1 International Mail Services

110 General Information

111 **Scope**

This manual sets forth the conditions and procedures for the preparation and treatment of mail sent from the United States to other countries and the treatment of mail received from other countries. Its counterpart in the domestic mail service is the *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM). Cross-references to the DMM are provided wherever domestic conditions and procedures apply to the preparation or treatment of international mail.

112 Mailer Responsibility

Regardless of any statement contained in this manual or the statements of any employee of the United States Postal Service, the burden rests with the mailer to ensure that he or she has complied with the prescribed laws and regulations governing domestic and international mail, both those of the United States and those of the destination country. Full responsibility rests with the mailer to comply with all postal and nonpostal laws and regulations regarding the mailing of dangerous goods. Anyone who mails, or causes to be mailed, nonmailable or improperly packaged dangerous goods can be subject to legal penalties, including but not limited to those specified in Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C.).

113 Individual Country Listings

Individual Country Listings (ICLs) provide information about conditions of mailing, postage prices, and extra services for each country. ICLs are arranged alphabetically. Most subtitles are followed by a chapter citation in parentheses.

114 Availability

Customers may access this manual online at http://pe.usps.gov.

115 International Mail Manual

115 Official Correspondence

115.1 Communicating With Headquarters

115.11 Operations

Questions regarding the proper classification, postal prices and fees, preparation requirements, claims and inquiries, extra services, mailability, or any other classification aspect of international mail should be directed to local Postal Service officials. Regulatory matters relating to international mail should be directed to the Pricing and Classification Service Center (PCSC) at the following address:

MANAGER PRICING AND CLASSIFICATION SERVICE CENTER US POSTAL SERVICE
90 CHURCH ST STE 3100
NEW YORK NY 10007-2951

115.12 Policy and Representation

Correspondence concerning the following should be addressed to:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL POSTAL AFFAIRS US POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'ENFANT PLZ SW, RM 1P-906

WASHINGTON DC 20260-4017

- a. Policy matters relating to international mail and international postal affairs.
- Negotiation and interpretation of postal agreements.
- c. Communications of a nonroutine nature from foreign postal officials.
- d. Postal Service representation at international postal meetings.
- e. Postal Service representation at meetings with other federal departments and agencies relating to international postal affairs.
- f. Visits by foreign postal officials.

115.13 **Transportation and Distribution**

Correspondence concerning the transportation of international civil and military mail, including the following, should be addressed to:

MANAGER INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OPERATIONS US POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'ENFANT PLZ SW RM 6801

WASHINGTON DC 20260-6801

- Containerization and plant loads.
- b. Conveyance rates.
- c. Designation of U.S. exchange offices.
- d. Documentation.
- e. Internal air conveyance, terminal, and transit charges.
- f. Mode of transport.
- g. Related forms and reports.
- h. Routing.
- i. Schedules and performance of U.S. and foreign flag carriers.
- j. Distribution procedures and schemes.

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115.14 Investigations

Correspondence relating to investigation of losses, depredations (robberies or missing contents), and security of international mail should be addressed to:

CHIEF POSTAL INSPECTOR INSPECTION SERVICE US POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'ENFANT PLZ SW WASHINGTON DC 20260-2100

115.15 International Money Orders

Correspondence relating to international money orders, including operational procedures, accounting, cashing, and issuing, should be addressed to:

INTERNATIONAL MONEY ORDER SECTION ACCOUNTING SERVICE CENTER US POSTAL SERVICE PO BOX 14964 ST LOUIS MO 63182-9421

115.2 Correspondence With Foreign Postal Authorities

115.21 Correspondence Permitted

Correspondence is permitted between foreign postal authorities and Postal Service inspectors-in-charge and the postmasters acting under the instructions for processing inquiries described in <u>920</u>. U.S. exchange offices may correspond with their foreign counterparts only through bulletins of verification and exchanges of documentation.

115.22 Correspondence Not Permitted

In all other cases, postmasters, area offices, and other field units of the Postal Service must *not* correspond directly with postal officials in other countries, but must refer inquiries from those officials to Headquarters for attention. (See 115.1 for referral points for particular subjects.)

115.3 Correspondence With Foreign Individuals

115.31 Correspondence Permitted

Postmasters, area offices, and other field units of the Postal Service may reply directly to inquiries and engage in other necessary correspondence with individuals and firms in other countries.

115.32 Customer's Address

A customer's address may not be given out without the customer's consent.

116 Trademarks of the USPS

116.1 USPS Trademarks in the IMM

Many of the USPS trademarks listed in <u>Exhibit 116.1</u> appear throughout the IMM. (This is not an exhaustive list of the many marks belonging to the U.S. Postal Service.) Proper use of any USPS trademark may require capitalizing the initial letters, or all the letters of an acronym, to distinguish it from terms not used as trademarks. The ® symbol may be used after these marks.

116.2 International Mail Manual

We list the marks in Exhibit 116.1 in lieu of using the ® symbol throughout the IMM.

Note: This list changes frequently, and the Postal Service will update Exhibit 116.1 when appropriate.

Exhibit 116.1

Intelligent Mail

International Priority Airmail

International Surface Air Lift

USPS Trademarks in the IMM

1-800-Ask-USPS IPA Air Mail **ISAL Business Reply Mail** M-Bag Certified Mail Media Mail Click-N-Ship Parcel Post Click-N-Ship for Business Parcel Select Commercial Base Parcel Select Lightweight Commercial Plus PC Postage DineroSeguro Pickup on Demand **DMM** Post Exprès ePacket Postal Explorer **EVS** Priority Mail e-VS Priority Mail Flat Rate Express Mail Priority Mail International **Express Mail International** Return to Sender **FCPIS RIBBS** First-Class Mail Standard Mail First-Class Mail International Sure Money The Postal Service First-Class Package First-Class Package International The Postal Store Service U.S. Mail Forever U.S. Postal Service Global Direct Entry United States Postal Service Global Express Guaranteed **USPS GXG USPS** Delivery Confirmation IMb USPS Electronic Postmark **IMb** Tracing USPS ePacket IMM **USPS Web Tools**

116.2 Common Law Marks or USPS Marks with Pending Trademark Applications in the IMM

Many of the Common Law Marks or USPS marks with pending trademark applications listed in <u>Exhibit 116.2</u> appear throughout the IMM. (This is not an exhaustive list of the many marks belonging to the U.S. Postal Service.) Proper use of any such term may require capitalizing the initial letters, or all the letters of an acronym, to distinguish it from other terms. The ™ symbol may be used after these marks.

USPS.com

ZIP

ZIP+4

We list the marks in <u>Exhibit 116.2</u> in lieu of using the [™] symbol throughout the IMM.

Note: This list changes frequently, and some of these marks may become registered and will require the ® symbol. The Postal Service will update Exhibit 116.2 when appropriate.

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Exhibit 116.2

Postmaster General

POSTNET

Common Law Marks or USPS Marks with Pending Trademark Applications in the IMM

Delivery Confirmation Priority Mail Express E-USPS DELCON INTL Priority Mail Express International First-Class Priority Mail Express Open and Distribute **IMb** Priority Mail International Regional Rate **IMRS** Priority Mail INTL International Business Reply **QBRM** International Merchandise Return Service (IMRS) Qualified Business Reply P.O. Box Registered Mail PO Box Signature Confirmation Post Office **US Postage Paid** Post Office Box **US Postal Service** Postal Service **USPS** Tracking

USPSCA

ZIP Code

120 Preparation for Mailing

121 General Information for Mail Preparation

121.1 Packaging — Sender's Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the sender to prepare items and to address them clearly and correctly. In preparing items for mailing, the sender must (1) use strong envelopes or durable packaging material to prevent deterioration or degradation, and (2) consider the nature of the articles being mailed and the distance they must travel to reach the addressee. (See DMM 601 for detailed instructions.)

