# Signature Confirmation

## USPS Web Tools™ Application Programming Interface User's Guide

Document Version 2.1c (01/22/2012)



#### **To Our Customers**

In registering for use of the USPS Web  $Tools^{TM}$  (Web Tools), you received a user ID that will allow you to begin sending calls to the server when you are ready. Any additional information or contact with you will occur as indicated on the registration form, please return to the <u>eCommerce</u> <u>API Technical Guides site</u> for the most recent documentation from any of the Web Tools.

If you require technical support, contact the USPS Internet Customer Care Center (ICCC). This office is manned from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM EST daily.

E-mail address: <u>uspstechsupport@esecurecare.net</u>

Telephone: 1-800-344-7779 (7:00 AM to 11:00 PM EST daily)

#### **USPS Customer Commitment**

The United States Postal Service fully understands the importance of providing information and service anytime day or night to your Internet and e-commerce customers. For that reason, the USPS is committed to providing 24 x 7 service from our Web Tools servers, 365 days a year.

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## **Table of Contents**

1.0	Introduction To Web Tools	1
1.	1 Implementation Overview	2
	Step 1: Register	3
	Step 2: Test Your XML	3
	Step 3: Call ICCC for Sample Label Privileges	3
	Step 4: Run Transactions to Produce Sample Labels & Print Output	3
	Step 5: Submit Customized Labels for Certification (Customized Labels Only)	3
	Step 6: Receive Certification from the ICCC (Customized Labels Only)	4
	Step 7: Go Live with Your Web Tool	4
1.	2 User ID Restrictions	4
1.	3 USPS Corporate Branding Guidelines	5
	1.3.1 Preferred Reference	5
	1.3.2 Alternative Reference	6
	1.3.3 Trademark Ownership and Use	6
1.	4 XML Overview	6
1.	5 Error Responses	7
1.	6 Structure of this Guide	7
2.0	Signature Confirmation Overview	8
2.	1 Label Options	8
2.	2 Basic Standards and Classes of Mail	.12
2.	3 Aviation Mail Security & Hazardous Materials	. 12
3.0	Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool	.13
3.	1 Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool Transaction Procedures	. 13
3.	2 Run Scripted Test	.13
	Step 1: Build the XML Request	13
	Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	15
	Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	16
3.	3 Run Sample Requests	. 17
	Step 1: Build the XML Request	17
	Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	23
	Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	23
3.	4 Run Live Data	. 25
	Step 1: Build the XML Request	25
	Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	32
	Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	32

4.0 Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool	35
4.1 Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool Transact	ion
Procedures	35
4.2 Run Scripted Test	
Step 1: Build the XML Request	35
Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	
Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	
4.3 Run Sample Requests	
Step 1: Build the XML Request	
Step 2: Make Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	
Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	
Step 4: Create Your Own Label	
Step 5: Get Your Customized Label Certified	
4.4 Run Live Data	
Step 1: Build the XML Request	
Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request	
Step 3: Unpack the XML Response	47
Appendix A: Signature Confirmation Product Tracking Syste	em Extract
File Retrieval	
Appendix B: NCSC Submission Form	53

## **1.0 Introduction To Web Tools**

The USPS Web Tools allow developers of web-based and shrink-wrapped applications access to the on-line services of the United States Postal Service (USPS). They provide easy access to shipping information and services for your customers. Your customers can utilize the functions provided by the USPS without ever leaving your web site. Once the Web Tools are integrated, your server communicates through the USPS Web Tools server over HTTP/s using XML (eXtensible Markup Language).

**Important**: Implementing these Web Tools requires experienced programmers who are familiar with Internet and web site development tools and techniques.

There is a *Web Tools User's Guide* for each Web Tool listed on the <u>eCommerce API Technical</u> <u>Guides site</u>. These user guides provide examples of the XML transactions to the USPS Web Tools server and guidance for installation.

#### **1.1 Implementation Overview**

As shown below, before you go live with either of the Signature Confirmation Web Tools, you must perform testing, and if you are planning to create your own customized labels, get your customized label certified. Following the diagram is a brief description of the steps illustrated.



#### Step 1: Register

To use the USPS Web Tools you must be a registered user. Completing the registration process resulted in the receipt of your user ID and test server URL.



If you have not registered, go to the <u>Web Tools website</u> and follow the instructions to register for the Web Tools.

#### Step 2: Test Your XML

The next step is to test your Web Tools. As a registered user you have been granted access to the test server. **An important note:** The test server is set up to only accept the pre-defined XML transactions and return the pre-defined XML responses provided in this document. For the testing phase, follow the specific instructions in the *Run Scripted Test* section for the Web Tool you are installing.

#### Step 3: Call ICCC for Sample Label Privileges

Once you have run your XML test transactions and have confirmed the XML responses, contact the Internet Customer Care Center (ICCC) (e-mail address: <u>uspstechsupport@esecurecare.net</u>; telephone: 1-800-344-7779 (7:00AM to 11:00PM EST)) and request Sample Label privileges. The ICCC will verify your test results and validate you for producing Sample Labels.

Once you have been validated by the ICCC, you will be able to connect to the Web Tools production server. Unlike the test server, the production server will accept live data. Note that once you have access to the production server you may still test against the test server.

#### Step 4: Run Transactions to Produce Sample Labels & Print Output

At this stage of the process, you are only authorized to send Sample Label data (as described in the *Run Sample Requests* section). If the Sample Labels are satisfactory, and you intend to use the labels returned by the Web Tool instead of creating your own, you then notify the ICCC. After they verify the quality of the Sample Label, they then grant you full production access. You are now ready to go live with your Web Tool (skip to Step 7 in this section).

If, however, you plan to create your own customized label or modify the image returned in any way, you still have two more steps before going live.

#### Step 5: Submit Customized Labels for Certification (Customized Labels Only)

After creating your label (as described in the *Create Your Own Label* section), the certification process for your customized or modified labels requires the following:

- 1. Print ten of your customized (or modified) labels.
- 2. Complete the National Customer Support Center Customized Web Tools Label Submission form in the appendix of this guide. You can either print the form from this

file and fill out with a pen, or copy the form to a Microsoft Word file and fill out electronically before printing and signing.

3. Mail the completed form, along with the ten labels, to the address on the form.

Questions about the label certification process may be directed to NCSC support staff at (800) 344-7779. Be sure to mention that you are a Web Tools customer.

#### Step 6: Receive Certification from the ICCC (Customized Labels Only)

Your labels will be reviewed within two business days. If the labels fail the certification test, you will be contacted. If the labels pass, you will be notified by the ICCC and you will be granted access to send XML transactions using your Live data.

#### **Important:**

**Image or System Testing**—Any remaining needs for testing your system should be carried out against the Sample Label on the production server.

**Load Testing**—If you need to carry out load testing of your system, you must use the test server URL and not the production server address. **Do not attempt to run load testing of our production server.** Contact the ICCC with Web Tools server capacity issues.

#### Step 7: Go Live with Your Web Tool

At this point, you have completed all testing and are now ready to send Live data. Follow the instructions provided in the *Run Live Data* sections for the Web Tool you are installing.

**Note:** The United States Postal Service expressly prohibits the use of Web Tools "scripting" without prior approval. Web Tools scripting can be defined as a technique to generate large volumes of Web Tools XML request transactions that are databaseor batch-driven under program control, instead of being driven by individual user requests from a web site or a client software package. The USPS reserves the right to suspend server access without notification by any offending party that does not have prior approval for Web Tools scripting. Registered Web Tools customers that believe they have a legitimate requirement for Web Tools scripting should contact the ICCC to request approval.

#### **1.2 User ID Restrictions**

The user ID that you have received is for you or your company to use in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of Use to which you agreed during the registration process. This user ID is not to be shared with others outside your organization, nor is it to be packaged, distributed, or sold to any other person or entity. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions of Use Agreement for additional restrictions on the use of your user ID.

*Warning:* If the U.S. Postal Service discovers use of the same user ID from more than one web site, all users will be subject to immediate loss of access to the USPS server and termination of the licenses granted under the Terms and Conditions of Use.

The documentation and sample code contained in the *Web Tools User Guide* series may be reused and/or distributed to your customers or affiliates to generate awareness, encourage Web Tool use, or provide ease-of-use. It is your responsibility to ensure that your customers do not use your user ID for any purpose. Direct your customers to the <u>Web Tools website</u> to register, agree to the Terms and Conditions of Use agreement, and receive their own unique user ID.

**Note to Software Distributors***:* The User ID restrictions discussed above are intended for online retailers that use the USPS Web Tools exclusively within their own web sites. If you plan to distribute software with the USPS Web Tools embedded, contact the ICCC for guidelines.

For more information regarding the USPS Web Tools user ID policy, or for questions regarding the distribution of documentation, send e-mail to <u>uspstechsupport@esecurecare.net</u>.

#### **1.3 USPS Corporate Branding Guidelines**

The U.S. Postal Service requests to be referenced and acknowledged as the source of information for all U.S. Postal Service data that has been acquired through the Internet and/or from other sources. However, this is not mandatory. The following guidelines should be followed for those that want to authenticate and/or validate the data displayed from the U.S. Postal Service.

#### 1.3.1 Preferred Reference

Use one of the following when the USPS is the only referenced source:

- "Information provided by <u>http://www.usps.com/</u>."
  - or
- Use the official USPS corporate logo or USPS product-specific logos.

Digital copies of USPS corporate trademarks/logos are available through the U.S. Postal Service, Public Policy and Communications Department, Washington, D.C. You can request the USPS corporate logo and/or product-specific logos by sending an e-mail to <u>ilogo@email.usps.gov</u>. Requests will be responded to by e-mail within 10 days. We will review your web site, and if appropriate, provide the logo for usage in accordance with the guidelines and the license grant contained in the Terms and Conditions of Use for Internet Shipping Application Program Interfaces (Web Tools). If your web page is not available over the Internet, please provide a screen shot of the page where the logo will reside.

When requesting logo(s) you must provide the following information:

- Company name.
- URL and page where logo will reside.
- Type of business.
- How and where the logo will be used.
- Contact name.
- Telephone number.
- E-mail address.
- Desired graphic format, e.g., GIF, TIF, JPEG, etc.
- Logo desired:

USPS Corporate Eagle logo

- \_\_\_\_Priority Mail
- \_\_\_\_Express Mail
- \_\_\_\_Other (describe)

#### 1.3.2 Alternative Reference

Use one of the following when the USPS is listed with other shipping carriers or web sites:

- United States Postal Service.
- U.S. Postal Service.
- U.S.P.S. (use period after each initial).

The above alternatives are listed in the order of United States Postal Service preference.

#### 1.3.3 Trademark Ownership and Use

The USPS trademarks listed in the front of this guide and any logos requested from USPS Public Policy and Communications Department should not be altered or abbreviated.

USPS trademarks are trademarks owned solely and exclusively by USPS and may be used only in the form and manner, and with appropriate legends prescribed by USPS. All advertising and other uses of USPS trademarks must include a legend indicating that USPS trademarks are the property of USPS and that they are being used under license from USPS, together with any other legends or marking that may be required by law. Nothing contained in this document shall be deemed to convey any title or ownership interest to any user except for the nonexclusive rights granted under the Terms and Conditions of Use for Internet Shipping Application Program Interfaces and this document.

