

MailPro

NEWS FOR MAILING PROFESSIONALS

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE • VOLUME 2 NUMBER 6 • NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2008

NEW SHIPPING SERVICES PRICES PAGE 4



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE: INTELLIGENT MAIL GUIDES

FYI

The PO Box Lobby Recycling program places secure recycling bins in Post Office lobbies.

INTELLIGENT MAIL FULL-SERVICE GUIDES

We recently updated three technical guides and added a new guide for customers who are implementing the Intelligent Mail full-service solution for their businesses. The guides indicate what functions will be supported in Intelligent Mail Release 1 on May 11 and support Mail.dat version 09.1. We encourage customers to use these guides at *ribbs.usps.gov/files/fullserviceguides/* as they prepare for the transition.



PostalOne! Mail.Dat Technical Guide for Full Service 3.0 (New)

Mail.dat is an industry-defined database structure. Learn how to use Mail.dat to submit electronic information for full-service mailings.

Guide to Intelligent Mail for Letters and Flats (Updated)

Answers technical questions on the full-service option. Find out what changes are required to electronic documentation, how to populate electronic documentation files, and how to create or update electronic appointments.

PostalOne! Technical Guide for Mail.XML (Updated)

Mail.XML supports two-way communication in near real time. Customers can provide eDoc data, including qualification reports and postage statements; create FAST appointments; and receive start-the-clock, container scan, and address correction information.

A Guide to Customer/Supplier Agreements (Updated)

Customer/Supplier Agreements define mail preparation and entry for mailers and the postal plants where their mail is entered. □

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE HOLIDAYS BY THE NUMBERS

- 232 Number of years the U.S. Postal Service has been delivering holiday cheer.
- 19 billion Number of cards, letters and packages to be delivered between Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- 3.4 billion Number of letters mailed over the holidays.
- 82 million Average daily number of First-Class Mail cards and letters mailed.
- 960 million Number of pieces of mail processed on Dec. 15, the busiest mailing day of the year.
- 700 million Average number of pieces of mail processed daily.
- 826 million Average number of pieces of mail processed daily during the holidays.
- 20 million In pounds, the amount of mail the Postal Service will process for overseas military installations, including war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 7,400 Number of Post Offices with expanded hours.
- 214,500 Number of vehicles used to transport holiday mail, including 188,336 half-ton trucks.
- 2.17 billion Number of holiday stamps the Postal Service printed this year.
- 130 million Number of customers who visit the Post Office during the holidays. □

★ Mark your calendar today!



NPF 2009
May 17-20
Washington, DC

★ Visit nfp.org for more information.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 VISION 2013
- 4 SHIPPING SERVICES PRICES
- 6 ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- 11 POSTAL NEWS BRIEFS
- 12 ENHANCED RIBBS WEBSITE

This newsletter is published bimonthly at no charge for mailing professionals. It contains information on current Postal Service programs and services, rates and classification, mailing success stories and industry news. To request *MailPro*, or to change your mailing address (include current mailing label), mail, fax or e-mail your name, title, company name, delivery address and daytime phone number to:

MailPro
NATIONAL CUSTOMER SUPPORT CENTER
US POSTAL SERVICE
6060 PRIMACY PKWY STE 101
MEMPHIS TN 38188-0001
Fax: 901-681-4521
E-mail: mncsc@usps.com

COVER PHOTO:

Prices for Shipping Services will change Jan. 18.

POSTAL SERVICE RELEASES VISION 2013

The Postal Service has released *Vision 2013*, its new five-year strategic plan that balances near-term priorities with long-term needs to adapt to changing customer needs.

The plan acknowledges that postal customers, and the mailing industry as a whole, are hard pressed by current economic conditions, and that service improvements and cost reductions remain crucial.

Vision 2013 offers a broad perspective of what it will take for the Postal Service to succeed in the future, while providing affordable, universal service.

"The customer is at the center of all our efforts," said Postmaster General John Potter and

Board of Governors Chairman Alan Kessler in a joint letter included in the report. "In this time of uncertainty, we see opportunity to build on a solid foundation. We will continue to invest in the Intelligent Mail barcode, flexible networks, the new Flats Sequencing System and other initiatives that promise new gains in service, efficiency and customer value in the years ahead."