121.2 Use of Postal Service Equipment

Consistent with Postal Operations Manual part 581, and without regard to mail class, mailers may use USPS-owned mail transport equipment (MTE) only to transport mail to a USPS facility. Mailers may not retain USPS-owned MTE for their internal operating use or personal convenience, and such equipment may not be furnished to mailers for such purposes. Mailers may not use USPS-owned MTE to transport mail from foreign countries when such mail is not intended for dispatch through the U.S. Postal Service. In addition, mailers must not remove USPS-owned MTE from the United States for any purpose (e.g., transporting items that will be entered as domestic mail from outside the United States to the United States) without a written agreement between the customer and the USPS manager of Mail Transport Equipment. Under no circumstances will the U.S. Postal Service grant approval for USPS-owned MTE to be out of the United States for more than 14 days. For additional information, contact the USPS manager of Mail Transport Equipment at the following address:

MANAGER MAIL TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT US POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'ENFANT PLZ SW RM 7676 WASHINGTON DC 20260-7102

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122 Addressing

122.1 **Destination Address**

International destination addresses must comply with the standards in this section.

Note: In items c, d, and i, the term "full legal name" means the name that corresponds to the addressee's government-issued identification — i.e., the addressee's first name, middle initial (if applicable), and last name.

- a. At least the entire right half of the address side of the envelope, package, or card should be reserved for the destination address, postage, labels, and postal notations.
- b. Addresses must appear in ink or be typewritten. Pencil is unacceptable.
- c. The addressee's full legal name (see Note above) and complete address must appear legibly with roman letters and arabic numerals, all placed lengthwise on one side of the item. For parcels, addresses should also appear on a separate slip enclosed in the parcel.
- d. Addresses in Russian, Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, Cyrillic, Japanese, or Chinese characters must bear an interline translation in English of the addressee's full legal name (see Note above) and complete address (including country). If the English translation is not known, the foreign language words must appear in roman characters (either printed or script). See 292.41 and 293.41 for an optional addressing procedure that applies only to direct country containers of International Priority Airmail (IPA) or International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) mail, respectively.
- e. Mail may *not* be addressed to a person in one country "in care of" a person in another country.
- f. Mail may not be addressed to Boxholder or Householder.
- g. The following exceptional form of address, in French or a language known in the country of destination, may appear on printed matter: the addressee's name or *Occupant*.

Example: Mr. Thomas Clark or Occupant

- h. The house number and street address or box number must appear when mail is addressed to towns or cities.
- The address of items sent to general delivery must indicate the addressee's full legal name (see Note above) and the city and country of destination. The use of just initials, simple given names, fictitious names, or figures is not permitted on articles addressed for general delivery.

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j. All lines of the delivery address *should* appear in all capital letters. The city destination *must* appear in capital letters together with the correct post code number or delivery zone number, if any. The last line of the address must show only the country name, written in full (no abbreviations) and in capital letters. If possible, the address should have no more than five lines. For example:

MR THOMAS CLARK 117 RUSSELL DRIVE LONDON WIP 6HQ GREAT BRITAIN

MS CRISTINA CRUZ APARTADO 3068 46807 PUERTO VALLARTA JALISCO MEXICO

Exception: To Canada, there must be two spaces between the province abbreviation and the postal code, as shown below between "ON" and "KIA 0B1":

Ms Helen Saunders 1010 Clear Street OTTAWA ON K1A 0B1 CANADA

122.2 Return Address

122.21 **General**

The return address tells the U.S. Postal Service or foreign post where to return a mailpiece that cannot be delivered. Due to heightened security concerns, the U.S. Postal Service recommends a complete return address on all mailpieces — see 122.23 for when a return address is required. A mailpiece may include only one return address, and the mailer must place it so that it does not affect either the clarity of the address of destination or the application of service labels and notations (postmarks, etc.).

122.22 Elements of a Return Address

A complete return address must include the sender's full legal name (see the Note in 122.1) and complete return address in roman letters and arabic numerals — it *may* not include just initials except where they are an adopted trade name.

122.23 Required Use of Return Address

In bulk mailings, all mailpieces must bear a U.S.-origin return address visible on the outside of the mailpiece. For the purpose of this section, a "bulk mailing" is any IPA or ISAL mailing, or any other mailing paid with an advance deposit account and presented to the U.S. Postal Service for acceptance. In addition, a return address is required for mailpieces bearing a customs form under 123.7.

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123 Customs Forms and Online Shipping Labels

123.1 USPS-Produced Customs Declaration Forms

123.11 **General**

As required under <u>123.6</u>, only three customs declaration forms are used for international mail:

- a. PS Form 2976, Customs Declaration CN 22 Sender's Declaration.
- b. PS Form 2976-A, Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note CP 72.
- c. PS Form 2976-B, *Priority Mail Express International Shipping Label and Customs Form* (used only for Priority Mail Express International items).

PS Form 2976-E, Customs Declaration Envelope — CP 91, is a plastic envelope that is used to carry and protect the PS Form 2976-A and PS Form 2976-B customs form sets (see 123.73).

123.12 Authorized Editions

The current edition of PS Form 2976 is July 2013; the current edition of PS Form 2976-A is July 2013; and the current (and only) edition of PS Form 2976-B is July 2013.

For PS Form 2976 and PS Form 2976-A, the only other authorized edition is September 2012.

123.2 **Availability**

Customs declaration forms are available without charge at Post Office facilities. Upon request, mailers may receive a reasonable supply for mail preparation. Customers may also order supplies of the customs forms from The Postal Store at http://shop.usps.com; search on the words "customs forms." Customs declaration forms are also available through an online customs form application at usps.com/webtools.

123.3 **Privately Printed Forms**

123.31 Authorization

A mailer may not use privately printed customs forms without written authorization. If authorized, a mailer may privately print PS Forms 2976 and 2976-A as specified in the Customs Form Certification Checklist, which is available by clicking on the link to that checklist at the Web site noted in 123.31b. In addition, each form must contain a unique barcode that can be read by Postal Service equipment. A mailer may obtain customs form and barcode specifications through the following methods:

- a. By calling the NCSC at 877-264-9693 (select option 3 for barcode certification).
- b. By visiting https://ribbs-dev.usps.gov/ index.cfm?page=intcustomsforms.
- c. By written request to the following address:

 DELIVERY CONFIRMATION

 NATIONAL CUSTOMER SUPPORT CENTER

 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

 225 N HUMPHREYS BLVD STE 501

 MEMPHIS TN 38188-1001

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Upon receipt of the request, the NCSC will send the mailer an application and specifications for preparing PS Forms 2976 and/or 2976-A.

123.32 Required Electronic Transmission of Customs Declaration Information

For an item bearing a privately printed customs form under 123.31, a mailer must electronically transmit customs declaration information by using USPS-produced Global Shipping Software (GSS) or other USPS-approved software. Failure to provide electronically transmitted customs declaration information before tendering the mailing may result in refusal at acceptance, delay in processing, and/or return of mail to the sender.

Specific options for electronically transmitting customs declaration information and additional information may be found in the Customs Form Certification Checklist, which is available by clicking on link to that checklist at the web site noted in 123.31b.

123.4 Nonpostal Forms

123.41 Nonpostal Export Regulations

Certain items must bear one or more of the forms required by the nonpostal export regulations described in chapter $\underline{5}$.

123.42 Commercial Invoices

A commercial invoice is a bill for goods from the seller to the buyer. A commercial invoice must be completed where required and must contain the following basic information:

- a. Seller's complete contact information.
- b. Receiver's complete contact information.
- c. Consignee's complete contact information (if it is different from the buyer's).
- d. Country of origin.
- e. Destination country.
- f. Reason for export.
- g. Total commercial value of the item(s) shipped.
- h. Sales and payment terms (if any).
- i. Currency of sale.
- j. Full quantities and description of the merchandise.
- k. A statement certifying that the invoice is correct.

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123.5 Place of Mailing

Mailpieces bearing customs declarations have specific deposit requirements based on mail category, shape, and weight. Refer to the specific IMM part below for determination:

- a. Global Express Guaranteed mailpieces see <u>215</u>.
- b. Priority Mail Express International mailpieces see <u>225</u>.
- c. Priority Mail International mailpieces see 235.
- d. First-Class Mail International mailpieces see 245.
- e. First-Class Package International Service mailpieces see 255.

123.6 Required Usage

123.61 Conditions

The following conditions apply to customs forms for international mail items:

- a. Except as provided in <u>123.62</u>, mailers must use PS Form 2976,
 PS Form 2976-A, or PS Form 2976-B as described in <u>Exhibit 123.61</u>.
- b. The surface area of the address side of the item to be mailed must be large enough to contain completely the applicable customs form, postage, and any applicable markings, endorsements, and extra service labels.
- c. Regardless of any listing in <u>Exhibit 123.61</u>, items containing articles that require an export license (see <u>532</u>) must always bear PS Form 2976-A or PS Form 2976-B note that PS Form 2976-B is used only for Priority Mail Express International items. In certain circumstances, this might require the mailer to send the mailpiece via Priority Mail Express International service or Priority Mail International service (but not with Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes).