#### 1.4 XML Overview

XML uses a hierarchical (tree) element structure. Each element consists of a start tag of the form </Name>, and an end tag of the form </Name>, between which can be data and other elements. </Name/> is shorthand for </Name>, an element with no data. Attributes such as userid can be included in the start tag. All data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by the actual values. Developers must use the order and case for tag names of the sample code contained in this document. The tabs and carriage returns in the XML structures are for readability only; there is no need for white space in the actual code.

For more information about XML, browse the following web sites:

- W3C web site
- XML.com web site

#### 1.5 Error Responses

Error conditions are handled at the main XML document level. When parsing, it is best to check for an error document first before checking for good data. Error documents have the following format:

```
<Error>
```

```
<Number></Number>
<Source></Source>
<Description></Description>
<HelpFile></HelpFile>
<HelpContext></HelpContext>
```

</Error>

Where:

- Number = the error number generated by the Web Tools server.
- Source = the component and interface that generated the error on the Web Tools server.
- Description = the error description.
- HelpFile = [reserved for future use].
- HelpContext = [reserved for future use].

Errors that are further down in the hierarchy also follow the above format.

If you need assistance with an error response, contact the ICCC.

#### **1.6 Structure of this Guide**

This document provides guidance and step-by-step instructions for installing the Signature Confirmation Web Tools and fulfilling various administrative requirements. Two separate Web Tools generate a Signature Confirmation number:

- The **Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool** generates a label (and accompanying Customer Online Record), either with or without shipping addresses and information depending on the request. The label returned by the Web Tool is printed by the sender and attached to the package. This Web Tool can be used to create your own label if address cleansing or a full Postnet barcode is desired.
- The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool generates a Signature Confirmation number that can be applied to user-generated labels. This Web Tool only returns the number. If you are exercising the option of generating your own custom label, and you do not desire address cleansing or a full Postnet barcode, use this Web Tool and not the Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool.

Each Web Tool is described in its own section. The steps must be followed in the order presented. Whichever Web Tool you choose, you must test against our test server and, if you are printing your own custom label, you must have your barcode labels certified by the USPS before use.

## 2.0 Signature Confirmation Overview

With the USPS's Signature Confirmation, you (or your customers) can access information on the Internet about the delivery status of First-Class Mail parcels, Priority Mail and Package Services (Parcel Post, Media Mail, and Library Mail), including the date, time, and ZIP Code of delivery, as well as attempted deliveries, forwarding, and returns. Signature Confirmation service is not available to APO/FPO addresses, foreign countries, or most U.S. territories.

There are two separate Web Tools that generate a Signature Confirmation number:

- 1. The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool generates a label (and accompanying Customer Online Record), either with or without shipping addresses and information depending on the request. The label returned by the Web Tool is printed by the sender and attached to the package.
- 2. The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool generates a Signature Confirmation number that can be applied to user-generated labels. This Web Tool only returns the number, which must be used when exercising the option of generating a custom label.

The charge (known as the "electronic option rate") for Signature Confirmation is \$1.30 for Priority Mail, First-Class mail parcels, and Package Services parcels.

There are three ways to obtain the delivery status of Signature Confirmation labels (barcodes) generated by these Web Tools:

- 1. Implementing the Track/Confirm API (available on the <u>Web Tools website</u>).
- 2. Accessing the <u>USPS Track/Confirm web page</u>.
- 3. Using the USPS Product Tracking System (see the Appendix, *Signature Confirmation PTS Tracking System Extract File Retrieval*)

In addition, you can obtain a copy of the recipient's signature via mail or FAX by visiting the <u>USPS Track/Confirm web page</u> or by calling 1-800-222-1811.

#### 2.1 Label Options

You have two label options when requesting Signature Confirmation. Label Option 1 returns the complete label with the Customer Online Record. The following is a full-sized example of this option:



Cut on dotted line.

#### Instructions

×

- 1. Please use a laser or laser-quality printer.
- Adhere shipping label to package with tape or glue -DO NOT TAPE OVER BARCODE. Be sure all edges are secure. Self-adhesive label is recommended.
- 3. Place label so it does not wrap around the edge of the package.
- 4. Affix Priority Mail service postage. Electronic option Signature Confirmation service fee required.
- Stamped packages weighing 16 ounces or more may not be placed in Postal Service collection boxes.
   For information on pickup options, go to the Pickup Page on www.usps.com.
- 6. Each shipping label number is unique and can be used only once -- DO NOT PHOTOCOPY.
- 7. Please use this shipping label on the "ship date" selected when you requested the label.
- If a mailing receipt is required, present the article and Online e-Label Record at a Post Office for postmark.

#### **Online e-Label Record**



<u>UNITED STATES</u> POSTAL SERVICE. Thank you for shipping with the United States Postal Service! Check the status of your shipment on the Track & Confirm page at www.usps.com

#### **Signature Confirmation Overview**

Users can elect to have the Signature Confirmation label and Customer Online Record returned either together on the same page or separated and printed on two pages. The example below shows the Signature Confirmation labels returned on two pages.

Bost A HEAD OWNER OF CASES OF CONFIGNATION OF CASESOAN	≫	ed lina.
	Instructions         1. Please use a laser or laser-quality printer.         4. Adhres shipping label to package with tape or glue -DO NOT TAPE CVER BARCODE. Be sure all edges are secure. Self-adhresive label is recommended.         a. Place label so that it does not wrap around the edge of the package.         a. With Priority Mail service prestage. Electronic option Signature Continuation service for eroquired.         b. Signad packages weighting 16 cunces or more may not be placed in Posts Service collection hores. For information on pickup options, go to the Pickup page on www.usgs.com.         b. Base use his shipping label on the "ship date" selected where you crequested the label.         clifted for postmark.         B. Sitter Service Control on the label.         B. WITED STATES FORTAL SERVICE       Thank you for shipping with it Check the status of your shipment on the Track & determent on the track & determent of your shipment on the Track of your	Signature Confirmation™ Service Number:         91218052         91218

(The images on this page are not to scale.)

**Label Option 2** returns a barcode and PIC number without the return and delivery name and address. This option is convenient for shippers who already have mailing labels and just want the Signature Confirmation label. Below is a full-sized example of this option:



Electronic Rate Approved #805213907



DISTAL SERVICE Thank you for shipping with the United States Postal Service! Check the status of your shipment on the Track & Confirm page at www.usps.com

#### 2.2 Basic Standards and Classes of Mail

<u>Section 503 in the Domestic Mail Manual</u> describes Signature Confirmation, the classes of mail that may include this service, and the retail and electronic delivery options.

#### 2.3 Aviation Mail Security & Hazardous Materials

The Aviation Mail Security and Hazardous Materials Programs represent the U.S. Postal Service's commitment to provide a safe environment for our customers, employees, and the traveling public.

The U.S. Postal Service has taken a proactive role in the areas of aviation mail security and hazardous materials acceptance, handling, and transport for many years. Training has been provided to our employees, supervisors, and managers. Each year these programs are modified to meet increased challenges through improved technology. Our multi-phased programs are in effect 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. The particulars of our programs are withheld for security reasons. However, complying with the following restrictions will assist us in securing a safe mailing environment for all of us:

- Priority Mail envelopes or packages weighing 13 ounces or over with adhesive postage stamps cannot be deposited at unattended receptacles such as collection boxes and lobby drops. These mail pieces must be taken to your nearest USPS retail unit or may be given to your carrier if you are a known customer to him/her and have included your return address. Refer to <u>Domestic Mail Manual</u>, <u>Deposit for Priority Mail</u>.
- International Mail envelopes or packages weighing 13 ounces or over with adhesive postage stamps or customer applied postage meter strips cannot be deposited at unattended mail receptacles such as collection boxes and lobby drops. These mail pieces must be taken to your nearest USPS retail unit or may be given to your carrier if you are a known customer and have included your return address along with a completed, signed, and dated PS Form 2976 or 2976-A. Refer to International Mail Manual.

The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool generates a label and accompanying Customer Online Record, either with or without shipping addresses and information, depending on the request. The label returned by the Web Tool is printed by the sender and attached to the package. This Web Tool can be used to create your own label if address cleansing or a full Postnet barcode is desired.

#### 3.1 Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool Transaction Procedures

The illustration below shows the transactional flow of information to and from the USPS Signature Confirmation Label Web Tools server:

### Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool Server



INPUTS

From Name & Address Recipient Name & Address Package Weight Service Type Label Option Label Image Type Waiver of Signature (optional) Label Date (optional) Reference Number (optional) Address Service Request (optional) Mailing Location (optional) E-mail Information (optional)



SERVER TASKS

Builds XML Response Generates Label Encodes Label Sends E-mail Notification

via XML Response



OUTPUTS

Recipient Name Validated Address Postnet Barcode Number Signature Confirmation label

#### 3.2 Run Scripted Test

**Step 1: Build the XML Request** 

For testing purposes, the only value in the test code in this section that you should change is the user ID. Enter the user ID you received in the registration e-mail for testing. All remaining code in the test scripts provided below must remain unchanged.

#### **Testing URL**

To make test calls to the Signature Confirmation Label server, use the Testing URL provided in the registration e-mail.

#### **Scripted Test Requests**

There are two test requests included in this procedure. All of the test script code contained in this document can be cut and pasted for your use in testing the software. Be sure to note the request numbers so you can match up the responses you will receive as provided in the *Successful Test Responses* section.

#### Test Request #1

(Note: Be sure to enter the <ToZip5> tag line exactly as presented below.)

<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request USERID="xxxx">

```
<Option>1</Option>
     <ImageParameters></ImageParameters>
     <FromName>John Smith</FromName>
     <FromFirm></FromFirm>
     <FromAddress1></FromAddress1>
     <FromAddress2>475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW</FromAddress2>
     <FromCity>Washington</FromCity>
     <FromState>DC</FromState>
     <FromZip5>20260</FromZip5>
     <FromZip4></FromZip4>
     <ToName>Joe Customer</ToName>
     <ToFirm></ToFirm>
     <ToAddress1>STE 201</ToAddress1>
     <ToAddress2>6060 PRIMACY PKWY</ToAddress2>
     <ToCity>MEMPHIS</ToCity>
     <ToState>TN</ToState>
     <ToZip5></ToZip5>
     <ToZip4></ToZip4>
     <WeightInOunces>2</WeightInOunces>
     <ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
     <POZipCode></POZipCode>
     <ImageType>TIF</ImageType>
     <LabelDate></LabelDate>
</SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request>
```

#### Test Request #2

(Note: Be sure to enter the <ToZip5> tag line exactly as presented below.)

```
<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request USERID="xxxx">
<Option>1</Option>
<ImageParameters></ImageParameters>
<FromName>John Smith</FromName>
<FromFirm>U.S. Postal Headquarters</FromFirm>
```

```
USPS Web Tools User's Guide
Signature Confirmation Web Tools (Document Version 2.1b)
```

<FromAddress1></FromAddress1> <FromAddress2>475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW</FromAddress2> <FromCity>Washington</FromCity> <FromState>DC</FromState> <FromZip5>20260</FromZip5> <FromZip4>0004</FromZip4> <ToName>Joe Customer</ToName> <ToFirm>U.S. Postal Service NCSC</ToFirm> <ToAddress1>STE 201</ToAddress1> <ToAddress2>6060 PRIMACY PKWY</ToAddress2> <ToCity>MEMPHIS</ToCity> <ToState>TN</ToState> <ToZip5>38119</ToZip5> <ToZip4>5718</ToZip4> <WeightInOunces>2</WeightInOunces> <ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType> <POZipCode>20260</POZipCode> <ImageType>TIF</ImageType> <LabelDate>07/08/2004</LabelDate> <CustomerRefNo>A45-3928</CustomerRefNo> <AddressServiceRequested>TRUE</AddressServiceRequested> </SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request>

#### Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

This step involves four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Shipping Web Tools server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tools server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool requires the use of SSL. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

```
https://servername/ShippingAPITest.dll?API=SignatureConfirmation
V3&XML=<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request
USERID="username">......</SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request>
```

## NOTE: Signature Confirmation contains personal information. A secure HTTP connection is required.

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### **Successful Test Responses**

For your test to be successful, the following responses to the scripted test requests should be returned *verbatim*.