At the same time, *Vision 2013* says the Postal Service must listen to what customers have to say as the Postal Service strives to make its products, services, channels and processes more convenient.

Go to usps.com/strategicplanning/vision2013.htm. ■

FYI

On Monday, Jan. 19, Post Offices will be closed to observe the Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday, a national holiday. There will be limited or no retail service available that day.

ECONOMY-DRIVEN MAIL VOLUME DECLINE CONTRIBUTES TO LOSS

The Postal Service concluded fiscal year 2008 with a net loss of \$2.8 billion as the national

economic slowdown lowered mail volume and as the Postal Service bore additional costs mandated by the Postal Act of 2006. The loss occurred despite more than \$2 billion in cost-cutting measures that included the use of 50 million fewer workhours compared to the previous year. The Postal Service continued to improve national on-time First-Class Mail delivery performance, reaching record highs in FY 2008.

Mail volume in FY 2008 totaled 202.7 billion pieces, a decline of 9.5 billion pieces, or 4.5 percent, compared to the previous fiscal year. Declining mail volume was a symptom of the worsening national economy, particularly related to the financial and housing industries and to trends toward the use of electronic mail.

Total revenue in FY 2008 was \$75 billion, unchanged from last year. Expenses totaled \$77.8 billion, including the \$5.6 billion payment required by the Postal Act of 2006 to pre-fund retiree health benefits. Excluding all

the retiree health benefit fund payments from 2008 and 2007, expenses were up less than 1 percent over last year. Cost reductions offset nearly all of the impact from rising inflation, of which the major contributors were a \$562 million increase in cost of living adjustments paid to craft employees and \$525 million in additional fuel costs.

Financial Outlook

"We expect the new fiscal year to be another difficult one for the Postal Service and the entire mailing industry, as economic factors will continue to reduce mail volume and increase expenses," said Postmaster General John Potter. "As we continue to reduce workhours and other costs, our top priority remains providing excellent service to our customers. The combination of excellent service and affordable prices makes postal products a great value."

In addition to the weak or contracting economy and the diversion of mail to electronic means, the pre-funding of retiree health benefits continues to have a significant impact on Postal Service finances. "The Board will work with members

of Congress to ease some of the financial pressure we are currently facing from the Postal Act," Board Chairman Alan Kessler announced. "Legislative relief is only part of the solution to the problems facing the Postal Service. The Board and management will actively pursue the actions necessary to further reduce costs and grow revenue," Kessler added.

Fourth Quarter Service Performance

In the fourth quarter of FY 2008, on-time delivery performance for overnight First-Class Mail service remained at 97 percent for the second consecutive quarter, 1 point above the same period last year. Two-day service was 94 percent on-time and three-day service was 93 percent on-time, unchanged from the fourth quarter of the previous year.

With the beginning of the new fiscal year, the Postal Service has implemented new service standards and has expanded the geography and classes of mail for which service is measured in 2009. The first reporting of the new service standards scores will occur early next year following the conclusion of the first quarter. ■

FYI

The new Express Mail commercial base prices will be 5 percent lower than retail prices.

On Nov. 12, the Governors of the Postal Service announced new prices and product features for our shipping services product line to be effective Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009. We also will implement new mailing standards consisting of minor classification changes to support the price changes.

The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 gives the Postal Service increased flexibility in pricing, product enhancements and product introductions for shipping services. We will change only shipping services prices in January. In February 2009, we will announce price changes for mailing services, including stamp prices, as well as for International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) and International Priority Airmail (IPA) to take effect in May 2009.

For complete pricing information, including the new shipping services prices and current mailing services prices, go to usps.com/prices. Customers can view the prices of the products they use and download and print the price tables.

SHIPPING SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Express Mail
- Priority Mail
- Parcel Select
- Parcel Return Service
- Global Express Guaranteed (GXG)
- Express Mail International
- Priority Mail International
- M-bags

Changes to the *Domestic Mail Manual* (DMM) and *International Mail Manual* (IMM) are now available. Go to pe.usps.com and click on *Federal Register notices*.

