

# January 2018 Proposed Changes

## Pre-Release Document

This document describes potential changes under review for the next structural implementation. This document is prepared and based on the knowledge available at the time of its publication and any direction found herein is subject to change prior to the release.

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## 1.0 Introduction

Included in this document are the changes that are under consideration for the next software release scheduled for January, 2018. This document is prepared and based on the knowledge available at the time of its publication and any direction found herein is subject to change prior to the release.

The following sections will outline the changes to Mail.dat, Mail.XML, Shipping Services File, and the Postage Statements. Draft postage statements will be posted on Postal Explorer, <http://pe.usps.com>.

## 2.0 Add Bound Printed Matter Flats up to 24 Ounces to Co-Mail DSCF or DDU Only

The USPS is considering allowing Bound Printed Matter (BPM) Flats up to 24 ounces to be included in the current co-mailing structure which includes USPS Marketing Mail Flats and Periodicals up to 24 ounces entered at a Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) or a Destination Delivery Unit (DDU). It has been identified that customers who co-mail USPS Marketing Mail Flats and Periodicals up to 24 ounces also mail BPM Flats. This initiative targets BPM Flats volume weighing up to 24 ounces to be part of the co-mail pool along with the existing products and responds to the effort to combine similar mail pieces, thus streamlining and enhancing mail preparation and operating activities. In order to avoid bundles with too much weight per bundle and to ensure bundles will not split apart, we would limit the maximum weight of co-mail BPM and Periodicals flats to 24 ounces per piece within the same bundle. The maximum number of heavier pieces would be no more than half of each bundle. In addition, Copalletization is included in this request when the pallet is entered at the DSCF and DDU. This excludes entry at other locations since BPM co-mail is not allowed to be entered except for DSCF and DDU.

Note: When all three Mail Classes are in a bundle/container, the USPS Marketing Mail service standard will be used. When a bundle/container has only Periodicals and BPM pieces, the longer of the two service standards will be used. In this example, it would be the BPM service standard.

Service Standard (Class)	DDU (Days)	DSCF (Days)
Periodicals	1	1
USPS Marketing Mail	2	3
BPM Flats	1	2

- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- Mail.dat changes will include a change to the description of the Class Defining Preparation of "6" to include Bound Printed Matter as part of the mail classes along with USPS Marketing Mail and Periodicals.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no changes to Shipping Services File. [BNS 623](#)

## 3.0 Order of Pallet Preparation for Carrier Route (CR) Pallets in Non-FSS Zones

The USPS is considering updating the order of pallet preparation in order to increase the number of pure CR Pallets (as opposed to 5-Digit Merged Pallets) presented in non-FSS zones. This includes both USPS Marketing Mail and Periodicals. This change will increase the amount of mail eligible for a CR pallet discount, resulting in eligibility for lower prices on the mail.

The table below compares the current order of pallet preparation to the proposed:

Current Pallet Prep Order	Proposed Pallet Prep Order
Merged 5-digit scheme	5-digit scheme carrier routes
5-digit scheme carrier routes	Merged 5-digit scheme
5-digit scheme	5-digit scheme
Merged 5-digit	5-digit carrier routes
5-digit carrier routes	Merged 5-digit
5-digit	5-digit
3-digit	3-digit
SCF through mixed ADC	SCF through mixed ADC

- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no changes to Shipping Services File. [BNS 566](#)

#### 4.0 Add NSA Support for Priority Mail International (PMI) ECOMPRO Regional Rate Boxes

The USPS is considering adding support for PMI ECOMPRO Regional Rate Boxes under Negotiated Service Agreement (NSA) prices. ECOMPRO was added as a product in January of 2017 and NSA support is being added with this release.

- Postage Statement PS Form 3700 International Mail will be updated to include a new section under PMI for ECOMPRO Regional Rate Boxes NSA.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- Shipping Services File will be updated to include a new Rate Indicator to represent PMI ECOMPRO NSA. [BNS 612](#)

#### 5.0 Remove Precanceled Stamps for Parcel Select Lightweight

The USPS is considering removing support for Precanceled Stamps for Parcel Select Lightweight (PSLW).