#### **Response to Test Request #1**

```
<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>
```

<SignatureConfirmationNumber>420381199121805213907084172938<//>
/SignatureConfirmationNumber>

<ToFirm />

<ToAddress1>STE 201</ToAddress1> <ToAddress2>6060 PRIMACY PKWY</ToAddress2> <ToCity>Memphis</ToCity>

<ToState>TN</ToState>

<ToZip5>38119</ToZip5>

<ToZip4>5718</ToZip4>

<Postnet>38119571851</Postnet>

</SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>

#### **Response to Test Request #2**

<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>

<SignatureConfirmationNumber>420381199121805213907063201413< /SignatureConfirmationNumber>

<ToName>Joe Customer</ToName>

<ToFirm>U.S. Postal Service NCSC</ToFirm> <ToAddress1>STE 201</ToAddress1> <ToAddress2>6060 PRIMACY PKWY</ToAddress2> <ToCity>MEMPHIS</ToCity> <ToState>TN</ToState> <ToZip5>38119</ToZip5> <ToZip4>5718</ToZip4> <Postnet>38119571851</Postnet> </SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>

#### **Scripted Test Error Responses**

If any values were changed in your request, the following is an example of an error that can occur. The following error shows an example of using Test #2 with an invalid state value.

```
<Error>
   <Number>-2147219040</Number>
   <Source>DC_Respond;solserverconfrmtest.DC_Respond</Source>
   <Description>Invalid value for State in To
   Address.</Description>
   <HelpFile></HelpFile>
   <HelpContext></HelpContext>
<//Error>
```

Although the input may be valid, the response will still raise this error, because those particular values have not been included in this test server. Refer to the *Error Responses* section for an explanation of any other returned errors.

Upon successful completion of the scripted test phase, call the ICCC. The ICCC will verify your test results and provide you with privileges necessary to proceed to the next step—running Sample requests.

#### 3.3 Run Sample Requests

#### Step 1: Build the XML Request

Upon your receipt of permission to connect to the production server, you will be allowed to create actual "live" labels. However, should you need to conduct system testing you must only do so using the Sample tag <SignatureConfirmCertifyV3.0Request...>

#### Sample Label XML Tags

The table below presents the XML input tags for generating Sample Label requests and the restrictions on the values allowed. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Also, be aware of the maximum character amounts allowed for some tags. If the user enters more than those amounts, an error will not be generated. *The Web Tool will simply pass in the characters up to the maximum amount allowed and disregard the rest.* This is important since the resulting value could prevent delivery.

When building the XML request, pay particular attention to the *order and case* for tags. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Remember that all data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by your actual values. For instance, a line of sample code may be:

#### <FromName>Joe Smith</FromName>

In this instance, you will replace "Joe Smith" with the name of the person sending the package when making your request.

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
<sigconfirmcertifyv3.0request< td=""><td>Required</td><td>Notifies Web Tool that request for <b>Sample</b> Label</td></sigconfirmcertifyv3.0request<>	Required	Notifies Web Tool that request for <b>Sample</b> Label
		is being sent. Input tag exactly as presented.
USERID="userid">	Required	Use user ID provided with registration.

e.g., <SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Request USERID="yourID">

Tags within the above defined call are as follows:

XML Tag	Required/	Description & Values Allowed
	Optional	
<option></option>	Required	Designates desired label option (see Label Options
	Tag/	section, above). Enter one of the valid entries:
	Required	"1" for Label Option # 1
	Value	"2" for Label Option # 2
		For example: <option>1</option>
<pre><imageparameters></imageparameters></pre>	Required	This tag is for future use. The tag is required, but there
	Tag/	is no value to enter.
	No Value	For example:
		<imageparameters></imageparameters>
<fromname></fromname>	Required	Name of sender. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromname>Joe Smith</fromname>
	Value	
<fromfirm></fromfirm>	Required	Company name. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Value	<fromfirm>ABC Corp.</fromfirm>
	Optional	
<fromaddress1></fromaddress1>	Required	From address line 1. Use this tag for an apartment or
	Tag/	suite number. This tag is required but the value is
	Value	optional. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Optional	For example:
		<fromaddress1>Apt. 3C</fromaddress1>
<fromaddress2></fromaddress2>	Required	From address line 2. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromaddress2>6406 Ivy</fromaddress2>
	Value	Lane
<fromcity></fromcity>	Required	From city. Maximum characters allowed: 21
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromcity>Greenbelt</fromcity>
	Value	
<fromstate></fromstate>	Required	From state. Maximum characters allowed: 2
	Tag/	<b>For example:</b> <fromstate>MD</fromstate>
	Required	

XML Tag	Required/	Description & Values Allowed
	Optional	
	Value	
<fromzip5></fromzip5>	Required	From ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all
	Tag/	caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 Must be a valid
	Required	ZIP5 code.
	Value	<pre>For example: <fromzip5>20770</fromzip5></pre>
<fromzip4></fromzip4>	Required	From ZIP Code+4. Input <b>tag</b> exactly as presented.
	lag/	This tag is required but the value is optional. Maximum
	Value	
(TRANSPORT	Optional	For example: <fromz1p4>1234</fromz1p4>
<10Name>	Required	Name of package recipient. Maximum characters
	Tay/ Doguirod	alloweu. So
	Value	For example: <toname>Tom Collins</toname>
<tofirm></tofirm>	Required	Company name of recipient Maximum characters
	Tag/	allowed: 38
	Value	For example: <tofirm>XYZ Corp ToFirm&gt;</tofirm>
	Optional	
<toaddress1></toaddress1>	Required	Recipient address line 1. Use this tag for an apartment
	Tag/	or suite number. Maximum characters allowed: 38
	Value	For example:
	Optional	<toaddress1>Suite 4D</toaddress1>
<toaddress2></toaddress2>	Required	Recipient address line 2. Must be a valid address.
	Tag/	Maximum characters allowed: 38
	Required	For example:
	Value	<toaddress2>8 Wildwood Dr</toaddress2>
		You must have <10Address2> with <10City> and
		<10State> <b>OR</b> <10Address2> with <1021p5>. One of
	Poquirod	Inese complitations is required.
	Tag/	characters allowed: 21
	Required	For example: <tocity>01d Lyme</tocity>
	Value (see	You must have <toaddress2> with <tocity> and</tocity></toaddress2>
	box at	<tostate> <b>OR</b> <toaddress2> with <tozip5>. One of</tozip5></toaddress2></tostate>
	right)	these combinations is required.
<tostate></tostate>	Required	Recipient state. Must be a valid address. Maximum
	Tag/	characters allowed: 2
	Required	<pre>For example: <tostate>CT</tostate></pre>
	Value (see	You must have <toaddress2> with <tocity> and</tocity></toaddress2>
	box at	<tostate> <b>OR</b> <toaddress2> with <tozip5>. One of</tozip5></toaddress2></tostate>
	right)	these combinations is required.
<tozip5></tozip5>	Required	Recipient ZIP Code. Must be a valid ZIP code. Input
	Tag/	tag exactly as presented. Maximum characters
	Required	
	value (see	For example: <1021p5>06371 1021p5
	right)	To States <b>OP</b> To Address 2> with To Tip 5>. One of
	ngn()	these combinations is required
<tozip4></tozip4>	Required	Recipient 7IP Code+4 Input tan exactly as presented
	Tad/	not all caps. Maximum characters allowed 4
	Value	For example: <tozip4>5678</tozip4>
	Optional	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
<weightinounces></weightinounces>	Required	Package weight. Value must be numeric. Estimated
_	Tag/	weight is allowed.

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed	
	Value	For example:	
	Optional	<weightinounces>32</weightinounces>	
<servicetype></servicetype>	Required Tag/ Required Value	Mail service type desired. Enter one of the valid entries: "Priority" (for Priority Mail) "First Class" (see below for definition) "Parcel Post" "Media Mail" "Library Mail" <b>For example:</b>	
<waiverofsignature></waiverofsignature>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	You may waive the requirement for the addressee to sign for the item by using this tag. If selected, the user agrees to allow delivery to be made without obtaining the signature of the addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in a secure location). In this case, the user authorizes the delivery employee's signature to constitute valid proof of delivery. Enter "True" if you do not want a signature for receipt of the package or "False" if you do. False is assumed if no value is entered.	
<separatereceiptpage></separatereceiptpage>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	This tag passes a True or False value to the Web Tools servers, allowing the shipping label and online customer record to be printed on 2 separate pages (when true). Enter "True" if you want the shipping label and online customer record printed on 2 separate pages or "False" if you want them printed on the same single page. False is assumed if no value is entered. <b>For example:</b> <separatereceiptpage>TRUE </separatereceiptpage>	
<pozipcode></pozipcode>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	When the ZIP Code of a collection point for a given package is different from the Zip Code of the person mailing the package (their return address), this tag must be used to convey this difference to the USPS. Enter the ZIP Code of the post office or collection box where the item is mailed. May be different than <from ZIP Code&gt;. For example: <pozipcode>20770</pozipcode></from 	
<imagetype></imagetype>	Required Tag/ Required Value	I he type label image desired. Enter one of the valid entries: "TIF" "PDF" "None" Enter "None" if you are creating your own label; the Signature Confirmation number must be used on custom labels. For example: <imagetype>TIF</imagetype>	
<labeldate></labeldate>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	This tag allows the end-user to post-date the Signature Confirmation label up to four days in advance. The package should not be shipped until the label date requested. On this date the USPS will send a manifest	

XML Tag Required/		Description & Values Allowed	
	Optional	to the DTO which is the LIODO petional tracking and	
		to the PTS, which is the USPS national tracking and Signature Confirmation system. Enter the date in either format: dd-mmm-yyyy, such as 10-Jan-2006, or dd/mm/yyyy, such as 10/01/2006.	
		For example:	
<customerrefno></customerrefno>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	If you need to cross-reference information about a shipment using your own tracking or inventory systems, use this tag. This string will be included in the daily manifest sent to the PTS system. If you are using the client DUNs number described in the Appendix, Signature Confirmation PTS Tracking System Extract File Retrieval, the extract file you receive will include the information you entered in this tag. The string you enter appears only in the manifest data, not on the label. Any combination of alpha and numeric characters can be entered, up to a maximum of 30.	
		For example:	
	Ontingal	<pre><customerrefno>123456</customerrefno></pre>	
<pre><addressservicerequested></addressservicerequested></pre>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	You can request the USPS to alert you when a customer changes their address. This feature is especially useful to ensure correct billing. The words "Address Service Requested" will appear on the shipping label immediately below the return address. This service is not available with Label Option 2. By using this tag, you will receive the following service with Priority Mail: For 12 months after an address change, the mailpiece is forwarded at no charge. However, a separate notice of the new address is returned to you and an address correction fee is charged. For months 13-18 after an address change, the mailpiece is returned with the new address attached at no charge. After 18 months, or if undeliverable, the mailpiece is returned with the reason for nondelivery attached at no charge. Enter "True" or "False." False is assumed if no value is entered. For fees for this service with Package Services, refer to the <u>Domestic Mail Manual Section</u> 507. <b>For example:</b> <addressservicerequested>TRUE </addressservicerequested>	
<sendername></sendername>	Optional Tag/	The name of the person or company sending the e- mail. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a	
	Value	Sample Label request.	
	Optional	For example:	
<senderemail></senderemail>	Optional	F-mail address of sender Valid e-mail addresses	
	Tag/	must be used. Note: No e-mail is returned when	

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed	
	Value Optional	<pre>generating a Sample Label request. For example: <senderemail>John.Smith@abc.com</senderemail></pre>	
<recipientname></recipientname>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	The name of the person or company receiving the e- mail. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. For example: <recipientname>Mary Jones</recipientname>	
<recipientemail></recipientemail>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	E-mail address of recipient. Valid e-mail addresses must be used. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. For example: <recipientemail>MaryJ@xyz.orgEMail&gt;</recipientemail>	

#### Sample Label URL

To gain access all users, including those registered for previous Web Tools use, must contact the ICCC for the URL to send Sample requests. The ICCC will send the URL via e-mail.