EXPRESS MAIL

Overall, Express Mail prices will increase 5.7 percent on average. Other than the flat-rate envelope, Express Mail prices continue to be based on weight and distance (zone). We will continue reduced commercial base pricing, and replace the current rebate process for high-volume commercial base customers with a separate pricing category – commercial plus. The Express Mail Flat Rate Envelope retail price will be \$17.50 for material mailed in a flat-rate envelope regardless of the weight or distance traveled. The Sunday/holiday premium will remain \$12.50.

Express Mail retail prices can be found on page 2 of Notice 123, *Price List*, available at usps.com/prices.

EXPRESS MAIL COMMERCIAL BASE PRICES

Commercial base prices will increase 3.7 percent on average and will be 5 percent below retail prices. The Express Mail Flat Rate Envelope will be priced at \$16.63. We will expand commercial base price availability to include customers paying postage using an approved Information Based Indicia (IBI) metering system, as well as customers who use Express Mail Corporate Accounts (EMCA), including Federal Agency Accounts, Click-N-Ship service and registered end-users of PC Postage systems. PC Postage systems must have the ability to produce approved Express Mail shipping labels. Effective January 2010, IBI metering systems must be able to electronically provide transactional data by individual customer.

Express Mail commercial base prices can be found on page 7 of the *Price List*.

NEW EXPRESS MAIL COMMERCIAL PLUS PRICES

New commercial plus pricing will be 14.5 percent below retail prices. For example, the Express Mail Flat Rate Envelope will be priced at \$14.96. Commercial plus prices will be available to existing customers whose cumulative account volume exceeds 6,000 pieces in the previous



FYI

Find information on green initiatives and consumer products at usps.com/green.



four calendar quarters, and customers who have a “customer commitment agreement” with the Postal Service. For commercial plus prices, customers must use an EMCA, including Federal Agency Accounts, or be a registered end-user of a PC-Postage system using approved shipping labels as described above.

Express Mail commercial plus prices can be found on page 8 of the *Price List*.

PRIORITY MAIL

Overall, Priority Mail prices will increase 3.9 percent on average, and retail prices will increase 4.7 percent. The Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope retail price, and the unzoned 1-pound price, will be \$4.95. We also introduce a new

Priority Mail Small Flat Rate Box whose price is the same as the flat-rate envelope at \$4.95, regardless of the actual weight of the piece or its destination as shown in the table below. Customers will now have four convenient flat-rate box options to choose from. We continue to offer the discount for the large flat-rate box going to APO/FPO destination addresses.

Priority Mail retail prices can be found on page 3 of the *Price List*.

PRIORITY MAIL COMMERCIAL BASE PRICES

Commercial base prices will be 4.7 percent lower on average than retail prices. The Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope and the new small flat-

NEW PRIORITY MAIL FLAT-RATE PRICING

	Size (inches)	Retail (\$)	Commercial Base (\$)	Commercial Plus (\$)
Flat-Rate Envelope	12-1/2 x 9-1/2	4.95	4.80	4.75
Small Flat-Rate Box	8-5/8 x 5-3/8 x 1-5/8	4.95	4.80	4.75
Regular Flat-Rate Box (FRB-1)	11 x 8-1/2 x 5-1/2	10.35	9.85	9.67
Regular Flat-Rate Box (FRB-2)	13-5/8 x 11-7/8 x 3-3/8	10.35	9.85	9.67
Large Flat-Rate Box: Domestic Addresses	12-1/4 x 12-1/4 x 6	13.95	13.50	13.27
APO/FPO destinations		11.95	11.50	11.30

FYI

Go online to
usps.com/prices.

rate box will be priced at \$4.80. We will expand commercial base price availability to include customers paying postage using an IBI metering system in conjunction with an approved shipping label that includes a confirmation services barcode with a postal routing code. Commercial base prices continue to be available to customers who use Click-N-Ship service, registered end-users of PC Postage systems producing approved shipping labels that include a confirmation services barcode with a postal routing code, and customers using permit imprint manifest mailing systems (MMS). Effective January 2010, IBI metering systems must be able to electronically provide transactional data by individual customer.

Priority Mail commercial base prices can be found on page 9 of the *Price List*.