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Exhibit 123.61 **Customs Declaration Form Usage by Mail Category**

	Declared Value, Weight,		
Type of Item	or Physical Characteristic	Required PS Form	Comment (if applicable)
Global Express Guaranteed			
All items.	All values	6182	PS Form 6182, Commercial Invoice, is required for certain commodities and destinations. For determination, see Publication 141, Global Express Guaranteed Service Guide.
Priority Mail Express Intern	ational Items		
All items.	All values	2976, 2976-A, or 2976-B	Required customs forms and endorsements vary by country and are specified in the Individual Country Listings.
Priority Mail International It	ems Except Flat Rate Env		I Flat Rate Priced Boxes
All Priority Mail International items except Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes.	All values	2976-A	Except for Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes, all items mailed in USPS-produced Priority Mail International packaging or any other container bearing a Priority Mail sticker or marked with the words "Priority Mail" are considered to be within the scope of this requirement.
Priority Mail International F	lat Rate Envelopes (Maxi	mum weight limit	
All Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes containing only documents except for the known mailer exemption described in the entry below.	Under 16 ounces, no more than 3/4 inch thick, and uniformly thick 16 ounces or more, more than 3/4 inch thick, or not uniformly thick	None* 2976	See 123.63 for additional information concerning "documents."
All Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes that are entered by a known mailer as defined in 123.62 and items that qualify under 123.62.	Must not exceed \$400	None	Not applicable.
All Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes	\$400 or less	2976	Merchandise is permitted unless prohibited by the destination country.
containing any goods, regardless of weight.	Over \$400	Prohibited	Items over \$400 must be mailed using Global Express Guaranteed service, Priority Mail Express International service, or Priority Mail International service (other than Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes).
Priority Mail International S			
All Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Priced	\$400 or less	2976	Merchandise is permitted unless
Boxes, regardless of contents.	Over \$400	Prohibited	prohibited by the destination country. Items over \$400 must be mailed using Global Express Guaranteed service, Priority Mail Express International service, or Priority Mail International service (other than Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes.

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Type of Item	Declared Value, Weight, or Physical Characteristic	Required PS Form	Comment (if applicable)
First-Class Mail Internation Items and International Sur			uding International Priority Airmail (IPA) t limit: 4 pounds)
All letter-size and flat-size items, as defined in 241.2, containing only documents except for the known mailer exemption described in the entry below.	Under 16 ounces 16 ounces or more	None* 2976	See <u>123.63</u> for additional information concerning "documents."
All letter-size and flat-size items, as defined in 241.2, that are entered by a known mailer as defined in 123.62 and items that qualify under 123.63.	Must not exceed \$400	None	Not applicable.
All items containing any goods, regardless of weight.	\$400 or less	2976	Merchandise is permitted unless prohibited by the destination country.
	Over \$400	Prohibited	Items over \$400 must be mailed using Global Express Guaranteed service, Priority Mail Express International service, or Priority Mail International service (other than Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes).
First-Class Package Intern (Maximum weight limit: 4 p		(Small Packets),	Including IPA Items and ISAL Items
All First-Class Package International Service	\$400 or less	2976	Merchandise is permitted unless prohibited by the destination country.
packages (small packets), as defined in 251.2, regardless of contents.	Over \$400	Prohibited	Items over \$400 must be mailed using Global Express Guaranteed service, Priority Mail Express International service, or Priority Mail International service (other than Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes).
All package-size items, as defined in 251.2, that are entered by a known mailer as defined in 123.62 and items that qualify under 123.63.	Must not exceed \$400	None	Not applicable.
Free Matter for the Blind	1= " .	1	10. 070 () 1
All items.	Follow above requirements for relevant mail category, as appropriate.	Follow above requirements for relevant mail category, as appropriate.	See <u>270</u> for authorized mail classes and eligibility.
M-bags (Airmail, IPA Service		10070	TA (III - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1
All M-bags.	\$400 or less	2976	A fully completed PS Form 2976 must be affixed to PS Tag 158, <i>M-bag Addressee Tag</i> .
* O	Over \$400	Prohibited	ble, the following items do not meet this

^{*} Qualifying items must meet the physical characteristics in <u>241.235</u>. For example, the following items do not meet this requirement and must bear PS Form 2976: 1) Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes that are not uniformly thick; 2) First-Class Package International Service items; and 3) IPA and ISAL packages (small packets) containing only documents.

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123.62 Known Mailers

123.621 **Overview**

A "known mailer" may be exempt from the customs form requirement that would otherwise apply to letter-size or flat-size mailpieces as defined in 241.2, or to package-size mailpieces as defined in 251.2. A "known mailer" must meet one of the definitions in 123.622 and must meet the conditions in 123.623.

123.622 **Definition**

A "known mailer" must meet one of the following definitions:

- A federal, state, or local government agency whose mail is regarded as Official Mail.
- A contractor who sends out prepaid mail on behalf of a military service, provided the mail is endorsed "Contents for Official Use — Exempt from Customs Requirements."
- c. A business mailer who enters volume mailings through a business mail entry unit (BMEU) or other bulk mail acceptance location, completes a postage statement at the time of entry, pays postage through an advance deposit account, and uses a permit imprint for postage payment. For this purpose, the categories of mail that qualify are as follows:
 - (1) Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes, except for contents allowed under 123.623b.
 - (2) First-Class Mail International service.
 - (3) International Priority Airmail (IPA) service.
 - (4) International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) service.

123.623 Conditions

The following conditions apply to "known mailers":

- a. The mailpieces must contain no merchandise or goods, except as provided in 123.623b and 123.623c.
- b. The mailpieces may contain hard copy printed or recorded media (e.g., CDs, DVDs, flash drives, video and cassette tapes), for which no customs form is required in the destination country. Authorization to mail items under this subsection without a customs form is subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The mailpiece must not require an export license as described in 510, 520, 530, or 540.
 - (2) Any packaging used for package-sized items under this subsection must be transparent, such as shrinkwrap or polywrap material, so that the contents are fully visible for inspection.
- c. The mailpieces may contain goods of nominal value (less than \$1.00) in conjunction with communications or informational materials for which no customs form is required in the destination country. In addition, authorization to mail items under this standard is subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The mailpieces must not require an export license as described in 510, 520, 530, or 540.

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- (2) The mailpieces must not contain dangerous or prohibited items under IMM <u>135</u> or <u>136</u>, or be otherwise prohibited by the destination country.
- (3) The mailpieces cannot be destined to an E:1 country listed in 15 CFR 740, Supp. 2.
- (4) The mailpieces cannot contain any items listed in the Commerce Control List (15 CFR 774) or the U.S. Munitions List (22 CFR 121).
- d. If the mailpieces are mailed with a postage statement, the mailer must certify on the postage statement that the mailpieces contain no dangerous materials that are prohibited by postal regulations.
- e. The import regulations of the destination country must allow individual mailpieces without a customs form affixed.
- f. For IPA and ISAL mailings, the mailer must pay with a permit imprint or with a combination postage method (meter postage affixed to the piece and additional postage by permit imprint). IPA and ISAL mailpieces that are paid for by postage solely with a meter do not qualify for the "known mailer" exemption.
- g. Failure to comply with the conditions in this section, or with any other applicable regulations or policies of the Postal Service or other relevant governmental authorities, may result in the suspension or revocation of eligibility to mail items without a customs form affixed pursuant to this section. For example, a suspension or revocation may result when the mailer fails to ensure his or her compliance with 510, 520, 530, or 540, such as ensuring that no mailings are sent to persons blocked from transacting in such items by the federal agencies described in those IMM sections.

123.63 **Documents and Merchandise**

In Exhibit 123.61, the "Type of Item" column has several references to "documents." For this purpose, "documents" refers only to printed documents, not to electronic storage media or devices such as CDs, DVDs, or flash drives. Examples of documents include the following:

- a. Audit and business records.
- b. Personal correspondence.
- c. Circulars.
- d. Pamphlets.
- e. Advertisements.
- f. Written instruments not intended to be resold.
- g. Money orders, checks, and similar items that cannot be negotiated or converted into cash without forgery.