#### Sample Label XML Request Example

The Sample Label XML request should be in the following form and sequence:

```
<SigConfirmCertifyV3.0RequestUSERID="xxxxx">
     <Option>1</Option>
     <ImageParameters></ImageParameters>
     <FromName>Joe Smith</FromName>
     <FromFirm>ABC Corp.</FromFirm>
     <FromAddress1>Apt. 3C</FromAddress1>
     <FromAddress2>6406 Ivy Lane</FromAddress2>
     <FromCity>Greenbelt</FromCity>
     <FromState>MD</FromState>
     <FromZip5>20770</FromZip5>
     <FromZip4>1234</FromZip4>
     <ToName>Tom Collins</ToName>
     <ToFirm>XYZ Corp.</ToFirm>
     <ToAddress1>Suite 4D</ToAddress1>
     <ToAddress2>8 Wildwood Drive</ToAddress2>
     <ToCity>Old Lyme</ToCity>
     <ToState>CT</ToState>
     <ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
     <ToZip4></ToZip4>
     <WeightInOunces>32</WeightInOunces>
     <ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
     <WaiverOfSignature></WaiverOfSignature>
     <SeparateReceiptPage></SeparateReceiptPage>
     <POZipCode></POZipCode>
```

```
USPS Web Tools User's Guide
Signature Confirmation Web Tools (Document Version 2.1b)
```

<ImageType>TIF</ImageType>
<LabelDate></LabelDate>
<CustomerRefNo></CustomerRefNo>
<AddressServiceRequested></AddressServiceRequested>
<SenderName></SenderName>
<SenderEMail></SenderEMail>
<RecipientName></RecipientName>
<RecipientEMail></RecipientEMail>
</SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Request>

#### Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

These steps involve four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Web Tool server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tool server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool requires the use of SSL. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationCertifyV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

https://servername/ShippingAPI.dll?API=SignatureConfirmationCert ifyV3&XML=<SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Request USERID="username">....... </SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Request>

NOTE: Signature Confirmation contains personal information. A secure HTTP connection is required.

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### XML Output from Unpacked Response

After unpacking the XML response, you will have the output from your request—an XML response with the following tags:

Output	XML Tag
Type of Response	<sigconfirmcertifyv3.0response></sigconfirmcertifyv3.0response>
Signature Confirmation ID Number (PIC #)	<signatureconfirmationnumber></signatureconfirmationnumber>

Signature Confirmation Label	<signatureconfirmationlabel></signatureconfirmationlabel>	
Signature Confirmation Customer Online Record*	<signatureconfirmationreceipt></signatureconfirmationreceipt>	
Name of package recipient	<toname></toname>	
Validated Company name of recipient.	<tofirm></tofirm>	
Validated Recipient address line 1	<toaddress1></toaddress1>	
Validated Recipient address line 2	<toaddress2></toaddress2>	
Validated Recipient city.	<tocity></tocity>	
Validated Recipient state.	<tostate></tostate>	
Validated Recipient ZIP Code.	<tozip5></tozip5>	
Validated Recipient ZIP Code+4.	<tozip4></tozip4>	
Postnet	<postnet></postnet>	

\*The Web Tool returns this tag only if the <SeparateReceiptPage> tag was set to "True" in the request. Otherwise the Customer Online Record is contained within the label image and the <SignatureConfirmationReceipt> tag is NOT present in the response.

If an error message is returned, refer to the Error Responses section for an explanation.

#### Sample Label XML Response

```
<SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Response>
     <SignatureConfirmationNumber>420063719101805213907000153702
     </SignatureConfirmationNumber>
     <SignatureConfirmationLabel>
     SUkqAAqAAAASAP4ABAABAAAAAAAAAAABBAABAAAAvAIAAAEBBAABAAAAkAE
     AAAIBAwABAAAAAQAAAAMBAwABAAAABAAAAAYBAwABAAAAAAAAAAAAABABAAAAAA
     AAAgAAABEBBAAAA/////+5D9gC43ML+v/////v/fJev/t9/f//f//+H
     iCuI+K/jf4j4/2F8/V9DxP///3
     . .(more data here) . .
     </SignatureConfirmationLabel>
     <ToName>Tom Collins</ToName>
     <ToFirm>XYZ CORP.</ToFirm>
     <ToAddress1>4D</ToAddress1>
     <ToAddress2>8 WILDWOOD DR</ToAddress2>
     <ToCity>OLD LYME</ToCity>
     <ToState>CT</ToState>
     <ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
     <ToZip4>1844</ToZip4>
     <Postnet>06371184408</Postnet>
</SigConfirmCertifyV3.0Response>
```

#### **Decoded Sample Labels**

The image returned is Base64-encoded in PDF or TIF format, according to your request (<ImageType>). It must be decoded before use. For additional information on Base64-encoding and decoding, consult the following working group web sites: <u>Network Working Group Section</u> <u>4.3.2.4</u> and <u>Network Working Group Section 6.8</u>.

**Important:** When printing PDF files with barcodes, be sure that the "Fit to Page" option in the print dialogue box of Adobe Acrobat is **unchecked**.

Depending on the <Option> included in the request, your output will return one of the following labels. After decoding, the Sample Label should look like Label Option 1 (left) or Label Option 2 (right).



(The images above are not to scale.)

Upon successful completion of the Sample label phase, call the ICCC. If you plan to use the labels returned by the Web Tool, the ICCC will then provide you with privileges necessary to send and receive Live data.

#### 3.4 Run Live Data

#### Step 1: Build the XML Request

#### Live XML Tags

The table below presents the XML input tags for generating Live requests and the restrictions on the values allowed. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Also, be aware of the maximum character amounts allowed for some tags. If the user enters more than those amounts, an error will not be generated. **The Web Tool will simply pass in the characters up to the maximum amount allowed and disregard the rest.** This is important since the resulting value could prevent a correct response.

When building the XML request, pay particular attention to the **order and case** for tags. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Remember that all data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by your actual values. For instance, a line of sample code may be:

#### <FirmName>ABC Corp.</FirmName>

In this instance, you will replace "ABC Corp." with the name of the company sending the package when making your request.

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
<signatureconfirmationv3.0request< td=""><td>Required</td><td>Notifies Web Tool that a request for a <b>Live</b> Label is being sent. Input tag exactly as presented.</td></signatureconfirmationv3.0request<>	Required	Notifies Web Tool that a request for a <b>Live</b> Label is being sent. Input tag exactly as presented.
USERID="userid"	Required	Use user ID provided with registration.

e.g., <SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request UserID="yourID">

Tags within the above defined call are as follows:

XML Tag	<b>Required</b> /	Description & Values Allowed
	Optional	
<option></option>	Required	Designates desired label option (see Label Options
	Tag/	section, above). Enter one of the valid entries:
	Required	"1" for Label Option # 1
	Value	"2" for Label Option # 2
		For example: <option>1</option>
<imageparameters></imageparameters>	Required	This tag is for future use. The tag is required, but there
	Tag/	is no value to enter.
	No Value	For example:
		<imageparameters></imageparameters>
<fromname></fromname>	Required	Name of sender. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromname>Joe Smith</fromname>
	Value	
<fromfirm></fromfirm>	Required	Company name. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Value	<fromfirm>ABC Corp.</fromfirm>
	Optional	
<fromaddress1></fromaddress1>	Required	From address line 1. Use this tag for an apartment or
	Tag/	suite number. This tag is required but the value is
	Value	optional. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Optional	For example:
		<fromaddress1>Apt. 3C</fromaddress1>
<fromaddress2></fromaddress2>	Required	From address line 2. Maximum characters allowed: 32
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromaddress2>6406 Ivy</fromaddress2>
	Value	Lane
<fromcity></fromcity>	Required	From city. Maximum characters allowed: 21
	Tag/	For example:
	Required	<fromcity>Greenbelt</fromcity>
	Value	
<fromstate></fromstate>	Required	From state. Maximum characters allowed: 2
	Tag/	<b>For example:</b> <fromstate>MD</fromstate>
	Required	

	Value	
<fromzip5></fromzip5>	Required	From ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all
	Tag/	caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 Must be a valid
	Required	ZIP5 code.
	Value	<pre>For example: <fromzip5>20770</fromzip5></pre>
<fromzip4></fromzip4>	Required	From ZIP Code+4. Input <b>tag</b> exactly as presented.
	Tag/	This tag is required but the value is optional. Maximum
	Value	characters allowed: 4
	Optional	<pre>For example: <fromzip4>1234</fromzip4></pre>
<toname></toname>	Required	Name of package recipient. Maximum characters
	Tag/	allowed: 38
	Required	For example: <toname>Tom Collins</toname>
	Value	
<tofirm></tofirm>	Required	Company name of recipient. Maximum characters
	lag/	allowed: 38
	Value	For example: <tofirm>XYZ Corp.ToFirm&gt;</tofirm>
	Optional	
<toaddress1></toaddress1>	Required	Recipient address line 1. Use this tag for an apartment
	Tag/	For example:
	Value	For example:
-ToAddrogg2>	Boguirod	Proviniont address line 2 Must be a valid address
<10Addressz>		Maximum characters allowed: 38
	Required	For example:
	Value	<tolddress2>8 Wildwood Drc/Tolddress2&gt;</tolddress2>
	value	You must have <toaddress2> with <toaddress2></toaddress2></toaddress2>
		<ToState> <b>OR</b> $<$ ToAddress2> with $<$ ToZin5> One of
		these combinations is required.
<tocity></tocity>	Required	Recipient city. Must be a valid address. Maximum
-	Tag/	characters allowed: 21
	Required	For example: <tocity>Old Lyme</tocity>
	Value (see	You must have <toaddress2> with <tocity> and</tocity></toaddress2>
	box at	<tostate> <b>OR</b> <toaddress2> with <tozip5>. One of</tozip5></toaddress2></tostate>
	right)	these combinations is required.
<tostate></tostate>	Required	Recipient state. Must be a valid address. Maximum
	Tag/	characters allowed: 2
	Required	For example: <tostate>CT</tostate>
	Value (see	You must have <toaddress2> with <tocity> and</tocity></toaddress2>
	box at	<tostate> <b>OR</b> <toaddress2> with <tozip5>. One of</tozip5></toaddress2></tostate>
	right)	these combinations is required.
<tozip5></tozip5>	Required	Recipient ZIP Code. Must be a valid ZIP code. Input
	Tag/	tag exactly as presented. Maximum characters
	Required	
	value (see	ror example: <tozip5>06371</tozip5>
	DOX at	To unust nave < I oAddress2> with < I oCity> and
	right)	<105 tates <b>UK</b> $<10$ Address 2> with $<102$ ip5>. One of
(To Zip A)	Doguirod	Inese combinations is required.
<1021D4>	Required	Recipient ZIP Code+4. Input tag exactly as presented,
	Tay/	For example: $\pi = 2 \frac{1}{2} \frac$
	Ontional	FUI Example. <1021p4>50/8
<weight inounces=""></weight>	Required	Package weight Value must be numeric. Estimated
Sucrainerinounces/	Tad/	weight is allowed
	Value	For example:
	Optional	<pre><weightinounces>32</weightinounces></pre>
1		