NEW PRIORITY MAIL COMMERCIAL PLUS PRICES

New commercial plus prices will be available to:

- Existing Priority Mail customers who ship more than 100,000 pieces in the previous calendar year paying postage with a USPS-approved PC Postage system or a permit imprint MMS account.
- Priority Mail Open and Distribute (PMOD) customers who ship more than 600 PMOD containers in the previous calendar year under a Manifest Mailing System (MMS).
- New Priority Mail customers who have a customer commitment agreement with USPS.

For commercial plus prices, customers must pay Priority Mail postage using a USPS-authorized PC Postage product producing individual shipping labels, or using a permit imprint MMS. The new pricing category will provide incentives for volume and revenue growth from high-volume customers. Commercial plus pricing results in only a 1 percent increase over current commercial base prices, and will be 7 percent on average below new retail prices.

2009 SHIPPING SERVICES PRICE ADJUSTMENTS

- Postal Service shipping services prices will change Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009. This includes new prices for all Express Mail, Priority Mail, Parcel Select and Parcel Return Service, as well as prices for Global Express Guaranteed, Express Mail International, Priority Mail International and direct sacks M-bags.
- The move to annual January implementation for shipping services price changes aligns the Postal Service with price changes among other shipping companies and provides a clearer picture of the competitive, affordable products the Postal Service offers.
- This is the first time the Postal Service is separating pricing implementation dates for shipping services and mailing services products. New mailing service prices, which include First-Class Mail stamp prices, will be announced each February and implemented the following May.
- New stamp prices, along with other mailing services prices, will be announced in February and take effect in May 2009. Prices for Postal Service mailing services are capped by class of mail at the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index. The current CPI rate is available on the Postal Regulatory Commission website at prc.gov.
- Complete USPS pricing information, including commercial base and new commercial plus pricing for Express Mail and Priority Mail, is available in Notice 123, *Price List*, at usps.com/prices.
- Prices will increase an average of 5 percent. By comparison, competitors have announced price increases of between 5.9 percent and 6.9 percent.
- Unlike other shipping companies, the Postal Service does not impose surcharges for fuel, residential delivery or Saturday delivery. Our new prices are very competitive within the shipping industry and reflect the value Postal Service products have for our customers.



Priority Mail commercial plus prices can be found on page 10 of the *Price List*.

Remember, commercial base and commercial plus prices apply to postage only, and not extra services such as insurance and pickup-on-demand service. Also, we continue to offer no-fee (electronic) Delivery Confirmation service for Priority Mail with postage paid using one of the methods discussed above.

PARCEL SELECT

Parcel Select combines parcel consolidator expertise and logistics with the vast delivery network of the Postal Service. Parcel Select destination entry parcels retain no-fee (electronic) Delivery Confirmation service, and loyalty and growth incentives implemented in May 2008, remain. The price increase for Parcel Select destination entry will be 4.7 percent on average for DDU, 6.8 percent for DSCF, and 9.1 percent for DBMC.

Parcel Select also includes Inter-BMC/ASF parcels prepared and mailed at Origin BMC (OBMC) Presort and BMC Presort, as well as machinable parcels prepared for barcoded discounts. Prices for these products will be announced in February to take effect in May 2009.

Parcel Select prices begin on page 17 of the *Price List*.

PARCEL RETURN SERVICE

Parcel Return Service (PRS) is for merchants who receive a large volume of returns and want to provide their customers with the convenience of a return solution, and for shipping consolidators or reverse logistic providers. PRS features free carrier pickup and competitive rates with two pricing options — one for return delivery unit and the other for return bulk mail center. There will be no price increase for the return delivery unit parcels and an average of 7.1 percent