Examples of items that do not qualify as documents — rather, they are considered merchandise, so the sender is required to apply a customs declaration form and declare a value — include the following:

 a. CDs, DVDs, flash drives, video and cassette tapes, and other electronic storage media — regardless if they are blank or if they contain electronic documents or other prerecorded media.

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- b. Artwork.
- c. Collector or antique document items.
- d. Books.
- e. Periodicals.
- f. Printed music.
- g. Printed educational or test material.
- h. Player piano rolls.
- i. Engineering drawings.
- i. Blueprints.
- k. Film.
- Negatives.
- m. X-rays.
- n. Separation negatives.
- o. Photographs.

123.64 Additional Security Controls

When the chief postal inspector determines that a unique, credible threat exists, the Postal Service may require a mailer to provide photo identification at the time of mailing. The signature on the identification must match the signature on the customs declaration form.

123.7 Completing Customs Forms

123.71 **PS Form 2976, Customs Declaration CN 22 — Sender's Declaration**

123.711 Sender's Preparation of PS Form 2976

A sender must complete PS Form 2976, *Customs Declaration CN 22 — Sender's Declaration*. See Exhibit 123.711a and Exhibit 123.711b for images of PS Form 2976.

- a. Check all applicable boxes to indicate whether the package contains a gift, documents, commercial samples, or other items. Check the box for "Dangerous Goods" if the shipment contains dangerous goods that are approved for mailing.
- b. In block (1), provide a detailed description, in English, of each article and the quantity for each article. General descriptions such as "food," "medicine," "gifts," or "clothing" are not acceptable. In addition to the English text, a translation in another language is permitted.
- c. In block (2), enter the quantity of each article.
- d. In block (3), enter the weight of each article in pounds and ounces.
- e. In block (4), declare the value of each article in U.S. dollars.

Note: The sender may declare that the contents have no value. However, declaring that the contents have no value does not exempt an item from customs examination or charges in the destination country.

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f. The sender must enter the actual value of an item for registered items in a consistent manner on PS Forms 3806 and 2976 — i.e., the value entered must be identical. Items on which identical values are not declared will be refused. (See 334.12.)

- g. In block (5) which is only for commercial items (i.e., any goods exported/imported in the course of a business transaction whether or not they are sold for money or exchanged) enter, if known, the 6-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule number, which is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System developed by the World Customs Organization.
- h. In block (6), enter, if known, the "Country of Origin," which is the country where the goods originated i.e., where they were produced/manufactured or assembled.
- i. In block (7), enter the total quantity, weight, and value of all articles.
- j. In block (8), check "NOEEI § 30.37(a)" or "NOEEI § 30.37(h)," depending on the applicable Automated Export System (AES) Exemption.
- k. In block (9), sign and date in the blocks indicated on the left side and the right side of the form. The sender's signature certifies that all entries are correct and the item(s) being mailed contain no undeclared dangerous, prohibited, or restricted contents per postal, customs, or destination country regulations. The sender's signature also certifies compliance with all applicable federal export licensing and filing regulations and confirms the sender's liability for the item(s) being mailed.
- I. Affix the form to the address side of the item and present the item for mailing.

International Mail Services 123.711

Exhibit 123.711a

PS Form 2976, Customs Declaration CN 22 — Sender's Declaration (Sender's Instructions — Front and Reverse)

Note: PS Form 2976 is also available at the link below:

http://about.usps.com/forms/ps2976.pdf



Customs Declaration CN 22 – Sender's Declaration Instructions for Completing Customs Declaration

Please retain this copy and the detached customer copy from page 2 for your records. You will need the information contained on these pages if you contact us about the article(s) you mailed.

A PS Form 2976, Customs Declaration CN22 – Sender's Declaration, must be used on all First-Class Mail International® packagesize items (small packets), First-Class Package International Service™ items, Priority Mail International® Small Flat Rate Boxes, M-bags, and certain Priority Mail Express International™ items. Refer to the International Mail Manual (IMM®) at pe.usps.com for additional information.

Also use this form on a First-Class Mail International mailpiece or Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes if ANY of the following applies:

- The mailpiece weighs 16 ounces or more (the maximum weight limit is 4 pounds);
- The mailpiece exceeds 3/4 inch in thickness; or
- The mailpiece contains dutiable goods.

NOTE: Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and First-Class Mail International large envelopes (flats) containing only documents, weighing under 16 ounces, and meeting the flat-size characteristics do not require a PS Form 2976.

Do not use this form for mailpieces that: (1) Contain items valued over \$400; (2) Require an export license; (3) Contain goods (non-documents) destined to Iran, Sudan, or Syria; or (4) Contain goods destined to Cuba or North Korea, other than gift parcels or humanitarian donations as defined by 15 CFR § 740.12.

For APO, FPO and DPO destinations, use PS Form 2976 when sending certain items (all domestic mail classes). Refer to the current "Overseas Military/Diplomatic Mail" section of the latest *Postal Bulletin* at *usps.com* for additional information.

Regardless of value and weight, mail sent to, from, and between U.S. possessions and territories, Freely Associated States, and APO/FPO/DPO addresses may require a customs form. Refer to *Domestic Mail Manual* Section 608.2.4 for additional information.

Goods may be subject to restrictions. It is the responsibility of the mailer to inquire about and abide by any import and export regulations and restrictions (e.g., quarantine, pharmaceutical, etc.), and to properly complete this form.

FROM (Sender information) and TO (Addressee information) sections: Enter both the sender's and addressee's full name and full address in the blocks provided. Please provide the telephone/fax number or email address of both the sender and addressee, as such information will facilitate customs clearance and delivery.

PS Form 2976, July 2013

Additional instructions and Privacy Statement continued on reverse of this page

Sender's Instructions

Check the box specifying the category of the item. If the international shipment contains dangerous goods that are approved for mailing, check the box for "Dangerous Goods." Mailability information for international shipments is available in Publication 52, Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail (chapter 6), and in IMM Part 135.

(1) Enter a detailed description of each article — e.g., "men's cotton shirts." General descriptions — e.g., "samples," "food products," or "toiletries" — are not acceptable. (2), (3), and (4) Enter the quantity, net weight (pounds and ounces), and value of each article. (5) For commercial items only. Enter, if known, the 6-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule number, which is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System developed by the World Customs Organization. (6) Enter, if known, the "Country of Origin," which is the country where the goods originated — i.e., where they were produced/manufactured or assembled. (7) Enter the total quantity, weight, and value of all articles.

(8) AES Exemption. In order to comply with the U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Regulations, check the box "NOEEI § 30.37(a)" or "NOEEI § 30.37(h)." Further information is available in IMM Parts 526 and 527. Use the following explanations to help determine your choice:

- NOEEI § 30.37(a): Use this AES Exemption when the value of each class of goods is \$2,500 or less, if an export license is not required. Do NOT use this AES Exemption for items sent to Cuba or North Korea.
- NOEEI § 30.37(h): Use this AES Exemption for gift parcels or humanitarian donations destined to certain sanctioned countries (as of July 2013, this includes Cuba and North Korea), if the package complies with the conditions set forth in 15 CFR § 740.12.

(9) Sign and date the form. Your signature certifies that all entries are correct and the item(s) being mailed contain no undeclared dangerous, prohibited, or restricted contents per postal, customs, or destination country regulations. Your signature also certifies compliance with all applicable federal export licensing and filing regulations and confirms your liability for the item(s) being mailed.

Privacy Act Statement: Your information will be used to satisfy reporting requirements for customs purposes. Collection is authorized by 39 U.S.C. 401, 403, 404, and 407; 13 U.S.C. 301–307; and 50 U.S.C. 1702. Providing the information is voluntary, but if not provided, we may not process your transaction. We do not disclose your information to third parties without your consent, except to facilitate the transaction, to act on your behalf or request, or as legally required. This includes the following limited circumstances: to a congressional office on your behalf; to financial entities regarding financial transaction issues; to a U.S. Postal Service auditor; to entities, including law enforcement, as required by law or in legal proceedings; to contractors and other entities aiding us to fulfill the service (service providers); to domestic and international customs pursuant to federal law and agreements; and to other governmental entities with authority over exportation. For more information regarding our privacy policies, visit usps.com/privacypolicy.

