel service is available to Cuba. Cuba already receives Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes from the Postal Service. Priority Mail International service for parcels up to 22 pounds became available to Cuba on May 23, 2016.

Federal Register Notice (FRN) - Mail Classification Schedule Changes pertaining to Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Boxes – 5/26/2016

UPDATES/CHANGES

Date Change-Custom Form Changes at Retail!

The end of August is the updated timeframe given for Retail customers to be provided with a new hardcopy PS Form 2976-R to replace the hardcopy forms of the PS Form 2976, 2976-A, and 2976-B. The PS Form 2976-R is a multi-ply non-barcoded customs declaration form that will be used as a “worksheet” by the Sales and Service Associate to enter the customs declaration data into the system.

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