Continued on page 8

FYI

Notice 123, *Price List*, is now the complete listing of all domestic and international pricing and fee information. Go to usps.com/prices.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Commercial base prices are not available at Automated Postal Centers.
- Only Priority Mail commercial base and commercial plus pricing includes no fee (electronic) delivery confirmation service.
- There are no changes to the application of dimensional-weight pricing to Priority Mail destinating to zones 5 through 8, and to the application of (minimum) balloon pricing to Priority Mail destinating locally and to zones 1 through 4 and all Parcel Post/Parcel Select.
- Commercial Plus pricing is new for 2009. It is an extraordinary value for high-volume Express Mail and Priority Mail users. New Commercial Plus prices for Express Mail are 14.5 percent less than retail on average, and for Priority Mail 7 percent less than retail on average.
- We are introducing a new “small” flat-rate box for Priority Mail and Priority Mail International.
- Parcel Select combines parcel consolidator expertise and logistics with the vast delivery network of the Postal Service. It continues to be an excellent solution for high-volume shippers.
- We are continuing Loyalty Incentives and Growth Incentives for large-volume Parcel Select shippers based on destination delivery unit growth only. Customers who qualify for these incentives will receive annual rebates ranging from 2 to 14 percent of DDU postage.
- Parcel Return Service is for merchants who receive a large volume of returns and want to provide their customers with the convenience of a return solution, and for shipping consolidators or reverse logistic providers. PRS features free carrier pickup and competitive rates with two pricing options.
- Priority Mail International customers using Click-N-Ship and PC Postage, and customers who pay postage using a permit imprint and approved software for mail preparation and customs-related functions, will continue to get a commercial base price 5 percent lower than the retail price. We are expanding availability of the commercial base prices to now include postage paid using an IBI metering system and transmit customs forms electronically.
- Commercial base prices for Express Mail International will be expanded to include postage paid using an IBI metering system and transmit customs forms electronically, as well as those customers who are using an Express Mail Corporate Account, Click-N-Ship and registered end-users of PC Postage.
- Additionally, there will be a new price group (10) for Australia and New Zealand added to Express Mail International and Priority Mail International, except for flat-rate products. ■

increase for the return bulk mail center parcels.

Parcel Return Service prices can be found on page 23 of the *Price List*.

INTERNATIONAL MAIL

Overall, international shipping services prices will increase 8.5 percent on average. Prices increase for Global Express Guaranteed (GXG), Express Mail International, Priority Mail International and M-bags. We will expand commercial base prices to include qualifying end-user customers that pay postage using an IBI metering system and transmit customs forms electronically.

For mail destinating to Australia and New Zealand, we will add a new separate price group 10 for Express Mail International and Priority Mail International only. First-Class Mail International, including M-bags, will continue to use price group 3 for Australia and price group 6 for New Zealand, and GXG will continue to use price group 6 for both countries.

GLOBAL EXPRESS GUARANTEED

Published Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) prices will increase 11.2 percent on average, and we continue to offer a 10 percent reduction with commercial base prices. We will expand commercial base price availability to include customers paying postage using IBI postage metering systems, as well as customers who use Click-N-Ship service, and registered end-users of PC Postage systems. These customers must electronically transmit customs forms.

GXG prices can be found on page 25 of the *Price List*.

New Commercial Plus Pricing for Express Mail and Priority Mail Customers

Commercial plus prices are available for new and existing Express Mail and Priority Mail customers who meet certain volume requirements and who enter into a customer commitment agreement with USPS. The average commercial plus discount is 14.5 percent off retail for Express Mail and 7 percent for Priority Mail.

For additional information, prospective shippers should contact their USPS account manager or the manager, Sales and Communication, Expedited Shipping, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW NB, Ste 4039, Washington, DC 20260-4000.



EXPRESS MAIL INTERNATIONAL

Express Mail International prices will increase by 8.5 percent, and vary based on country group and weight increments. We continue to offer an 8 percent reduction with commercial base prices. We will expand commercial base price availability to include customers paying postage using IBI metering systems, as well as customers who use Click-N-Ship service, and registered end-users of PC Postage systems. These customers must electronically transmit customs forms. Also, customers who pay postage by permit imprint and use authorized mail preparation software also will continue to pay 8 percent below retail.

EMCA and permit imprint manifest mailing systems customers who also use USPS-provided Global Shipping Software (GSS) for mail preparation and customs-related functions will continue to be eligible for prices 8, 10 or 12 percent lower than retail, depending upon annual volume or postage. A customer will receive commercial base prices during the first postal quarter of mailing. Thereafter, the incentive for each postal quarter is determined by the actual annualized volume or postage paid for Express Mail International mailed in the previous full postal quarter. We will continue to offer additional volume pricing through customized agreements.