PS Form **2976**, July 2013

Do not duplicate without USPS approval

Reverse — Sender's Instructions

123.711 International Mail Manual

Exhibit 123.711b PS Form 2976, Customs Declaration CN 22 — Sender's Declaration (Copy 1 and Copy 2)

	Щ		Н				Privacy Notice on re print in English and	item/parcel may be opene everse of Sender's Instruc press firmly; you are mak	tions page. Please ing multiple copies.
						l	Sender's Last N	ame F	irst
☐ Documents ☐ Commercial sa☐ Gift ☐ Humanitarian Dona	100	_	Merch Other	and the second	☐ Danger	ous Goods	Business		
Detailed description of contents (1)		Weig lb.	ht (3) oz.	Value (4) (US \$)	HS Tariff # (5)	Country of Origin (6)	Address		
							City	State	ZIP+4®
							Telephone/Fax or E	mail	
							Addressee's Las	st Name F	irst
			Totals	(7) \$			Business		
AES Exemption (8) ☐ NOEEI § 30.37(a) ☐ NOEEI § 30.37(h)				Mailing Office	ce Date Stamp	Address			
certify the particulars given in this correct. This item does not contain a	ustor	ms de			1		radioso		
articles, or articles prohibited by legis customs regulations. I have met all a requirements under federal law and	slatio	n or b	y post export	al or			City	State/Province	Post Code
Sender's Signature and Date (9)			1		Country	Telephone/Fax of	r Email		

							ms Declaration - n/parcel may be opened arse of Sender's Instruction	
						print in English and pre	ess firmly; you are makin	g multiple copies.
	111111	Hilli			I	Sender's Last Name	First	
☐ Documents ☐ Commercial sar	mole \square	Merch	andise I	□ Danger	ous Goods	Business		
☐ Gift ☐ Humanitarian Donal	1000	Other	undisc	_ builgen		-		
Detailed description of contents (1)	Qty. We (2) lb.		Value (4) (US \$)	HS Tariff # (5)	Country of Origin (6)	Address		
						City	State	ZIP+4®
						Telephone/Fax or Email		
			-			Addressee's Last Na	ame First	
			/795			72-1-77		
		Totals	\$ (7) \$			Business		
AES Exemption (8) NOEEI § 30.37(a) NOEEI § 3	30 37/h)			Mailing Office	ce Date Stamp	Address		
certify the particulars given in this cu	ustoms d					Address		
correct. This item does not contain an articles, or articles prohibited by legis customs regulations. I have met all a	lation or	by post	al or			City	State/Province	Post Code
equirements under federal law and r			9			1444		
Sender's Signature and Date (9)						Country	Telephone/Fax or E	mail

International Mail Services 123.721

123.712 Postal Service Employee's Acceptance of PS Form 2976

The Postal Service acceptance employee must do the following when accepting PS Form 2976 from the sender:

- a. Instruct the sender how to complete, legibly and accurately, PS Form 2976, as required. The sender's failure to complete the form properly can delay delivery of the item or inconvenience the sender and addressee. Moreover, a false, misleading, or incomplete declaration can result in the seizure or return of the item and/or in criminal or civil penalties. The Postal Service assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information that the sender enters on PS Form 2976.
- b. Verify that the sender has entered the information on the form, and has signed and dated the form in the spaces provided on the left side and the right side of the form. The sender's address on the mailpiece must match the sender's address on PS Form 2976.
- c. Enter the total weight of the package on the form, if the sender has not already done so.
- Round stamp the left side of Copy 1 (the Post Office copy) and the left side of Copy 2 (the shipping label). Tell the sender that the Postal Service will retain Copy 1 for 30 days as a record of mailing.
- e. To comply with U.S. Census Bureau requirements, it is the customer's responsibility to ensure that an appropriate AES Exemption is selected or displayed on PS Form 2976. In addition, items sent to Cuba may require an Internal Transaction Number or AES Downtime Citation.
- f. A customer desiring evidence that the mailing has been presented to the Postal Service may purchase a certificate of mailing (see 310).

Note: Consistent with IMM <u>225.12</u>, <u>235.12</u>, <u>245.12</u>, and <u>255.12</u>, the customer must present any item bearing a handwritten PS Form 2976 to an employee at a Post Office retail service counter.

123.72 PS Form 2976-A, Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72

123.721 Sender's Preparation of PS Form 2976-A

See Exhibit 123.711a, b, and c for images of PS Form 2976-A.

- Enter both the sender's and addressee's full name and full address in the blocks provided. Provide the sender's telephone/fax number or email address.
- b. In block (1), provide a detailed description, in English, of each article. General descriptions such as "food," "medicine," "gifts," or "clothing" are not acceptable. In addition to the English text, a translation in another language is permitted. If there is insufficient space on the form to list all contents, use a second form (and subsequent forms, if necessary) to continue listing the contents, and indicate on the first form that the contents are continued on a subsequent form(s). When using this option, customers must ensure that the barcodes on the subsequent forms are totally obliterated to avoid multiple barcodes being assigned to the package. Place the form(s) into PS Form 2976-E (plastic envelope).

123.721 International Mail Manual

c. In blocks (2), (3), and (4), enter the quantity, net weight (in pounds and ounces), and value (in U.S. dollars) of each article.

- d. In block (5), check all applicable boxes to indicate whether the package contains a gift, documents, commercial samples, or other items. Check the box for "Dangerous Goods" if the shipment contains dangerous goods that are approved for mailing.
- e. In block (6), note any restrictions that pertain to block 11.
- f. In block (7), enter the total gross weight in pounds and ounces.
- g. In block (8), enter the total value of all items in U.S. dollars.
- h. In block (9), provide disposal instructions in the event that the package cannot be delivered. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether the package is to be returned, treated as abandoned, or forwarded to an alternate address. Undeliverable packages returned to the sender are, upon delivery, subject to collection of return postage and any other charges assessed by the foreign postal authorities. If you are unwilling to pay return postage, check the box "Treat as Abandoned."
- i. In block (10), enter the applicable Automated Export System (AES) Internal Transaction Number (ITN) or AES Exemption.
- j. In block (11), provide details if the contents are subject to quarantine (plant, food products, etc.).
- k. In block (12), sign and date the form. The sender's signature certifies that all entries are correct and that the item contains no undeclared dangerous, prohibited, or restricted contents per postal, customs, or destination country regulations.
- I. In blocks (13) and (14), enter the applicable number if the item requires a sender's customs reference or importer's reference.
- m. In block (15), enter, if known, the importer's telephone number, fax number, or email address.
- n. In blocks (16), (17), and (18), enter license, certificate, and/or invoice number, if applicable.
- o. In block (19), enter, if known, the 6-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule number, which is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System developed by the World Customs Organization.
- p. In block (20), enter the "Country of Origin," which is the country where the goods originated i.e., where they were produced/manufactured or assembled.
- q. Insert the completed form(s) into PS Form 2976-E (plastic envelope) and affix PS Form 2976-E to the address side of the package. Allow the Postal Service employee to complete PS Form 2976-A as described in 123.722.
- r. Present the item for mailing.

International Mail Services 123.721

Exhibit 123.721a

PS Form 2976-A, Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72 (Instructions)

Note: To see the complete PS Form 2976-A, click the link below:

http://about.usps.com/forms/ps2976a.pdf

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM (Remove this page prior to completing form.)

Please print this form in English using blue or black ink, pressing firmly so all information transfers to all copies. Complete the declaration fully and legibly; otherwise, delay and inconvenience may result for the addressee. A false or misleading declaration may lead to a fine or seizure of the item and additional penalties. You may add a translation of the contents in a language accepted in the destination country.

Your goods may be subject to restrictions. It is your responsibility to comply with import and export regulations and restrictions (e.g., quarantine, pharmaceutical, etc.), and to determine what documents (e.g., commercial invoice, certificate of origin, health certificate, license, authorization for goods subject to quarantine such as plant, animal, or food products, etc.), if any, are required in the destination country. Check the country listings at pe.usps.com/text/imm/immctry.htm, as well as the UPU List of Prohibited Items available at www.upu.int/customs/en/country_list_en.pdf.

FROM (Sender information) and TO (Addressee information) sections: Enter both the sender's and addressee's full name and full address in the blocks provided. Incomplete names (e.g., initials) or incomplete address entries may result in delayed handling by Customs and/or the delivery office. Provide the telephone/fax number or email address of the sender, as such information will facilitate customs clearance and delivery.