<servicetype></servicetype>	Required	Mail service type desired. Enter one of the valid
	Tag/	entries:
	Required	"Priority" (for Priority Mail)
	Value	"First Class" (see below for definition)
		"Parcel Post"
		"Media Mail"
		"Library Mail"
		For example:
		<pre><servicetype>Priority</servicetype></pre>
<waiverofsignature></waiverofsignature>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	You may waive the requirement for the addressee to sign for the item by using this tag. If selected, the user agrees to allow delivery to be made without obtaining the signature of the addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in a secure location). In this case, the user authorizes the delivery employee's signature to constitute valid proof of delivery.
		Enter "True" if you do not want a signature for receipt
		of the package or "False" if you do. False is assumed
		if no value is entered.
<separatereceiptpage></separatereceiptpage>	Optional	This tag passes a True or False value to the Web
	Tag/	Tools servers, allowing the shipping label and online
	Value	customer record to be printed on 2 separate pages
	Optional	(when true).
		Enter "True" if you want the shipping label and online
		customer record printed on 2 separate pages or
		"False" if you want them printed on the same single
		page. False is assumed if no value is entered.
		For example: <separatereceiptpage>TRUE</separatereceiptpage>
<pozipcode></pozipcode>	Optional	When the ZIP Code of a collection point for a given
	Tag/	package is different from the Zip Code of the person
	Value	mailing the package (their return address), this tag
	Optional	must be used to convey this difference to the USPS.
		Enter the ZIP Code of the post office or collection box
		where the item is mailed. May be different than <from< td=""></from<>
		ZIP Code>.
		<b>For example:</b> <pozipcode>20770</pozipcode>
<imagetype></imagetype>	Required	The type label image desired. Enter one of the valid
	Tag/	entries:
	Required	"TIF"
	Value	"PDF"
		"None"
		Enter "None" if you are creating your own label; the
		Signature Confirmation number must be used on
		custom labels.
		For example: <imagetype>TIF</imagetype>
<labeldate></labeldate>	Optional	This tag allows the end-user to post-date the Signature
	Tag/	Confirmation label up to four days in advance. The
	Value	package should not be shipped until the label date
	Optional	requested. On this date the USPS will send a manifest
		to the PTS, which is the USPS national tracking and
		Signature Confirmation system. Enter the date in
		either format:
		dd-mmm-yyyy, such as 10-Jan-2006, or

		dd/mm/yyyy, such as 10/01/2006.
		For example:
		<labeldate>10/01/2006</labeldate>
<customerrefno></customerrefno>	Optional	If you need to cross-reference information about a
	Tag/	shipment using your own tracking or inventory
	Value	systems, use this tag. This string will be included in
	Optional	the daily manifest sent to the PTS system. If you are
		using the client DUNs number described in the
		Appendix, Signature Confirmation PTS Tracking
		System Extract File Retrieval, the extract file you
		receive will include the information you entered in this
		tag. The string you enter appears only in the manifest
		data, not on the label. Any combination of alpha and
		numenc characters can be entered, up to a maximum
		For example:
		CustomerPofNex1224562/CustomerPofNex
< Address Servi ceRequested>	Ontional	You can request the USPS to alert you when a
		customer changes their address. This feature is
	Value	especially useful to ensure correct billing. The words
	Optional	"Address Service Requested" will appear on the
	optional	shipping label immediately below the return address.
		This service is not available with Label Option 2. By
		using this tag, you will receive the following service
		with Priority Mail:
		For 12 months after an address change, the mailpiece
		is forwarded at no charge. However, a separate notice
		of the new address is returned to you and an address
		correction fee is charged.
		For months 13-18 after an address change, the
		mailpiece is returned with the new address attached at
		no charge.
		After 18 months, or if undeliverable, the mailpiece is
		returned with the reason for nondelivery attached at no
		charge.
		Enter "True" or "False." False is assumed if no value is
		entered. For fees for this service with Package
		Services, refer to the <u>Domestic Mail Manual Section</u>
		<u>507</u> .
		<addressservicerequested>TRUE</addressservicerequested>
<sendername></sendername>	Ontional	The name of the person or company sending the a
		mail Note: No e-mail is returned when depending a
	Value	Sample Label request
	Optional	For example:
	Spiona	<sendername>John Smith</sendername>
<senderemail></senderemail>	Optional	E-mail address of sender. Valid e-mail addresses
	Tag/	must be used. Note: No e-mail is returned when
	Value	generating a Sample Label request.
	Optional	For example:
		<senderemail>John.Smith@abc.com</senderemail>
		Mail>
<recipientname></recipientname>	Optional	The name of the person or company receiving the e-
	Tag/	mail. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a
	Value	Sample Label request.

	Optional	For example: <recipientname>Mary Jones</recipientname>
<recipientemail></recipientemail>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	E-mail address of recipient. Valid e-mail addresses must be used. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. For example: <recipientemail>MaryJ@xyz.orgEMail&gt;</recipientemail>

#### **E-mail Notification**

If you wish to provide your customers the tracking number of your Signature Confirmation package, four optional tags are used to transmit the number via e-mail. Your customers can use this number to track the package via the <u>USPS website</u>. The following is a sample e-mail message transmitted with this feature:

```
From: SignatureConfirmationAlert@USPSshippingapis.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2004 9:37 AM
To: <RecipientEMail>
CC: <SenderEMail>
Subject: Signature Confirmation Number
Dear <RecipientName>:
Below is the Signature Confirmation number you need to determine
the delivery status of your package.
Signature Confirmation Number 9121805213907136642563
Your package is scheduled for shipment on 6/5/04.
This email was automatically generated by the US Postal Service
(www.usps.com) at the shipper's request. Any reply to this email
will not be received by the USPS or shipper.
                                              The USPS has not
collected or retained any personally identifying information
about you or your purchase from this email.
Thank you,
<SenderName>
mailto:<SenderEMail>
```

The four tags listed below (in the order in which they must appear in the XML request) are used for this feature. The only tag **required** to use the e-mail feature is <RecipientEMail>. The other three are optional.

 <SenderName> This tag is used for the name of the person or company sending the e-mail. This name will appear in the text of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message.

- <SenderEMail> This tag is used for the e-mail address of the person or company sending the e-mail. This address will appear in the text of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message. This address will be cc:'d when the e-mail is sent.
- <RecipientName> This tag is used for the name of the person or company receiving the email. This name will appear in the TO: field of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message as well as in the text of the message.
- <RecipientEMail> This tag is used for the e-mail address of the person or company
  receiving the e-mail. This e-mail address will appear in the TO: field of the Signature
  Confirmation e-mail message. Although this field is considered optional for the Signature
  Confirmation Web Tool, if e-mail is desired it is the only required field. Without this field,
  the e-mail will not be sent.

#### Live URL

To gain access, all users, including those registered for previous Web Tools use, must contact the ICCC for the URL to make Live calls. The ICCC will send the Live URL via e-mail.

#### Live XML Request Example

The Live XML request should be in the following form and sequence:

```
<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request USERID="xxxxx">
     <Option>1</Option>
     <ImageParameters></ImageParameters>
     <FromName>Joe Smith</FromName>
     <promFirm>ABC Corp.</fromFirm></pro>
     <FromAddress1>Apt. 3C</FromAddress1>
     <FromAddress2>6406 Ivy Lane</FromAddress2>
     <FromCity>Greenbelt</FromCity>
     <FromState>MD</FromState>
     <FromZip5>20770</FromZip5>
     <FromZip4>1234</FromZip4>
     <ToName>Tom Collins</ToName>
     <ToFirm>XYZ Corp.</ToFirm>
     <ToAddress1>Suite 4D</ToAddress1>
     <ToAddress2>8 Wildwood Drive</ToAddress2>
     <ToCity>Old Lyme</ToCity>
     <ToState>CT</ToState>
     <ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
     <ToZip4>5678</ToZip4>
     <WeightInOunces>32</WeightInOunces>
     <ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
     <WaiverOfSignature></WaiverOfSignature>
     <SeparateReceiptPage></SeparateReceiptPage>
     <POZipCode></POZipCode>
     <ImageType>TIF</ImageType>
     <LabelDate></LabelDate>
     <CustomerRefNo></CustomerRefNo>
```

```
USPS Web Tools User's Guide
Signature Confirmation Web Tools (Document Version 2.1b)
```

```
<AddressServiceRequested></AddressServiceRequested>
    <SenderName></SenderName>
      <SenderEMail></SenderEMail>
      <RecipientName></RecipientName>
      <RecipientEMail></RecipientEMail>
</SignatureConfirmationV3.0Request>
```

#### Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

This step involves four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Shipping Web Tools server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tools server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool requires the use of SSL. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

#### 

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### XML Output from Unpacked Response

After unpacking the XML response, you will have the output from your request—an XML response with the following tags:

Output	XML Tag
Type of Response	<signatureconfirmationv3.0response></signatureconfirmationv3.0response>
Signature Confirmation ID Number (PIC #)	<signatureconfirmationnumber></signatureconfirmationnumber>
Signature Confirmation Label	<signatureconfirmationlabel></signatureconfirmationlabel>
Signature Confirmation Customer Online Record*	<signatureconfirmationreceipt></signatureconfirmationreceipt>
Name of package recipient	<toname></toname>
Validated Company name of recipient.	<tofirm></tofirm>
Validated Recipient address line 1	<toaddress1></toaddress1>
Validated Recipient address line 2	<toaddress2></toaddress2>
Validated Recipient city.	<tocity></tocity>
Validated Recipient state.	<tostate></tostate>

```
USPS Web Tools User's Guide
Signature Confirmation Web Tools (Document Version 2.1b)
```

Validated Recipient ZIP Code.	<tozip5></tozip5>
Validated Recipient ZIP Code+4.	<tozip4></tozip4>
Postnet	<postnet></postnet>

\*The Web Tool returns this tag only if the <SeparateReceiptPage> tag was set to TRUE in the request. Otherwise the Customer Online Record is contained within the label image and the <SignatureConfirmationReceipt> tag is NOT present in the response.