- Postage Statement Form 3605 for Package Services will be updated to remove reference to “precanceled stamps” for PSLW.
  - On Page 1, remove Precanceled Stamps (PSLW) only from the Mailing Section.
  - On Page 1, remove Precanceled Stamps (PSLW) only from the Postage Section (Line 2).
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.

*The content of this document is subject to change until final approval.*

- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 612](#)

## 6.0 Updates and Corrections to Postage Statements

The USPS is considering updating postage statements to correct typographical errors and renumber certain sections. The following Postage Statements are being updated:

### **First-Class Mail PS Form 3600 FCM**

Pages 2 and 4 - Page headings - Change First Class to First-Class

### **Priority Mail PS Form 3600 PM**

Page 11 - Part F - EMM Tray Box - All Other Entry section - Re-number F42-F48 to F41-F48

Page 12 - Part S - Line S3 - Change Collect on Delivery (COD) HFPU to Collect on Delivery (COD)

Page 12 - Part S - Line S32 - Change Collect on Delivery (COD) HFPU to Collect on Delivery (COD)

### **USPS Marketing Mail PS Form 3602 R**

Page 11 - Part S - Part S-Extra Services and Fees - Re-align the first two rows of Part S-Extra Services and Fees by moving lines S4-S28 down one line so that S4 is not on the same row with the column headings.

### **Package Services PS Form 3605-R**

Page 6 - Part C - Lines C9-C12 and C28-C31 - Capitalize "D" in the word digit.

Page 8 - Part E - Line E5 - Change DCSF to DSCF

Page 8 - Part E - Line E12 - Change DCSF to DSCF

Page 9 - Part S - Line E13 - Change DCSF to DSCF

Page 9 - Part S - Lines S3 - Change Collect on Delivery (COD) HFPU to Collect on Delivery (COD)

Page 9 - Part S - Line S32 - Change Collect on Delivery (COD) HFPU to Collect on Delivery (COD)

Page 1 - title section – Remove the word "Only" from the title section at the top.

Page 1 - title section – Change "Use this form for all Package Services. Only Library Mail and Media Mail may be combined." to "Use this form for all Package Services. Library Mail and Media Mail may be combined."

### **Periodicals PS Form 3541**

Page 1 - Update reference in the Preferred Price Discount line - Change from "Add line B19, and part C, D and E Totals" to "Add lines B17, and parts C, D and E Totals."

### **International Mail PS Form 3700**

Page 6 – Part C – The ICM Incentive is no longer offered within Part C

Page 9 – Part D – Lines C93 will be removed from PS Form 3700 and the subtotal of Part C will be updated accordingly

Page 9 – Part D – Lines D93 will be removed from PS Form 3700 and the subtotal of Part D will be updated accordingly

Page 13 - Part E—Heading – Change ECOMPRO Large Flat Rate Envelopes to ECOMPRO Large Flat Rate Boxes

Page 14 - Part F - Add section titled "ECOMPRO Box A" and number the lines F21-F30

Page 14 - Part F - Add section titled "ECOMPRO Box B" and number the lines F31-F40

Page 14 - Part F – Change "Part F Total (add lines F1-F20)" to "Part F Total (add lines F1-F40)" [BNS 612](#)

## 7.0 Simplify the Postage Statement for First-Class Mail (FCM) Residual Letters

The USPS is considering a simplification of the postage statement for FCM residual letters, thereby enhancing the value of mail and supporting Postal simplification efforts.

- Postage Statement PS Form 3600 FCM will be updated to remove two lines currently on the postage statement (current B4 and B6). As a result, the two remaining lines will be renumbered. Current line B5 will be renumbered B4 and current line B7 will be renumbered B5. Mail currently entered on the two deleted lines will be entered on the newly numbered B4 (formerly numbered B5) line. Postage for the renumbered B4 (mail that is not sorted by ounce increments) would be a blended rate. Pieces on the renumbered B5 (sorted mail) would pay their meter price associated with each weight increment. This reduces the number of postage statement lines and eliminates any confusion about where residual pieces need to be reported.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 642](#)

## 8.0 Expand Domestic Rate Zone 9 for Freely Associated States of Micronesia (FAS) – Pending approval

The USPS is considering to change the Domestic Rate Zone chart as follows:

- Mailings between Hawaii and the FAS are being reassigned from Zone 1 to Zone 9
- Mailings between Guam and the FAS are being reassigned from Zone 1 to Zone 9
- Mailings between the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the FAS are being reassigned from Zone 1 to Zone 9.

