

Product Tracking System

PTS II

Release Notes

Release 1.4

External Use

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE DOCUMENT

Product Tracking System

Release 1.4 Version 1.2 External Release Notes

The United States Postal Service (USPS) Product Tracking System (PTS) Release 1.4 occurred on July 28, 2013. These Release Notes are prepared to notify you of the changes that were implemented and how they affected the following areas.

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Revision History

Name	Date	Reason For Changes	Version
Nicole Wilson	7/10/2013	Initial Draft	1.0
Nicole Wilson	7/25/2013	Final Document: Release 1.4 also referenced as Release 13.10.1	1.1
Juliaann Hess	7/31/2013	Minor Edits	1.2

1.0 Mailers and Shippers

The primary focus of PTS Release 1.4 is to implement supporting changes for the July 28, 2013 Product Change. The software was released on Sunday, January 28, 2013, beginning at 12 am ET and ended at 6 am ET. These enhancements include support for various classes of mail.

The following items have been included in Release 1.4 and are of interest to external users who communicate electronically with USPS by sending electronic files containing package information.

1.1 Product Changes Affecting Class of Mail and Extra Services

The U.S. Postal Service July 2013 Product Change introduced changes to Express Mail, International Mail, and Priority Mail.

1.1.1 New International Mail Rate Indicators

The Postal Service introduced new rate indicators that support the addition of Retail and Commercial Base pricing to its Priority Mail International (PMI) Regional Rate Box options. There are ten price groups for Retail and Commercial Base pricing that are structured to target key markets and are grouped as follows: Canada, Latin America, Asia, Western Europe, India, Australia/New Zealand, and Middle East. These new International Mail Rate Indicators are valid with mail class "CP." The new rate indicators are described in the following Table 1.

Table 1 New International Rate Indicators

Rate Indicator	Description
IA	Priority Mail International - Regional Rate Box 'A'
IB	Priority Mail International - Regional Rate Box 'B'
IC	Priority Mail International - Regional Rate Box 'C'

1.1.2 Express Mail and Priority Mail Package Simplification

The products Express Mail and Priority Mail have moved to more competitive product listings. The Express Mail service also includes other features such as free Package Pickup, free USPS Tracking, signature proof of delivery and \$100 in indemnity coverage at no additional charge. As part of a rebranding effort associated with the Package Simplification change, Express Mail has been rebranded as Priority Mail Express and reflects the day-specific delivery standards or other information as reflected in Table 2 below. The Priority Mail Express name update has been reflected on all existing Express Mail Service Type Codes and in the Shipping Services file error and warning messages.

Priority Mail has been rebranded to show the day-specific delivery standards and other information as shown in Table 3 below. The Priority Mail service offers a range of specialized options, such as flat rate products, USPS Critical Mail, USPS Regional Rate Boxes, Priority Mail Open and Distribute and Cubic Pricing for flats, letters and parcels. Priority Mail enhancements include indemnity coverage of \$50 or \$100 for no additional charge as reflected in Table 4 below.

Table 2 Express Mail Package Simplification

Current Name	New Name With Add On
Express Mail	Priority Mail Express 1-day
	Priority Mail Express 2-day
	Priority Mail Express International
	Priority Mail Express Military
	Priority Mail Express DPO

Table 3 Priority Mail Package Simplification

Current Name	Name With Add On
Priority Mail	Priority Mail 1-day
	Priority Mail 2-day
	Priority Mail 3-day
	Priority Mail International
	Priority Mail Military
	Priority Mail DPO

Table 4 Priority Mail Insurance

Insurance Indemnity Coverage	Customer Base/Services
\$50 included for Priority Mail purchased through the following channels or products	Retail
	Meters (including IBI)
	Click-N-Ship
	Click-N-Ship for Business
	Package Intercept
	Commercial Base Pricing
	Priority Mail Returns (includes Scan Based Payment)
\$100 included for Priority Mail purchased through the following channels or product	ePostage
	eVS
	Commercial Plus Pricing
	Hardcopy Manifest
Insurance not included	Merchandise Return Service (MRS)
	Open and Distribute
	Reship
	Premium Forwarding Service
	COD

1.1.3 Express Mail Corporate Account Changes

USPS Corporate Account is replacing Express Mail Corporate Account. The existing features for USPS Corporate Account (formerly Express Mail Corporate Account) will remain the same.

1.1.4 Carrier Release Endorsement Indicator

The new Carrier Release Endorsement Indicators support the Postal Service's efforts to deliver to customers on the first delivery attempt and reduce the number of redeliveries. These two new indicators are to be used when packages are endorsed "Carrier – Leave If No Response". The Waiver of Signature field has been repurposed and expanded to include values for two new Carrier Release indicators. These values will be placed in the former Waiver of Signature Field which is renamed Waiver of Signature/Carrier Release. The endorsement indicators are described below in Table 5.

Table 5 Carrier Release Endorsement

Waiver of Signature/Carrier Release values	Description
1	Mailer requests Carrier Release
2	Mailer does not request Carrier Release

Previous values used for Priority Mail Express (formerly Express Mail) are still valid and may be used in the Waiver of Signature/Carrier Release field.

1.1.5 Fix for Container Scan Events

After PTS-II launch, container scan events were no longer calculated when manifest files included parcels nested to container barcodes. A fix was implemented that will apply acceptance scans on container barcodes to the nested contents.