#### Live XML Response

The Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool returns the following information if pickup is available to the supplied address:

```
<SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>
     <SignatureConfirmationNumber>02805213907136314906
     </SignatureConfirmationNumber>
     <SignatureConfirmationLabel>
     SUkqAAqAAAASAP4ABAABAAAAAAAAAABBAABAAAAvAIAAAEBBAABAAAAkAE
     AAAIBAwABAAAAAQAAAAMBAwABAAAABAAAAAYBAwABAAAAAAAAAAAAABAwABAA
     AAAgAAABEBBAAAA/////+5D9gC43ML+v/////v/fJev/t9/f//f//+H
     iCuI+K/jf4j4/2F8/V9DxP///3
     . .(more data here) . .
     </DeliveryConfirmationLabel>
     <ToName>Tom Collins</ToName>
     <ToFirm>XYZ CORP.</ToFirm>
     <ToAddress1>4D</ToAddress1>
     <ToAddress2>8 WILDWOOD DR</ToAddress2>
     <ToCity>OLD LYME</ToCity>
     <ToState>CT</ToState>
     <ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
     <ToZip4>1844</ToZip4>
     <Postnet>06371184408</Postnet>
</SignatureConfirmationV3.0Response>
```

If an error message is returned, refer to the Error Responses section for an explanation.

#### **Decoded Live Labels**

The image returned is Base64-encoded in PDF or TIF format, according to your request (<ImageType>). It must be decoded before use. For additional information on Base64-encoding and decoding, consult the following sites: <u>Network Working Group Section 4.3.2.4</u> and <u>Network Working Group Section 6.8</u>.

**Important:** When printing PDF files with barcodes, be sure that the "Fit to Page" option in the print dialogue box of Adobe Acrobat is **unchecked**.

Depending on the <Option> included in the request, your output will return one of the following labels. After decoding, the Sample Label should look like Label Option 1 (left) or Label Option 2 (right).

**Label Option 1:** The label should be printed on a self-adhesive label at least 5" x 7". After decoding, the label should look like: **Label Option 2:** The label should be printed on a self-adhesive label at least 4" x 3". After decoding, the label should look like:



(The images above are not to scale.)

Refer to the Signature Confirmation Overview section for full-sized examples.

The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool generates a Signature Confirmation number that can be applied to user-generated labels. This Web Tool only returns the confirmation number used in creating your own label. If you are exercising the option of generating your own customized label, and you do not desire address cleansing or a full Postnet barcode, use this Web Tool and not the Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool.

#### 4.1 Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool Transaction Procedures

The illustration below shows the transactional flow of information to and from the USPS Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool server:

#### Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool Server



via XML Request

INPUTS

From ZIP Code To ZIP Code Service Type Waiver of Signature (optional) Label Date Reference Number E-Mail Info



SERVER TASKS

**Builds XML Response** 

Sends E-Mail Notification

via XML Response



OUTPUTS

**Confirmation Number** 

#### 4.2 Run Scripted Test

#### Step 1: Build the XML Request

For testing purposes, the only value in the test code in this section that you should change is the user ID. Enter the user ID you received in the registration e-mail for testing. All remaining code in the test scripts provided below must remain unchanged.

#### **Testing URL**

To make test calls to the Signature Confirmation Barcode Number server, use the Testing URL provided in the registration e-mail.

#### **Scripted Test Requests**

There are two test requests included in this procedure. All of the test script code contained in this document can be cut and pasted for your use in testing the software. Be sure to note the request numbers so you can match up the responses you will receive as provided in the *Successful Test Responses* section.

#### Test Request #1

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request USERID="xxxxxxx">
<FromZip5>20260</FromZip5>
<ToZip5>38119</ToZip5>
<ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request>
```

#### **Test Request #2**

(Note: Be sure to enter the <POZipCode> tag line exactly as presented below.)

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request USERID="xxxxxx">
<FromZip5>20260</FromZip5>
<ToZip5>38119</ToZip5>
<ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
<POZipCode>20260</POZipCode>
<SenderName>John Smith</SenderName>
<SenderEMail>John.Smith@xyz.com</SenderEMail>
<RecipientName>Joe Customer</RecipientName>
<RecipientEMail>Joe.Customer@abc.com</RecipientEMail>
</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request>
```

Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

This step involves four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Shipping Web Tools server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tools server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool requires the use of a secure HTTP connection. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationPICV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

https://servername/ShippingAPITest.dll?API=SignatureConfirmation
PICV3&XML=<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request
USERID="username"> ...........</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request >

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### **Successful Test Responses**

For your test to be successful, the following responses to the scripted test requests should be returned *verbatim*.

#### **Response to Test Request #1**

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>
<SignatureConfirmationNumber>420381199121805213907126115930
</SignatureConfirmationNumber>
</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>
```

#### **Response to Test Request #2**

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>
<SignatureConfirmationNumber>420381199121805213907126115930
</SignatureConfirmationNumber>
```

</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>

#### **Scripted Test Error Responses**

If any values were changed in your request, the following is an example of an error that can occur. The following error will occur for Test #2 if an invalid To ZIP Code was provided.

#### <Error>

```
<Number>-2147219040</Number>
<Source>DC_Respond; SolServerConfrmTest.DC_Respond</Source>
<Description>Invalid value for ZIP Code in To
Address.</Description>
<HelpFile></HelpFile>
<HelpContext></HelpContext>
```

#### </Error>

Although the input may be valid, the response will still raise this error, because those particular values have not been included in this test server. Refer to the *Error Responses* section for an explanation of any other returned errors.

Upon successful completion of the scripted test phase, call the ICCC. The ICCC will verify your test results and provide you with privileges necessary to proceed to the next step—running Sample requests to create or customize labels.

```
USPS Web Tools User's Guide
Signature Confirmation Web Tools (Document Version 2.1b)
```

#### 4.3 Run Sample Requests

Unlike the Signature Confirmation Label Web Tool, this Web Tool does not return a label to you, only a Signature Confirmation number for use on the label you create. You must follow the steps outlined below in order to run Sample requests and have your labels certified before you will be permitted full access to the production server. Even after receiving approval, always use the Sample requests for testing purposes. Using Live requests enters the package in the USPS tracking system.

#### Step 1: Build the XML Request

#### Sample XML Tags

The table below presents the XML input tags for generating Sample Label requests and the restrictions on the values allowed. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Also, be aware of the maximum character amounts allowed for some tags. If the user enters more than those amounts, an error will not be generated. **The Web Tool will simply pass in the characters up to the maximum amount allowed and disregard the rest.** This is important since the resulting value could prevent delivery.

When building the XML request, pay particular attention to the **order and case** for tags. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Remember that all data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by your actual values. For instance, a line of sample code may be:

#### <ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>

In this instance, you will replace "Priority" with the type of service you desire.

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
<signatureconfirmpiccertifyv3.0request< td=""><td>Required</td><td>Notifies Web Tool that request for <b>Sample</b> Label is being sent. Input <b>tag</b> exactly as presented.</td></signatureconfirmpiccertifyv3.0request<>	Required	Notifies Web Tool that request for <b>Sample</b> Label is being sent. Input <b>tag</b> exactly as presented.
USERID="userid">	Required	Use user ID provided with registration.

e.g., <SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Request USERID="yourID">

Tags within the above-defined call are as follows:

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
<fromzip5></fromzip5>	Required	From ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 For example: <fromzip5>20770</fromzip5>
<tozip5></tozip5>	Required	Recipient ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 For example: <tozip5>06371</tozip5>

XML Tag	Required/	Description & Values Allowed
<servicetype></servicetype>	Required	Mail service type desired. Enter <b>one</b> of the valid entries: "Priority" (for Priority Mail) "First Class" (see below for definition)
		"Parcel Post" "Media Mail"
		"Library Mail"
		<pre>For example: <servicetype>Priority</servicetype></pre>
<waiverofsignature></waiverofsignature>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	You may waive the requirement for the addressee to sign for the item by using this tag. If selected, the user agrees to allow delivery to be made without obtaining the signature of the addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in a secure location). In this case, the user authorizes the delivery employee's signature to constitute valid proof of delivery. Enter "True" if you do not want a signature for receipt of the package or "False" if you do. False is assumed if no value is entered.
<pozipcode></pozipcode>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	When the ZIP Code of a collection point for a given package is different from the Zip Code of the person mailing the package (their return address), this optional tag must be used to convey this difference to the USPS. Enter the ZIP Code of the post office or collection box where the item is <b>mailed</b> . May be different than <from code="" zip="">. <b>For example:</b> <pozipcode>20770</pozipcode></from>
<labeldate></labeldate>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	Use of this tag allows the end-user to post-date the Signature Confirmation label up to four days in advance. The package should not be shipped until the label date requested. On this date the USPS will send a manifest to the PTS, which is the USPS national tracking and Signature Confirmation system. Enter the date in either format: dd-mmm-yyyy, such as 10-Jan-2001, or dd/mm/yyyy, such as 10/01/2001. <b>For example:</b> <labeldate>12/01/04</labeldate>
<customerrefno></customerrefno>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	If you have a need to cross-reference information about a shipment using your own tracking or inventory systems, use this tag. This string will be included in the daily manifest sent to the PTS system. If you are using the client DUNs number described in the Appendix, Signature Confirmation PTS Tracking System Extract File Retrieval, the extract file you receive will include the information you entered in this tag. The string you enter appears only in the manifest data, not on the label. Any combination of alpha and numeric characters can be entered, up to a maximum of 30. <b>For example:</b> <customerrefno>RT56789</customerrefno>
<sendername></sendername>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	The name of the person or company sending the e-mail. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <sendername>John Smith</sendername>
<senderemail></senderemail>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	E-mail address of sender. Valid e-mail addresses must be used. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b>

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
		<senderemail>JohnSmith@abc.com</senderemail>
<recipientname></recipientname>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	The name of the person or company receiving the e-mail. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <recipientname>Mary Jones</recipientname>
<recipientemail></recipientemail>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	E-mail address of recipient. Valid e-mail addresses must be used. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <recipientemail>MaryJ@xzy.org</recipientemail>

#### Sample URL

To gain access all users, including those registered for previous Web Tools use, must contact the ICCC for the URL to make Live calls. The ICCC will send the Live URL via e-mail.

#### Sample XML Request Example

The Sample Label XML request should be in the following form and sequence:

```
<SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Request USERID="xxxxxx">
<FromZip5>20770</FromZip5>
<ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
<ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
<WaiverOfSignature></WaiverOfSignature>
</SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Request>
```

Step 2: Make Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

This step involves four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Shipping Web Tools server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tools server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool requires the use of a secure HTTP connection. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationPICCertifyV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

https://servername/ShippingAPI.dll?API=SignatureConfirmPICCertif
yV3&XML=<SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Request
USERID="username"> .......</SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Request>

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### XML Output from Unpacked Response

After unpacking the XML response, you will have the output from your request—an XML response with the following tags:

Output	XML Tag
Type of Response	<signatureconfirmpiccertifyv3.0response></signatureconfirmpiccertifyv3.0response>
Signature Confirmation ID Number (PIC #)	<signatureconfirmationnumber></signatureconfirmationnumber>

#### Sample XML Response

<SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Response>

```
<DeliveryConfirmationNumber>420063719101805213907968005099<
/DeliveryConfirmationNumber>
```

#### </SignatureConfirmPICCertifyV3.0Response>

If an error message is returned, refer to the Error Responses section for an explanation.

#### Step 4: Create Your Own Label

Once the Web Tool has returned the Signature Confirmation number to you, it can be inserted into your customized label. The label, however, must meet USPS requirements. Refer to <u>Publication 91</u> and <u>DMM section 503</u> for specifications and requirements. For further information, contact the ICCC.