Block 1: Enter a detailed description of each article — e.g., "men's cotton shirts." General descriptions — e.g., "samples," "food products," or "toiletries" — are not acceptable. If there is insufficient space on the form to list all articles, use additional forms as needed. Indicate on the first form (to the right of the barcode) the following: "Additional forms enclosed." **Important:** Obliterate the tracking number and barcode on subsequent forms and place all the forms into PS Form 2976-E (plastic envelope).

Blocks 2-4: Enter the quantity, net weight (in pounds and ounces), and value (in U.S. dollars) of each article

Block 5: Check the box specifying the category of the item. If the international shipment contains dangerous goods that are approved for mailing, check the box for "Dangerous Goods." Mailability information for international shipments is available in Publication 52, Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail (chapter 6), and in International Mail Manual (IMM®) Part 135.

Block 6: Identify if special conditions or restrictions apply to items being mailed.

Block 7: Enter the total weight of the package in pounds and ounces, including packaging, which corresponds to the weight used to calculate the postage.

Block 8: Enter the total value in U.S. dollars.

Block 9: Check the box specifying instructions in case of nondelivery. Items returned to the sender are subject to return charges at the sender's expense.

PS Form 2976-A, July 2013 PSN 7530-01-000-9834

See reverse of this page for additional instructions on how to complete this form.

Block 10: Except for shipments to APO/FPO/DPO addresses, enter an Automated Export System (AES) Internal Transaction Number (ITN), AES Exemption, or if applicable, an AES Downtime Citation. This standard may also apply when mailing items to, from, and between U.S. territories, possessions, and Freely Associated States — see DMM 608.2.5. One of these codes must appear in the "AES/ITN/Exemption" block before the Postal Service will accept a package for mailing. In general, mailpieces containing any type of goods (per Schedule B Export Codes at www.census.gov/foreign-trade/schedules/b) valued at more than \$2,500, or requiring an export license under U.S. law, must have an ITN issued by the U.S. Census Bureau or an AES Downtime Citation, subject to certain exceptions. Mailpieces that are exempt from filing must have an AES Exemption. Regardless of exemptions, all mailpieces must have an ITN or AES Downtime Citation if they are destined to certain countries on which the U.S. has a comprehensive embargo. To obtain an ITN and file electronically through the Census Bureau's AES, or for additional information, please visit www.census.gov/foreign-trade/aes or call 800-549-0595. For additional information, refer to U.S. Postal Service® Publication 699, Special Requirements for Shipping Internationally, and to IMM Part 520.

AES Exemption. In order to comply with U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Regulations, indicate "NOEEI § 30.37(a)," if applicable. "NOEEI § 30.37(a)" may be used when the value of each class of goods is \$2,500 or less, if an export license is not required. Do NOT use this AES Exemption for items sent to Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, or Syria. Further information can be found in IMM Parts 526 and 527.

Block 11: Check the box if the contents are subject to quarantine restrictions (plant, animal, food products, etc.).

Block 12: Sign and date the form. Your signature certifies that all entries are correct and the item(s) being mailed contain no undeclared dangerous, prohibited, or restricted contents per postal, customs, or destination country regulations. Your signature also certifies compliance with all applicable federal export licensing and filing regulations and confirms your liability for the item(s) being mailed.

Blocks 13–14: Enter Sender's Customs Reference and Importer's Reference, if applicable. (The Importer's Reference might be a tax code, importer code, or VAT number used for sales tax.)

Block 15: Enter, if known, the Importer's telephone number, fax number, or email address, as such information might facilitate customs clearance or delivery.

Blocks 16–20: In Blocks 16–18, enter License, Certificate, and/or Invoice number, if applicable. In Block 19, enter, if known, the 6-digit Harmonized Tariff Schedule number, which is based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System developed by the World Customs Organization. In Block 20, enter, if known, the "Country of Origin," which is the country where the goods originated — i.e., where they were produced/manufactured or assembled.

Insert the completed form(s) into PS Form 2976-E, Customs Declaration Envelope — CP 91. Enclose any commercial documents in the envelope. Do not fold the form set or wrap it around the package. The entire barcode and all information must be visible. Remove the backing sheet and affix the envelope to the package on the address side.

PS Form **2976-A**, July 2013 PSN 7530-01-000-9834

Reverse of instructions for completing form.

123.721 International Mail Manual

Exhibit 123.721b PS Form 2976-A, Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72 (Copies 1 and 3)

Control Name		IMPORTANT: This item may be opened officially. F	United States Postal Service Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP Please print in English, using blue or black ink, and pre
Sides (Number, street, suite, suit, ext. P.O. Box, etc. Pleasters of Pavets Ricci socials Unserration Color precedent with (PRI). 13 Sender's Customs Reference (US 3) Total PastageFree (US 3) Total Pastage	CP12345678XUS	firmly, you are making multiple copies. See Priva	cy Notice and Indemnity Coverage on Sender's Co
State Pulmer, street, state, such, such, P.O. Box, etc. Residence of Puerto Ricco socialed Unbanatation Code presented with URBS. Ty State 2017-45 State		First MI	
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State Division of a or Email 14. Importer's Reference-Optional (if any) 15. Importer's Defendence-Optional (if any) 15. Importer's Defendence-Optional (if any) 15. Importer's Contact (paled care) Offeliaphone (if a city of a c	ddress (Number, street, suite, apt., P.O. Box, etc. Residents o	f Puerto Rico include Urbanization Code preceeded with URB.)	s . s
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International Mail Services 123.722

Exhibit 123.721 c

PS Form 2976-A, Customs Declaration and Dispatch Note — CP 72 (Indemnity Statement)

IMPORTANT: Save this receipt and present it when making an inquiry.

PARCEL INDEMNITY COVERAGE: Indemnity for Priority Mail International® parcels, including insured and ordinary (uninsured) parcels, is provided only in accordance with Postal Service™ regulations in the *Domestic Mail Manual* (DMM®) and the *International Mail Manual* (IMM®). The DMM and IMM are available online at http://pe.usps.com. The addressee must report damage or missing contents to the delivering Post Office™ immediately.

Ordinary (uninsured) Priority Mail International parcels include indemnity coverage against loss, damage, or missing contents. Indemnity is limited to the lesser of the actual value of the contents or the maximum indemnity based on the weight of the article. Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Boxes are letter-post items and do not include indemnity coverage.

Insured mail service is available for a fee and replaces indemnity on ordinary parcels. Insurance coverage varies by country and is not available to some countries. Indemnity coverage is subject to both U.S. Postal Service® regulations and the domestic regulations of the destination country. Insurance for loss, damage, or missing contents covers the actual (depreciated) value of the contents.

Claims for lost ordinary and insured parcels may be payable only to the sender, and claims for damage and missing contents may be payable only to the addressee. The sender or addressee may waive the right of payment in favor of the other.

FILING CLAIMS: To initiate an inquiry for loss, damage, or missing contents, call the International Inquiry Center at 800-222-1811. International indemnity inquiries and claims for loss must be filed within the time limits for the service purchased. All claims for damage or missing contents must be filed immediately, and the article, containers, packaging, and all contents received must be presented to the destination Post Office.

Evidence of mailing (e.g., original mailing receipts or wrapper), evidence of insurance, and evidence of value (e.g., sales receipt or repair estimate) must be submitted in support of all claims. For complete regulations, see the IMM at http://pe.usps.com.

EXCEPTIONS: No coverage is provided for consequential losses, delay, concealed damage, spoilage of perishable items, articles improperly packaged, articles too fragile to withstand normal handling in the mails, or prohibited articles. See the DMM and the IMM for the specific types of losses that are covered, the limitations on coverage, the terms of insurance or indemnity, and the conditions of payment.