Express Mail International prices begin on page 26 of the *Price List*.

FYI

Customers interested in pursuing International Mail business options can contact USPS Global Business Management Executive Director Frank Cebello at frank.a.cebello@usps.gov.

PRIORITY MAIL INTERNATIONAL

The published price for Priority Mail International will increase 8.5 percent. Price increases vary based on country group and weight increments. We continue to offer a 5 percent reduction with commercial base prices. We will expand commercial base price availability to include customers paying postage through using IBI metering systems, as well as customers who use Click-N-Ship service, and registered end-users of PC Postage systems. These customers must electronically transmit customs forms. Also, customers who pay postage by permit imprint and use authorized mail preparation software also will also continue to pay 5 percent below retail prices.

NEW PRIORITY MAIL SMALL FLAT RATE BOX

The new small flat-rate box will be available for international shipping as well, and will be the same price and carry the same weight limit (4 pounds), customs form 2976 and content requirements for each country, as the Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelope. Registered Mail service is available but insurance is not available. The retail price for the small flat-rate box and the flat-rate envelope will be \$10.95 for Canada or Mexico and \$12.95 for all other countries, and is eligible for commercial base prices.

Priority Mail International prices can be found on page 27 of the *Price List*.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT SACKS — (M-BAGS)

International Direct Sacks — M-bags are direct sacks of printed matter and non-dutiable

merchandise sent to one addressee with weight-based prices. Prices will increase 8 percent.

Airmail M-bag prices can be found on page 28 of the *Price List*.

INTERNATIONAL FLAT RATE

Envelopes and Boxes	Canada/Mexico	All other Countries
Priority Mail International ¹ —		
Envelope	\$10.95	\$12.95
Small box	\$10.95	\$12.95
Regular box	\$25.95	\$41.95
Large box	\$32.95	\$53.95
Express Mail International ² —		
Envelope	\$25.95	\$27.95

¹ Commercial base prices will be 5 percent lower.

² Commercial base prices will be 8 percent lower.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We continue to offer Carrier Pickup as a no-fee service, and Pickup On Demand service continues to cost \$14.75. There are no changes to any permit or annual fees, however, business reply mail and merchandise return service items returned as Priority Mail will be subject to new Priority Mail retail pricing Jan. 18. □



FYI

Flat-rate boxes and envelopes are provided for customer convenience. There may be lower zone-based Express Mail and Priority Mail prices.



The U.S. Postal Service welcomes DHL customers

We're ready to take care of all your shipping needs without missing a beat. For overnight and 2-day shipping, we have the lowest prices for packages up to 5 lbs.* And there are no hidden surcharges.

*Competitors' rates may include certain additional services and guarantees.

Visit usps.com today or call 1-800-ASK-USPS



©2008 United States Postal Service. Eagle symbol and logotype are registered trademarks of the United States Postal Service.

INAUGURATION DAY COMMEMORATIVE

The Postal Service will offer an official commemorative souvenir to mark the inauguration of Barack Obama as President of the United States.

This philatelic folio includes:

- A collectible stamped envelope with silk portraits of Obama and Vice President-elect Joseph Biden.
- An official commemorative Inaugural Digital Color Postmark.
- Photographs and biographical information.
- A brief commentary on inaugural tradition and history.
- Presidential oath of office.

Pre-orders are now accepted at usps.com/shop and will be shipped starting Jan. 20. Official sales begin Jan. 20 at select Post Offices, usps.com and by calling 800-STAMP-24. ■



Volume 2 Number 6

Editorial
Ilze Sella
Thomas DeVaughan

Design
Andrea Rogoff

John Potter
Postmaster General and
Chief Executive Officer

Steve Kearney
Senior Vice President,
Customer Relations

Maura Robinson
Vice President,
Pricing

Mitzi Betman
Vice President,
Corporate Communications

MailPro
is published by U.S. Postal Service
Customer Relations.
USPS eagle symbol and logotype are
registered marks of the
United States Postal Service.

