

NCOA^{Link®} Mail Processing Equipment Options for Flat-Sized Mailpieces

The USPS[®] has outlined guidelines regarding barcode placement on flat-sized mailpieces. Effective January 28, 2013, section 302.5.1 (Barcode Placement for Flats) of the DMM[®] has been updated to state the following:

*On any flat-size piece claimed at automation prices, the piece must bear an Intelligent Mail barcode with a delivery point routing code. The barcode may be anywhere on the address side as long as it is at least 1/8 inch from any edge of the piece. The portion of the surface of the piece on which the barcode is printed must meet the barcode dimensions and spacing requirements in 708.4.2.5, and the reflectance standards in 708.4.4. Intelligent Mail barcodes are subject to standards in 708.4.3.2. A POSTNET barcode or **an additional Intelligent Mail barcode** may also appear in the address block of an automation flat, when the **qualifying** Intelligent Mail barcode is not in the address block. Other non-USPS barcodes may appear on the address side of a flat if the barcode format is not discernable to automated postal flat-sorting equipment.*

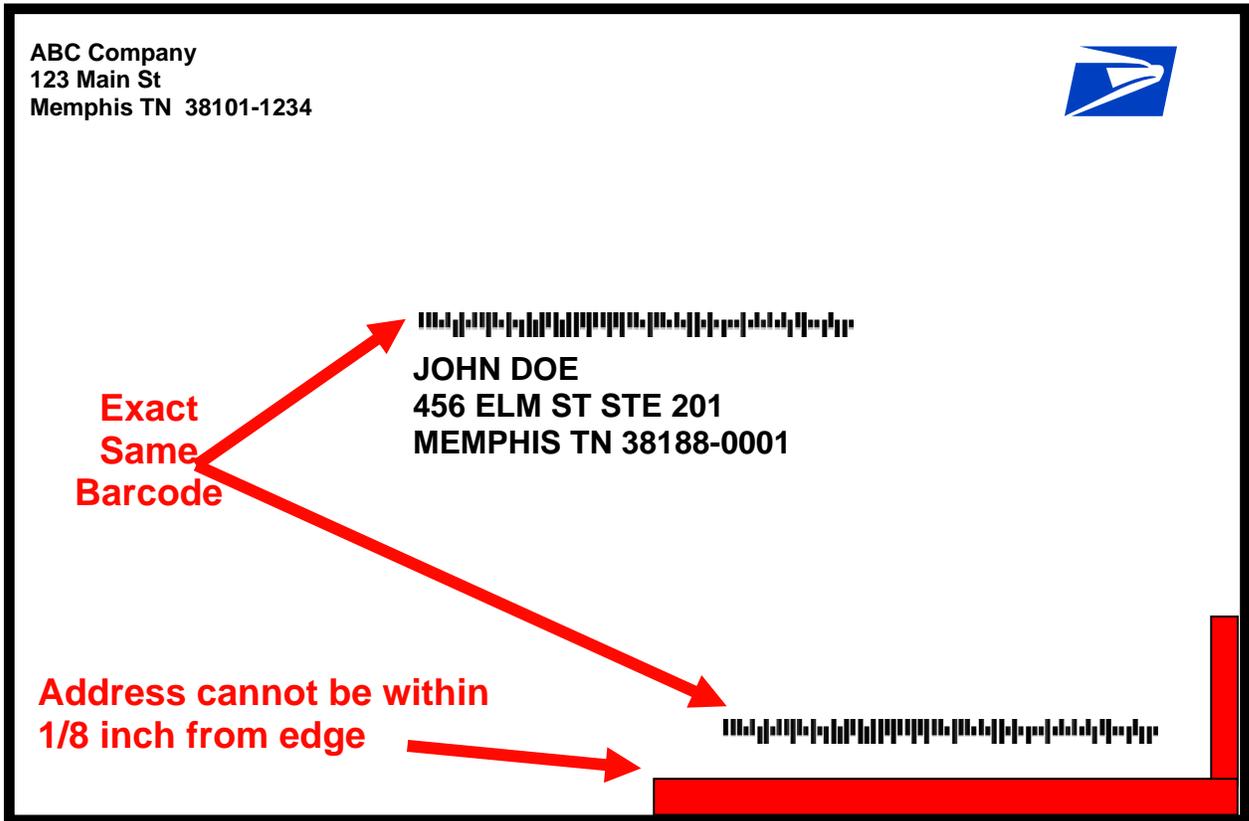
Under this ruling, two Intelligent Mail (IM) barcodes are allowed on a flat-sized mailpiece. A second IM barcode on flat with or without a COA line is acceptable. For example, for mailpieces where an address is sprayed due to Suite^{Link®} and LACS^{Link®} processing, there will be an address text line with no leading 'COA' identifier. In other cases, there will be no text at all.