**Note:** The Postal Service has already changed the continental U.S. and Alaska to Zone 9.

- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 611](#)

## 9.0 Limit the Content for First-Class Mail International (FCMI) to Documents

The USPS is considering changes to the International Mail Manual (IMM) and other system language to clarify that First-Class Mail International (FCMI) content is limited to documents in order to prevent mailers from inducting goods or merchandise into the FCMI stream. This change will exclude goods from the FCMI format P (letters) and format G (flats). This change aligns with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) Integrated Product Plan (IPP) which will require that format P (letters) and format G (flats) may contain only documents, not goods. The requirement to remove goods also applies to International Priority Airmail (IPA) and International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) letter and flat streams as well. The definition of “documents” and “goods” will be updated in the IMM to align with the required UPU changes.

- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 630](#)

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## 10.0 Update Zone chart to reflect Priority Mail APO/DPO/FPO processed in Chicago

The USPS is considering updating the zone chart to reflect that Priority Mail destined to Army Post Office (APO), Diplomatic Post Office (DPO), or Fleet Post Office (FPO) shipments to the Pacific Theater and the European Theater is processed and flown out of Chicago (ORD) instead of New York (JFK). In order to calculate the Zone for Priority Mail destined to APO/DPO/FPO, the Zone Chart Exception file will be used to determine the Zone. Two new indicators 'a' and '1' will be added to direct users to the exception file representing Priority Mail destined to APO/DPO/FPO. The list below describes the two new indicators 'a' and '1':

- a = Both NDC Entry Discount indicator and Priority Mail going to Military ZIP Codes Zones are available in the Exceptions File.
- 1 = Priority Mail going to Military ZIP Codes Zones are available in the Exceptions File.
- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 619](#)

## 11.0 Customs Form Printing at RSS for Military, DPO, Possessions, Territories and Freely Associated States

The USPS is considering changes to the way the customs form is presented to the Retail Associate. The current hard copy PS Forms 2976, 2976-A and 2976-B will be replaced with the PS Form 2976-R. The data supplied by the customer will be entered at the RSS at Retail. A harmonized combined customs form and shipping label will print from the Retail printer with an IMpb barcode. The IMpb barcode will represent requested special services. This change will require updates to the DMM and will also impact the current methods used to accept packages at the Military post offices.

- There will be no changes to postage statements.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 676](#)

## 12.0 Separate Structure of Flats vs. Trays/Tubs for Periodical Statement

The USPS is considering changes to the Periodical sacks and tray/tub structure. The change would require for the Periodicals sacks versus tray/tubs mailing to be reported separately on postage statements. Currently the Periodicals flat trays and tubs share the same lines on the postage statement.

- Postage Statement PS Form 3541 – Periodicals will be updated to separate tray lines from sack lines in Part E.
- There will be no changes to Mail.dat.
- There will be no changes to Mail.XML.
- There will be no change to Shipping Services File. [BNS 624](#)

## 13.0 Applicable Technical Specifications

**Note:** At this time based on the known information in scope for this release USPS does not anticipate a new Mail.dat or Mail.XML version to be required. However, in case any additional changes requiring a new version are introduced, the following table would identify which Mail.dat and Mail.XML versions would be supported with Release 47.0.0.0 by PostalOne! and Facility Access and Shipment Tracking (FAST) applications.

<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.dat (eDoc)	<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.XML (eDoc)	<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.XML (Data Distribution)	<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.XML (Profiles MID-CRID)	FAST Mail.XML	eVS Shipping Services Files
17-1 (plus 17-1 Errata) 17-2 (plus 17-2 Errata)	17.0 19.0	14.0A 16.0	14.0A 16.0	14.0A 16.0	1.4 1.6 1.7 2.0

## 14.0 Change History

The major changes as this document evolved are:

#	Section Title	Description

**Note:** Those sections described as "Added entire section" were added to the final after the original version.