IMPORTANT: Indemnity coverage is not paid for Priority Mail Express International ™ or ordinary (uninsured) Priority Mail International parcels containing the following: coins; banknotes; currency notes, including paper money; securities of any kind payable to the bearer; traveler's checks; platinum, gold, and silver; precious stones; jewelry; watches; and other valuable or prohibited articles. See the IMM for complete regulations.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: Your information will be used to satisfy reporting requirements for customs purposes. Collection is authorized by 39 U.S.C. 401, 403, 404, and 407; 13 U.S.C. 301–307; and 50 U.S.C. 1702. Providing the information is voluntary, but if not provided, we may not process your transaction. We do not disclose your information to third parties without your consent, except to facilitate the transaction, to act on your behalf or request, or as legally required. This includes the following limited circumstances: to a congressional office on your behalf; to financial entities regarding financial transaction issues; to a U.S. Postal Service auditor; to entities, including law enforcement, as required by law or in legal proceedings; to contractors and other entities aiding us to fulfill the service (service providers); to domestic and international customs pursuant to federal law and agreements; and to other governmental entities with authority over exportation. For more information regarding our privacy policies, visit usps.com/privacypolicy.

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Reverse of Page 5 of 5, Sender's Copy

123.722 Postal Service Employee's Acceptance of PS Form 2976-A

The Postal Service acceptance employee must do the following when accepting PS Form 2976-A from the sender:

- a. Instruct the sender how to complete, legibly and accurately, PS Form 2976-A, as required. The sender's failure to complete the form properly can delay delivery of the item or inconvenience the sender and addressee. Moreover, a false, misleading, or incomplete declaration can result in the seizure or return of the item and/or in criminal or civil penalties. The Postal Service assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of information that the sender enters on PS Form 2976-A.
- Verify that the sender has entered the information on the form and has signed and dated the declaration. The sender's address on the mailpiece must match the sender's address on PS Form 2976-A.
- c. To comply with U.S. Census Bureau requirements, it is the customer's responsibility to ensure that an appropriate AES ITN, AES Exemption, or AES Downtime Citation is displayed on PS Form 2976-A. If this information is not entered, remind the customer that he or she may be subject to civil and criminal penalties for noncompliance.
- d. If the sender wishes to insure the contents, the retail associate will record the insured amount in U.S. dollars and special drawing right (SDR) value on PS Form 2976-A in the space provided. (See <u>Exhibit</u> 323.62 for the conversion table.)

123.73 International Mail Manual

e. Weigh the parcel, enter the weight in block (8), and enter the applicable amount of postage and fees in the appropriate block in the upper right corner of the form.

- f. Round stamp the form in the appropriate place on each copy (copies 1–6).
- g. Remove the Post Office copy (Copy 4) and tell the mailer that the Postal Service will retain this document for 30 days as a record of mailing. Remove the Sender copy (Copy 5) and give it to the mailer.
- h. Round stamp any uncanceled stamps, and if postage is paid by meter, round stamp the front of the piece near the meter postage.

Note: Consistent with IMM <u>225.12</u>, <u>235.12</u>, <u>245.12</u>, and <u>255.12</u>, the customer must present any item bearing a handwritten PS Form 2976-A to an employee at a Post Office retail service counter.

123.73 PS Form 2976-E, Customs Declaration Envelope — CP 91

PS Form 2976-E is a transparent plastic envelope designed to carry and protect the PS Form 2976-A and PS Form 2976-B customs form sets. After completing the forms, the mailer inserts the PS Form 2976-A or PS Form 2976-B form set into the envelope of PS Form 2976-E, removes the backing sheet, and affixes it to the package on the address side. The current edition of PS Form 2976-E is July 2013; however, the mailer may use older editions.

130 Mailability

131 General

131.1 **Domestic Limits**

All articles that are nonmailable in domestic mail are nonmailable in international mail. See Publication 52, *Hazardous, Restricted, and Perishable Mail.*

131.2 International Limits

Many articles that are mailable in domestic mail are nonmailable in international mail. See chapter 6 of Publication 52 and "Prohibitions and Restrictions" in the Individual Country Listings.

131.3 Individual Country Prohibitions and Restrictions

131.31 Information Available

Information on articles that are prohibited or restricted to individual countries appears under "Prohibitions and Restrictions" in the Individual Country Listings. These prohibitions and restrictions are based on information furnished by the countries concerned. Customers should inquire at the Post Office facility about specific prohibitions or restrictions.

International Mail Services 131.52

131.32 Prohibited and Restricted Articles

Articles that are prohibited by the destination country are nonmailable. For mail known to contain articles restricted by the destination country, the sender must be informed of the restrictions and advised that the articles are subject to the import requirements of that country.

131.33 Return or Seizure of Mail

A country may return or seize mail containing articles prohibited or restricted within that country, whether or not notice of such prohibition or restriction has been provided to or published by the Postal Service.

131.34 Foreign Customs Information

The Postal Service does not maintain or provide information concerning the assessment of customs duty in other countries. Postal Service employees must not attempt to inform customers whether articles (gifts or commercial shipments) will be subject to customs duty. Postal Service employees may suggest to customers, however, that they inform the addressees in advance of the articles they intend to mail. Addressees can then obtain information from their local customs authorities. No provision is made for prepayment of customs duty on mail addressed for delivery in foreign countries.

If duties or taxes are assessed, most countries will collect from the recipient a customs clearance and delivery fee, in addition to the duties and taxes. This fee is authorized by international postal agreements to reimburse the delivery service for the costs it incurs in clearing the items through customs and collecting duties at the time of delivery. The duties, taxes, and fee, if applicable, are not included in the postage paid by the mailer.

131.4 Mailer Responsibility

Regardless of any statement in this manual or the statement of any employee of the United States Postal Service, the burden rests with the mailer to ensure compliance with domestic, international, and individual country rules and regulations for mailability.

131.5 **Preparation for Mailing**

131.51 General Packaging Requirements

Parcels of articles or goods must meet the requirements of DMM 601. See DMM 601 for the size and weight limits of parcels and for several grades of fiberboard boxes used for difficult loads. Boxes with difficult loads must be reinforced with banding in each direction around the package.

131.52 Special Packaging Requirements

Each mailer must meet the following special packaging requirements when mailing any of the following articles (see DMM 601):

- a. Fragile articles, such as glass, must be cushioned as required to dissipate shock and pressure forces over as much of the surface of the item as possible.
- b. Liquids must be packaged as required.

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c. Package fatty substances that do not easily liquefy, such as ointments, soft soap, resins, etc., as well as silkworm eggs, in an interior container (box, cloth, or plastic bag) and place them in an outer shipping container of minimum 275-grade test strength.

d. Enclose dry, powdered dyes, such as aniline, in sift-proof, sturdy tin or plastic boxes in an outer sift-proof shipping container. This container must have a minimum 275-grade test strength fiberboard or equivalent.

132 Written, Printed, and Graphic Matter

132.1 **Domestic Limits**

All written, printed, and graphic matter that is described as nonmailable in DMM 601 is nonmailable internationally. This matter includes but is not limited to:

- a. Advertisements for abortion.
- b. Advertisements for motor vehicle master keys.
- c. Copyright violations.
- d. Fictitious matter.
- e. Lottery matter.
- f. Matter inciting violence.
- g. Solicitations in the guise of bills or statements of account.
- h. Solicitations or inducements for mailing harmful matter, radioactive materials, controlled substances, or intoxicating liquors.

Note: Immoral or obscene articles and advertisements for them are nonmailable.

132.2 Reply Cards and Envelopes

Mailpieces that are sent to foreign addressees may *not* contain prepaid reply cards or envelopes that bear a U.S. postage stamp, meter stamp, meter impression, or a domestic business reply indicia. See <u>382</u> for regulations governing mailer use of International Business Reply Service (IBRS).

Exception: The prohibition against enclosing U.S. domestic business reply cards or envelopes does *not* apply when they are bound into, are stapled to, or form an integral part of the printed page of mailpieces that are periodicals. Such enclosures may be admitted so long as they are not used as response vehicles by foreign recipients and the postal administrations of the destination countries do not object to their presence in U.S. origin publications.

133 Improperly Addressed Mail

The following items are nonmailable in international mail:

- a. Unaddressed items.
- b. Items whose ultimate destination cannot be determined due to insufficient, illegible, or incorrect addressing.
- Items bearing multiple addresses to the same or different countries.

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134 Valuable Articles

134.1 Service Options

The following services can be used to send the articles noted in 134.2:

- First-Class Mail International service with Registered Mail service or First-Class Package International Service with Registered Mail service.
- b. Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes with Registered Mail service.
- c. Priority Mail International Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes with Registered Mail service.
- d. Priority Mail International service with insured service.