NOTE: If unable to spray COA information on the mailpieces, the outsourced mailpieces are returned to the customer, destroyed or mailed at full rate.

Below are examples of mailpieces where an additional barcode and/or a new address are sprayed on the mailpieces.

NCOA^{Link}® Mail Processing Equipment Options for Flat-Sized Mailpieces

Secondary IMb™ Added From Read and Spray Mode



NCOA^{Link}® Mail Processing Equipment Options for Flat-Sized Mailpieces

NCOA^{Link} MPE Matched to COA: IMb with COA Information Printed

ABC Company
123 Main St
Memphis TN 38101-1234



Note: No IMb in Address Block

JOHN DOE
456 ELM ST STE 201
MEMPHIS TN 38188-0001

1/8 inch from edge

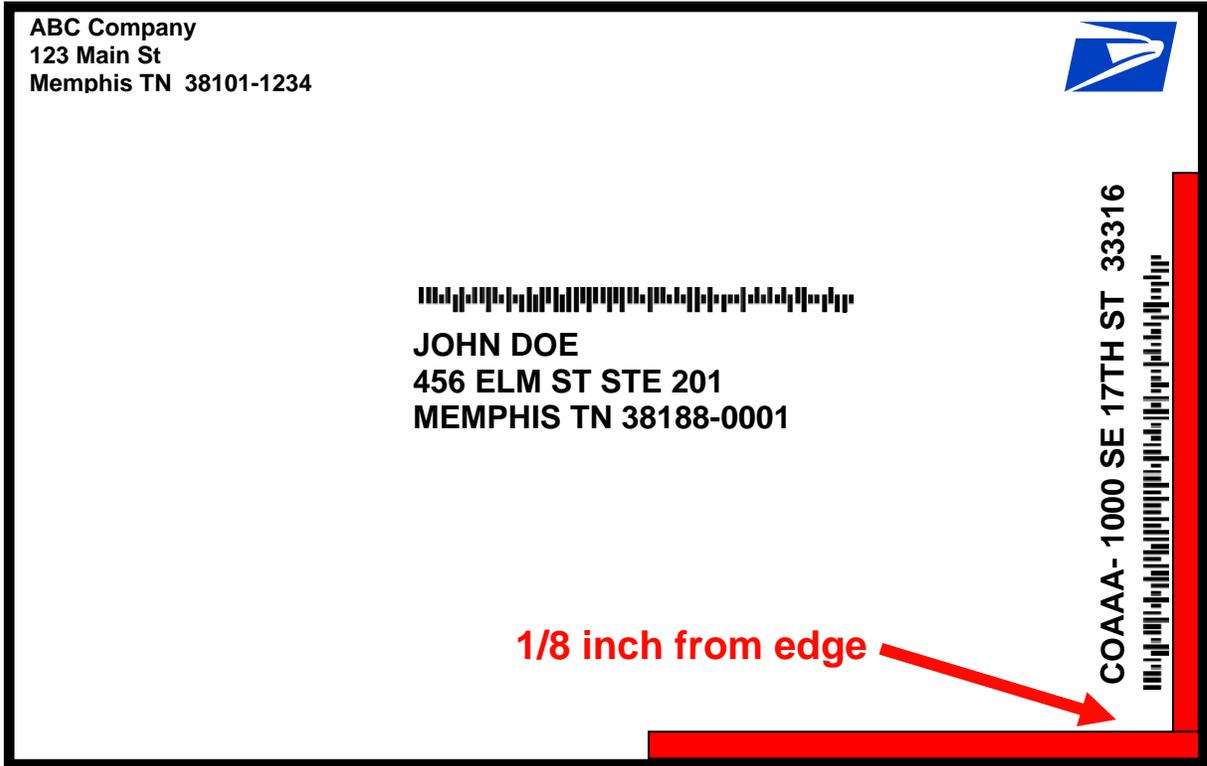
1/25 inch between lines

COAAA- 1000 SE 17TH ST 33316
[Barcode]

The diagram shows a mailpiece layout with a black border. In the top left, there is a return address block. In the top right is the USPS logo. In the center, there is a recipient address block. Below the recipient address, there is a COA (Content Address) block consisting of a line of text and a barcode. Red arrows and text annotations indicate specific measurements: '1/8 inch from edge' points to the right margin of the COA block, and '1/25 inch between lines' points to the vertical spacing between the COA text and its barcode. A red L-shaped bar is visible at the bottom right corner of the mailpiece area.

NCOA^{Link}® Mail Processing Equipment Options for Flat-Sized Mailpieces

NCOA^{Link} MPE Matched to COA: Secondary IMb with COA Information Printed



NCOA^{Link}® Mail Processing Equipment Options for Flat-Sized Mailpieces

NCOA^{Link} MPE Matched to COA: Secondary IMb with COA Information Printed