**Note:** Effective January 31, 2005, mailers printing their own barcodes and using the electronic service option must use the UCC/EAN Code 128 barcode symbology. All new mailers must use this symbology. Through January 30, 2005, mailers printing their own barcodes and using the electronic service option may use one of the following barcode symbologies: UCC/EAN Code 128, USS Code Interleaved 2 of 5, USS Code 39, or USS Code 128. Each barcode must contain a unique PIC. Barcodes also must meet the specifications in Publication 91. For details, refer to the <u>Publication 91</u>.

If you request multiple numbers, you must be sure to match up the right number and place it on a label and package with the correct from and to address information used on the input request.

The sample labels shown in the *Signature Confirmation Overview* section are presented for use in designing your labels to meet USPS specifications. The label on the left (Option 1) should be printed on a self-adhesive label at least 4" x 6". The label on the right (Option 2) should be printed on a self-adhesive label at least 4" x 3". Self-adhesive labels are recommended, but not mandatory.

#### **Customer Online Record Requirements**

If you choose to create your own labels for the Signature Confirmation service, you are required to create a Customer Online Record, Label 11-D, as illustrated below. You are required to populate the following data on the label:

- Sender name and address
- Recipient name and address
- Signature Confirmation PIC number
- Print Date
- Ship Date (if provided by mailer)
- Electronic Option Service Fee amount

The label must be identical, or nearly identical, in design to the sample below.

- X- - Cut on dotted line Instructions 1. Please use a laser or laser-quality printer.

- 2. Adhere shipping label to package with tape or glue DO NOT TAPE OVER BARCODE. Be sure all edges are secure. Self-adhesive label is recommended.
- 3. Place label so it does not wrap around the edge of the package.
- 4. Affix Priority Mail service postage. Electronic option Signature Confirmation service fee required.
- 5. Stamped packages weighing 16 ounces or more may not be placed in Postal Service collection boxes. For information on pickup options, go to the Pickup Page on www.usps.com.
- 6. Each shipping label number is unique and can be used only once -- DO NOT PHOTOCOPY.
- 7. Please use this shipping label on the "ship date" selected when you requested the label.
- 8. If a mailing receipt is required, present the article and Online e-Label Record at a Post Office for postmark.

#### Online e-Label Record



DIVITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE Thank you for shipping with the United States Postal Service! Check the status of your shipment on the Track & Confirm page at www.usps.com

#### Step 5: Get Your Customized Label Certified

After creating your custom label you must get it certified by the USPS National Customer Support Center. You must submit your labels to the USPS in order for us to certify that your application is capable of generating a proper barcode and label.

To complete the certification process for your custom or modified labels, take the following steps:

- 1. Using the process described in this section, create (or modify) your label. Be sure to reference the *Create Your Own Label* section for specifications.
- 2. Print ten of your customized (or modified) labels.
- 3. Complete the National Customer Support Center Customized Web Tools Label Submission form in the appendix of this guide. You can either print the form from this file and fill out with a pen, or copy the form to a Microsoft Word file and fill out electronically before printing and signing.
- 4. Mail the completed form, along with the ten labels, to the address specified on the form.

Questions about the label certification process may be directed to NCSC support staff at (800) 279-2651. Be sure to mention that you are a Web Tools customer.

The ICCC will notify you when you have full production access and can go live with your Web Tool.

#### 4.4 Run Live Data

Upon receipt of full production access, you will be able to create "live" labels from the production server. These labels must be entered into the mail – it is imperative that you <u>not</u> run testing for your printers or system using "live" requests, as this will impact reporting and performance of the USPS Confirmation service.

#### Step 1: Build the XML Request

#### Live XML Tags

The table below presents the XML input tags for generating Live requests and the restrictions on the values allowed. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Also, be aware of the maximum character amounts allowed for some tags. If the user enters more than those amounts, an error will not be generated. **The Web Tool will simply pass in the characters up to the maximum amount allowed and disregard the rest.** This is important since the resulting value could prevent a correct response.

When building the XML request, pay particular attention to the **order and case** for tags. An error message will be returned if an incorrect value is entered. Remember that all data and attribute values in this document are for illustration purposes and are to be replaced by your actual values. For instance, a line of sample code may be:

#### <FromZip5>12345</FromZip5>

In this instance, you will replace "12345" with the ZIP Code of the person sending the package when making your request.

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed
<signatureconfirmationpicv3.0request< td=""><td>Required</td><td>Notifies Web Tool that a request for a <b>Live</b> Label is being sent. Input tag exactly as presented.</td></signatureconfirmationpicv3.0request<>	Required	Notifies Web Tool that a request for a <b>Live</b> Label is being sent. Input tag exactly as presented.

...USERID="userid">

Required Use user ID provided with registration.

e.g., <SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request USERID="yourID">

Tags within the above-defined call are as follows:

XML Tag	Required/ Optional	Description & Values Allowed			
<fromzip5></fromzip5>	Required	From ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 For example: <pre>Sprew Strem Sip 5 &gt; 20770 &lt; / From Sip 5 &gt; 20770 </pre>			
<tozip5></tozip5>	Required	Recipient ZIP Code. Input tag exactly as presented, not all caps. Maximum characters allowed: 5 For example: <tozip5>06371</tozip5>			
<servicetype></servicetype>	Required	Mail service type desired. Enter <b>one</b> of the valid entries: "Priority" (for Priority Mail) "First Class" (see below for definition) "Parcel Post" "Media Mail" "Library Mail" <b>For example:</b> <servicetype>Priority</servicetype>			
<waiverofsignature></waiverofsignature>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	You may waive the requirement for the addressee to sign for the item by using this tag. If selected, the user agrees to allow delivery to be made without obtaining the signature of the addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in a secure location). In this case, the user authorizes the delivery employee's signature to constitute valid proof of delivery. Enter "True" if you do not want a signature for receipt of the package or "False" if you do. False is assumed if no value is entered.			
<pozipcode></pozipcode>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	When the ZIP Code of a collection point for a given package is different from the Zip Code of the person mailing the package (their return address), this optional tag must be used to convey this difference to the USPS. Enter the ZIP Code of the post office or collection box where the item is <b>mailed</b> . May be different than <from code="" zip="">. <b>For example:</b> <pozipcode>20770</pozipcode></from>			
<labeldate></labeldate>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	Use of this tag allows the end-user to post-date the Signature Confirmation label up to four days in advance. The package should not be shipped until the label date requested. On this date the USPS will send a manifest to the PTS, which is the USPS national tracking and Signature Confirmation system. Enter the date in either format: dd-mmm-yyyy, such as 10-Jan-2001, or dd/mm/yyyy, such as 10/01/2001. <b>For example:</b> <labeldate>12/01/04</labeldate>			
<customerrefno></customerrefno>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	If you have a need to cross-reference information about a shipment using your own tracking or inventory systems, use this tag. This string will be included in the daily manifest sent to the PTS system. If you are using the client DUNs number described in the Appendix, Signature Confirmation PTS Tracking System Extract File Retrieval, the extract file you receive will include the information you entered in this tag. The string you enter appears only in the manifest data, not on			

XML Tag	Required/	Description & Values Allowed			
	optional	the label. Any combination of alpha and numeric characters can be entered, up to a maximum of 30.			
		For example: <customerrefno>RT56789</customerrefno>			
<sendername></sendername>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	The name of the person or company sending the e-mail. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <sendername>John Smith</sendername>			
<senderemail></senderemail>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	E-mail address of sender. Valid e-mail addresses must be used. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <senderemail>JohnSmith@abc.com</senderemail>			
<recipientname></recipientname>	Optional Tag/ Value Optional	The name of the person or company receiving the e-mail. See the <i>E-mail Notification</i> section for details. Note: No e-mail is returned when generating a Sample Label request. <b>For example:</b> <recipientname>Mary Jones</recipientname>			

#### **E-mail Notification**

If you wish to provide your customers the tracking number of your Signature Confirmation package, four optional tags are used to transmit the number via e-mail. Your customers can use this number to track the package via the <u>USPS website</u>. The following is an example of an e-mail message transmitted with this feature:

```
From: SignatureConfirmationAlert@USPSshippingapis.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2004 9:37 AM
To: <RecipientEMail>
CC: <SenderEMail>
Subject: Signature Confirmation Number
Dear <RecipientName>:
Below is the Signature Confirmation number you need to determine
the delivery status of your package.
Signature Confirmation Number 9121805213907042229902
Your package is scheduled for shipment on 6/5/04.
This email was automatically generated by the US Postal Service
(www.usps.com) at the shipper's request. Any reply to this email
will not be received by the USPS or shipper.
                                              The USPS has not
collected or retained any personally identifying information
about you or your purchase from this email.
Thank you,
<SenderName>
mailto:<SenderEMail>
```

The four tags listed below (in the order in which they must appear in the XML request) are used for this feature. The only tag required to use the e-mail feature is <RecipientEMail>. The other three are not required to use the e-mail feature.

- <SenderName> This tag is used for the name of the person or company sending the e-mail. This name will appear in the text of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message.
- <SenderEMail> This tag is used for the e-mail address of the person or company sending the e-mail. This address will appear in the text of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message. This address will be cc:'d when the e-mail is sent.
- <RecipientName> This tag is used for the name of the person or company receiving the email. This name will appear in the TO: field of the Signature Confirmation e-mail message as well as in the text of the message.
- <RecipientEMail> This tag is used for the e-mail address of the person or company
  receiving the e-mail. This e-mail address will appear in the TO: field of the Signature
  Confirmation e-mail message. Although this field is considered optional for the Signature
  Confirmation Web Tool, if e-mail is desired it is the only required field. Without this field,
  the e-mail will not be sent.

#### **Live URL**

To gain access all users, including those registered for previous Web Tools use, must contact the ICCC for the URL to make Live calls. The ICCC will send the Live URL via e-mail.