© 2008 United States Postal Service. The following are among the many trademarks owned by the United States Postal Service: United States Postal Service®, U.S. Postal Service®, USPS®, Post Office™, First-Class Mail®, usps.com®, Click-N-Ship®, Express Mail®, Priority Mail®, Standard Mail®, Intelligent Mail®, Parcel Select®, Express Mail International®, Signature Confirmation™, Certified Mail™, Delivery Confirmation™, Registered Mail™, ZIP Code™, Carrier Pickup™, Priority Mail International™, First-Class Mail International™ and RIBBS™. This is not a comprehensive list of all Postal Service marks.

Send address corrections and
subscription requests to:

MailPro
NATIONAL CUSTOMER SUPPORT CENTER
US POSTAL SERVICE
6060 PRIMACY PKWY STE 101
MEMPHIS TN 38188-0001
fax: 901-681-4521
e-mail: mncsc@usps.com

Send stories, photos and editorial suggestions to:
EDITOR

MailPro
US POSTAL SERVICE
475 L'ENFANT PLAZA SW RM 10541
WASHINGTON DC 20260-3100
fax: 202-268-2392
e-mail: mailpro@usps.com

See our Privacy Policy on usps.com.

Online services:
usps.com
ribbs.usps.gov

MailPro
usps.com/mailpro

PCC website/PCC Insider:
usps.com/pcc



FYI

Postmaster General John Potter has appointed Jean Picker Firstenberg, former director and chief executive officer of the American Film Institute, chairman of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee, beginning in January 2009.

GREEN HOLIDAY TIPS

Don't take a holiday from recycling. That's the message from the Postal Service and Earth911.com.

Waste output can increase as much as 25 percent during the Holidays, so Earth911.com and the Postal Service are presenting the "Green Your Holidays" channel with simple, practical tips to make sure you don't contribute to that statistic.

The Green Your Holidays channel

shows how to reduce, reuse and recycle key products associated with the holidays, including Christmas trees, gift packaging, greeting cards and holiday lights. It also provides the opportunity for consumers to search more than 100,000 locations in the U.S. and Canada that recycle these products.

USPS will be contributing valuable content about recycled content packaging, greening your mail and other information. ■

MONEY ORDERS GET A MAKEOVER

Redesigned domestic and international postal money orders have enhanced security features, including a watermark and a new security thread.

When the money order is held up to a light, repeating images of former Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin can be seen, making it easier for banks and Post Offices to detect counterfeits. A new holographic, multi-colored security

thread also now weaves in and out of the paper to thwart scam artists attempting to produce fake money orders.

Domestic money orders are available at all Post Offices in amounts up to \$1,000, at a cost of a little more than a dollar. International money orders valued at up to \$700 are available to 30 countries for only \$3.85. A complete list of participating countries can be found at usps.com. ■

ENHANCED RIBBS: EASY TO SEARCH. EASY TO NAVIGATE.

Finding information mailers need is now easier at the RIBBS website at ribbs.usps.gov.

RIBBS has long been a primary technical resource for the mailing industry. The site has been enhanced with site indexes that are searchable from A to Z or by topic. Improved print capabilities and drop-down menu navigation provide easy access to our many products and services.

Links to Intelligent Mail services and the Flats Sequencing Strategy also are available.

Visit the updated RIBBS site at ribbs.usps.gov. ■

The screenshot shows the RIBBS website interface. At the top, it features the United States Postal Service logo and the text "National Customer Support Center" and "RIBBS Intelligent Mail & Address Quality". A navigation bar includes links for Home, Site Index A-Z, Site Index by Topic, Locations/Logos, and Contact Us. The main content area has a "Classic RIBBS Version" link and a "Try Finding It Here" button with a red arrow. Below this is the "Intelligent Mail Barcode" section, which includes a barcode image and text stating: "The Intelligent Mail Barcode (formerly known as the 4-State Customer Barcode) is the next generation of USPS barcode technology used to sort and track letters and flats." Below this is a "Mail Service Updates" link. On the right side, there are three promotional boxes: "Intelligent Mail Barcode learn more...", "MTAC Minutes November 18-20, 2008" (with a photo of hands), and "What's New? Move Update Requirements." A left-hand navigation menu lists: Intelligent Mail Services, Flats Sequencing Strategy, Address Quality Products, Certifications, Move Update, and Rate Calculator.