#### Live XML Request Example

The Live XML request should be in the following form and sequence:

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request USERID="xxxx">
<FromZip5>20770</FromZip5>
<ToZip5>06371</ToZip5>
<ServiceType>Priority</ServiceType>
<WaiverOfSignature></WaiverOfSignature>
</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request>
```

Step 2: Make the Internet Connection & Send the XML Request

This step involves four separate functions:

- 1. Making the connection to the USPS Shipping Web Tools server.
- 2. Sending the request (whether Visual Basic, Perl, ASP, or any other language).
- 3. Receiving the response from the Web Tools server.
- 4. Closing the Internet connection.

The Signature Confirmation Barcode Number Web Tool requires the use of a secure HTTP connection. If you have recently registered, the registration e-mail will have the name of the server. If you are an existing user and do not have the name of the server please contact the ICCC. When sending the XML request, the Web Tool name must be specified. The server name can be found in your Web Tools registration e-mail. The Web Tool name is SignatureConfirmationPICV3. The format of the XML transaction is:

## https://servername/ShippingAPI.dll?API=SignatureConfirmationPICV 3&XML=<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request USERID="username">..... </SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Request >

There are several ways to make the Internet connection and send the XML request.

#### Step 3: Unpack the XML Response

When the USPS Shipping Web Tools returns a response, it will either return a successful response document or an error document.

#### XML Output from Unpacked Response

After unpacking the XML response, you will have the output from your request—an XML response with the following tags:

Output	XML Tag			
Type of Response	<signatureconfirmationpicv3.0response></signatureconfirmationpicv3.0response>			
Signature Confirmation ID Number (PIC #)	<signatureconfirmationnumber></signatureconfirmationnumber>			

#### Live XML Output Example

The Carrier Pickup Schedule Web Tool returns the following information to the user if the information is valid and pickup is available to the supplied address:

```
<SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>
<SignatureConfirmationNumber>420980639105805213907094371934
</SignatureConfirmationNumber>
```

```
</SignatureConfirmationPICV3.0Response>
```

If an error message is returned, refer to the Error Responses section for an explanation.

## Appendix A: Signature Confirmation Product Tracking System Extract File Retrieval

Delivery information regarding all barcodes sent to you via the Signature Confirmation Web Tool can be accumulated into a single comma-delimited file to use in your internal systems. It is referred to as the "extract file" from the USPS Product Tracking System (PTS).

The PTS extract file includes information regarding the Package ID Codes (PICs), such as destination ZIP Code, event code (delivery, manifest, etc.), ZIP Code of scan or event, date and time of scan or event, etc. This file is a single point of reference for all packages shipped by a company in a given day. The extract file is created 16 times daily.

The instructions and forms needed in order to gain access to the system that creates and stores the extract files from the USPS PTS are included below. After you have access to the PTS system for your extract files, you will need to contact the ICCC by phone at 1-800-344-7779. The ICCC will need your DUNS or Mailer ID number to associate it with all PICs created by your company. When the ICCC makes the association (may need at least one working day to complete), you will begin seeing extract files in your FTP area account on the PTS system (files are maintained for 10 days before being deleted).

The following is a checklist of activities necessary for gaining access to the PTS extract file:

1.	To obtain a Mailer ID (MID), complete USPS <i>Confirmation Services – Electronic Option Application</i> <u>PS Form 5051</u> and USPS <i>Request For Computer Access</i> <u>PS Form 1357-S</u> . Note: If a Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) number has already been registered with USPS Product Tracking System (PTS), please indicate on PS Form 5051. If the DUNS is registered elsewhere within USPS, but not in PTS, a MID will need to be obtained by submitting PS Form 5051.
2.	Fax PS Form 5051 and Form 1357-S to: USPS NCSC: 901-821-6244
3.	Receive logon/password information from the USPS.
4.	Retrieve documentation regarding the extract file, how to read the file, etc., from USPS Publication 91 or PDF version of USPS Publication 91 (download Adobe Reader). The Appendices in this document will provide file layout, event codes, and trouble-shooting guides that will help in processing the extract file.

If you have problems with this process or with logon information, please contact USPS Technical Support at 1-877-264-9693 (then select) option #1.

#### Appendix A: Signature Confirmation PTS Extract File Retrieval



#### Confirmation Services Electronic Option Application

The electronic option for confirmation services is available to mailers who establish an electronic link with the USPS to exchange acceptance and delivery data. No mailing receipt is provided. Depending on the service you are requesting, you will have to complete this form and submit additional information.

A. Customer Information	(Please print or type)						
1. Mailer Identification Number (MID)	8. How will you send your electronic file?						
	a. 🗖 Internet FTP						
2. Company Name	b. D No Transmission From This Site: Labels only						
3. Company Street Address							
4. City	9. Will you be using vendor software? a. D Yes b. D No						
5. State and ZIP+4®	If purchasing a shipping/manifesting system, you can obtain a listing of confirmation Services Certified Vendors at usps.com; search on "Certifie Venders" or select a vender of your choice.						
6. Company Primary Contact							
a. Name:	If Yes, provide name of software vendor and product name:						
b. Telephone Number (Area Code and Ext.):	Company or Vendor:						
c. Fax:	Shipping System Name:						
d. Email Address:	Are you a Service Provider/Consolidator?						
	Yes No						
7. Technical Contact	If No, give Service Provider/Consolidator Company name:						
a. Name:							
b. Telephone Number (Area Code and Ext.):							
c. Fax:	10. will you print your own barcoded labels?						
d Email Address							

#### **B. Service Requested and Optional Customer Information**

11. Select service(s) desired:

Delivery/Signature Confirmation (Complete front page of this form and PS Form 1357-S (if transmitting files), Request for Computer Access (usps.com/forms/allforms.htm).

Electronic Verification System (eVS) includes Delivery/Signature Confirmation (Complete front page of this form, PS Form 1357-C, Customer Request for Web Access (usps.com/forms/allforms.htm) and Appendix B in Publication 205 (usps.com/publications/pubs/welcome.htm).

Parcel Return Service (PRS) (Complete front page of this form and PS Form 1357-C, Customer Request for Web Access (usps.com/forms/allforms.htm). Complete an individual PS Form 1357-C for each point of contact.

Priority Mail Open and Distribute (PMOD) (Complete front page of this form and PS Form 1357-S (if transmitting files), Request for Computer Access (usps.com/forms/allforms.htm).

Express Mail Open and Distribute (EMOD) (Complete front page of this form and PS Form1357-S (if transmitting files), Request for Computer Access (usps.com/forms/allforms.htm).

12. Please provide additional information unique to your process, or discuss other issues.

13. Name of Person Completing Application		14. Date	
PS Form <b>5051,</b> October 2010 ( <i>Page 1 of 2</i> )	(See reverse side for instruc	ctions)	Privacy Notice: See our Privacy Policy on usps.com®

#### Appendix A: Signature Confirmation PTS Extract File Retrieval

#### Instructions

- 1. Obtain a Mailer ID (MID) via the Business Customer Gateway. Go to http://www.usps.com/ and select the Business Customer Gateway located on the bottom right-hand corner of the web page. The mailer must logon as an existing user or register for a business account as a new user to gain access to the Business Customer Gateway and request the Mailer ID service. Once the mailer has access to the Mailer ID System, he or she will select the "Mailer ID" link to obtain an MID.
- 2. Fax, e-mail or mail certification documentation (PS Form 5051, PS Form 1357-S, PS Form 5052, and labels to USPS.

Mail to the following address: National Customer Support Center United States Postal Service 6060 Primacy Parkway Suite 101 Memphis TN 38188-0001

Or e-mail your forms to: *dconfirm@usps.gov* Or fax your forms to: 901-821-6244

- 3. You will receive the certification test instructions and login ID(s) from the Postal Service for the requested certification types you requested in Item 11 on page 1. Call Technical Support at 877-264-9693, Option 1, to receive password(s).
- 4. Create an electronic test file that represents 10 packages per printer.
- 5. If you are printing your own labels, print 10 labels for each printer. The printed barcoded labels must match the package identification codes in the file.
  - a. Complete the PS Form 5052, Confirmation Services Printer Verification. (Available at http://www.usps.com/forms/confirmservices.htm).
  - b. If there are issues with the labels and/or file, you will be contacted by the National Customer Support Center (NCSC).
- 6. After successfully completing certification, you will receive PS Form 3152, *Confirmation Services Certification*, and an acceptance letter from the U.S. Postal Service. If requested, you will need to present a copy of this form to your local Postal Service facility as proof that you are eligible for mailing at the electronic rate.

PS Form 5051, October 2010 (Reverse)

#### Appendix A: Signature Confirmation PTS Extract File Retrieval

Shaded Boxes for US Postal Service use Only	/						
Original PS 1357-S Located at: U.S. Postal Se				c .	Logon ID Assi	igned	
(Instruction	ons for c	omplet	ing form on reverse side.)	5			
Section A: User Identification							
1. Requestor's Name			2.eAccess Unique ID or L	ast 4 Digits.	of SSN	3. Area N/A	4. Finance No N/A
5. Requestor's Job Title			6. Employment Status (C)	<i>heck one)</i> asual	Contracto	r 🗆 X	Temporary Nonpostal
7. USPS Organization/Department			8. USPS or Company Ma	iling Addres	s (Include ZIP	+4)	
9. Telephone No.			1				
10. District Code and Name N/A							
11. User Responsibility Agreement Statement I am responsible for Logon/Logoff, all actions pertaining to the use of my as authorized to me is prohibited. I understand my logon ID may be suspended indi I agree that misuse of a USPS computer system may result in disciplinary ac Inspection Service. (Read Privacy Act Statement on reverse sid Signature	ssigned loc efinitely if I ction and/o le before s	ion ID, ar violate si r crimina igning. No	nd will not provide my logon ID to a curity procedures or fail to provide prosecution. I understand that any te: Privacy Act Statement <b>MUST</b> be	another person. update informat y detected mis ron reverse sid	I agree that acces ion for Section A w use of a computer e of this form.) Date	s to comp heneveric system wi	uter data or files not change job positions. Il be reported to the
Signature					Date		
12. Manager Responsibility Agreement Statement I agree that modifications to existing service agreements will require additio organization. I also agree that upon termination or transfer of the user, I will adv will periodically review the use of the assigned logon ID and computer files and/o	nal PS For ise the Cor or data.	rm 1357 mputer Sj	requests. I agree that this logon ID /stems Security Officer in writing as	will be used f to the disposition	or authorized USP on of the computer	S work wit files and/or	hin the scope of my r data and logon ID. I
USP'S Manager's Name (Please print) Logon ID	Signa	ature		Date	i elepho	ne No.	
Section B: Computer Access Requested							
13a. Describe Support Required					Eagan Da	ta Cent	ter
X Logon ID (Circle one): New Change Delete □ DDE/DR: Access Code: User Type:		_	Facility Where Access	ls Required & Facilities	San Mateo	Data	Center
Access for Delivery Confirmation Syste	m		Access for Confirm Sys	tem			
PPP Dial-up Account Access to:			Veb Site Access	tem			
PTSMFTP.USPS.GOV			File Transmission Acc	count			
Access for Entry Information System Web Site Access File Transmission Account			Access for Performance	Reporting	System		
13b. Resource Name			13c. Sensitive or	13d. Acces	ss Level Requi	red	
(Additional room is available on the reverse sid	e)		Proprietary		(See instr	uctions	)
14. Contractor Information (Must be completed by the Contra	actina O	fficer's	Representative (COR))				
a. Does the Contract Contain Provisions for (Circle Yes of	or No):		b. Contract Number				
1. Screening?	Yes	No	5. 001 d dd 11 d m b 01.				
2. Security of Information?	Yes	No	c. Contract Expiration Da	te:			
3. Privacy of Information?	Yes	No					
4. Contractor Screening by the Inspection Service?	Yes	No	d. USPS Organization/De	epartment:			
15. USPS COR's Name (Please Print)	Signa	ature		Date	Telepho	ne No.	
16. Functional System Coordinator's Name (Please Print)	Signa	ature		Date	Telepho	ne No.	
17. Logon ID Administrator's Name (Please Print)	Signa	ature		Date	Telepho	ne No.	

PS Form 1357-S, September 2003 (Page 1 of 2)

## **Appendix B: NCSC Submission Form**

#### **National Customer Support Center**

#### **Customized Web Tools Label Submission Form**

Ten labels must be submitted for label and barcode certification.

Company Name/Customer Name: Mailing Address: City/State/ZIP+4: Name of Contact: Phone # of Contact: FAX: E-mail: Web Tool. API User ID#: Company Web site (URL), if any: 805213907 API Program Number: Instructions: With this form, submit **10** labels from the application used to print labels with barcodes. Mail labels to: National Customer Support Center Attn: Barcode Certification - Web Tools (API) **U.S. Postal Service** 6060 Primacy Pkwy, Suite 201 Memphis, TN 38188-0001 Signature of Contact Person Date

#### Instructions for National Customer Support Center:

Upon completion of testing, notify the Internet Customer Care Center of results at (800) 344-7779 and provide customer's Web Tool User ID#.