Note: Neither Priority Mail Express International service nor ordinary (uninsured) Priority Mail International service can be used to send the articles noted in 134.2.

134.2 List of Articles

The following valuable articles may be sent only with the services noted in 134.1:

- a. Coins, banknotes, and currency notes (paper money).
- b. Instruments payable to bearer. (The term "instruments payable to bearer" includes checks, drafts, or securities that can be legally cashed or easily negotiated by anyone who may come into possession of them. A check or draft payable to a specific payee is not regarded as payable to bearer unless the payee has endorsed it. If not endorsed, or if endorsed in favor of another specific payee, it is not regarded as payable to bearer.)
- c. Traveler's checks.
- d. Manufactured and unmanufactured platinum, gold, and silver.
- e. Precious stones, jewels, jewelry, watches, and other valuable articles.

Note: The term "jewelry" is generally understood to denote articles of more than nominal value. Inexpensive jewelry, watches, such as tie clasps and costume jewelry, containing little or no precious metal, is not considered to be jewelry within the meaning of this section and is accepted under the same conditions as other mailable merchandise to any country. Inexpensive jewelry is accepted to countries that prohibit jewelry, but only at the sender's risk.

134.3 Export of Rough Diamonds

The exportation (mailing) from the United States of any rough diamond (regardless of size, source, or value) is prohibited unless the rough diamond has been controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme. See <u>560</u> for the complete mailing standards of these items.

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134.4 **Prohibitions**

Individual countries prohibit or restrict some or all of the valuable items listed above. See the "Prohibitions and Restrictions" section in the Individual Country Listings.

Mailable Dangerous Goods

135.1 Infectious Substances

135.11 General Conditions

Infectious and noninfectious (nonregulated) biological substances are acceptable in international mail subject to the provisions of Publication 52, part 622 under the following conditions: when they are intended for medical or veterinary use, research, or laboratory certification related to the public health; only when such materials are properly prepared for mailing to withstand shocks, pressure changes, and other conditions related to ordinary handling in transit; and under the additional conditions specified in subsections below.

- a. Category A infectious substances are not mailable. Category A infectious substances as described in Publication 52, item 346.12a are substances transported in a form capable of causing permanent disability or life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals when exposure occurs. A Category A infectious substance is assigned the identification number UN 2814 or UN 2900, based on the known medical history or symptoms of the source patient or animal, endemic local conditions, or professional judgment concerning the individual circumstances of the source human or animal. A list of indicative examples of infectious substances included in Category A can be found in International Air Transportation Association (IATA) Dangerous Goods Regulations, Table 3.3.D.
- b. Category B infectious substances are mailable when they meet the definition in Publication 52, item 346.12a and are limited to 50 ml for liquids or 50 g for solids per mailpiece. A Category B infectious substance does not meet the criteria for inclusion in Category A. A mailpiece known or suspected to contain a Category B infectious substance must bear the proper shipping name "Biological substance, Category B" on the address side of the mailpiece and must be assigned to and marked with identification number UN 3373.
- c. Nonregulated (noninfectious) materials described in Publication 52, section 346.234 as nonregulated are mailable. Nonregulated substances do not contain infectious substances or substances that are likely to cause disease in humans or animals. Nonregulated materials are not subject to regulation as materials, but when presented for mailing, they must be properly packaged as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6G.
- d. Exempt human or animal specimens as defined in Publication 52, item 346.12d are mailable. They are not subject to regulation as materials, but when presented for mailing, they must be properly packaged as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6H.

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135.12 Type of Mail

Category B infectious substances must be sent only by First-Class Package International Service using Registered Mail service. Nonregulated materials defined in Publication 52, section 346.234 and exempt human or animal specimens defined in Publication 52, item 346.12d are mailable by First-Class Package International Service when properly packaged as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6G or 6H.

135.13 Senders and Receivers

Substances identified in <u>135.11b</u> must be sent only by authorized laboratories to their foreign counterparts in those countries that have indicated a willingness to accept them.

Note: Countries distinguish between infectious and noninfectious (nonregulated) biological substances and may prohibit one or the other or both. See "Prohibitions" in the Individual Country Listings.

135.2 Authorization

135.21 Authorized Institutions

Infectious biological substances can be sent to or received by *only* the following types of institutions:

- a. Laboratories of local, state, and federal government agencies.
- b. Laboratories of federally licensed manufacturers of biological products derived from bacteria and viruses.
- c. Laboratories affiliated with or operated by hospitals, universities, research facilities, and other teaching institutions.
- d. Private laboratories licensed, certified, recognized, or approved by a public authority.

135.22 Request for Authorization

A qualifying institution wishing to mail packages containing biological substances must submit a written request on its organizational letterhead to the following address:

MANAGER PRODUCT CLASSIFICATION US POSTAL SERVICE 475 L'ENFANT PLZ SW RM 4446 WASHINGTON DC 20260-5015

In its letter of application, the institution must indicate the nature of its work, the identity and qualifications of the prospective recipient, and the number of packages to be mailed.

135.3 Packaging, Marking, Labeling

135.31 Category B Infectious Substances

A material that is classified as a Category B infectious substance and that meets the definition in Publication 52, item 346.12a, must be triple-packaged as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6C, must meet the packaging requirements in 49 CFR 173.199, and must be sent only by First-Class Package International Service using Registered Mail service. Each primary receptacle containing a liquid must be leakproof and surrounded by

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absorbent material sufficient to protect the primary receptacle and absorb the total amount of liquid should the primary receptacle leak or break. Each primary receptacle containing a solid must be sift proof. Secondary containers for liquids must be leak proof. Secondary containers for solids must be sift proof. The primary and secondary packaging must be enclosed in a rigid outer shipping container. A single primary receptacle must not contain more than 1 liter (34 ounces) of a liquid specimen or 4 kg (8.8 pounds) of a solid specimen. Multiple primary receptacles whose combined volume does not exceed 4 liters (1 gallon) for liquids or 4 kg (8.8 pounds) for solids may be enclosed in a single secondary container. In addition:

- a. The secondary container must be marked with the international biohazard symbol shown in Publication 52, Exhibit 346.321.
- A primary receptacle or secondary packaging containing liquid must be capable of withstanding, without leakage, an internal pressure producing a pressure differential of not less than 95 kPa (0.95 bar, 14 psi) in the range of -40° C to 55° C (-40° F to 130° F).
- All mailpieces sent under DMM 601.10.17.4 must be marked on the address side with the shipping name "Biological substance, Category B" and the "UN 3373" marking as outlined in 49 CFR 173.199 (a) (5).
- d. Orientation arrows are not required on these mailpieces but may be used
- e. The outer packaging must show the name and telephone number of a person who is knowledgeable about the material shipped and has comprehensive emergency response and incident mitigation information, or of someone who has immediate access to the person with such knowledge and information.

135.32 Nonregulated Materials (Noninfectious Biological Substances)

Nonregulated materials are not subject to regulation as materials but when presented for mailing, they must be properly packaged, marked, and labeled as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6G.

135.33 Exempt Human or Animal Specimens

Exempt human or animal specimens are not subject to regulation as materials but when presented for mailing, they must be properly packaged, marked, and labeled as described in Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 6H.

135.4 Handling and Dispatch of Infectious Substances

135.41 Biological Substances

Items that contain perishable biological substances must be given careful yet expeditious handling from receipt through dispatch.

135.42 Infectious Substances

Shipments containing infectious substances must be segregated from other types of mail matter (i.e., placed in separate sacks). PS Tag 44, *Sack Contents Warning*, must be attached to the outside of sacks to identify the

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nature of the contents. PS Tag 44 is for internal use only, and must be removed from mail sacks, and the materials tendered to air carriers as outside pieces.

135.5 Radioactive Materials

Shipments containing radioactive materials are acceptable in international mail subject to the provisions of Publication 52, part 347 and under the following conditions:

- Shipments may be sent only by First-Class Package International Service using Registered Mail service.
- Shipments may be sent only to those countries that have expressed a
 willingness to accept radioactive materials. See "Prohibitions and
 Restrictions" in the Individual Country Listings.
- c. Shipments must comply with the International Atomic Energy Agency rules and regulations.
- Senders and recipients of radioactive materials must receive prior authorization from the appropriate regulatory authorities within their countries.
- e. A white package label bearing the French words "Matieres Radioactives" (Radioactive Materials) must be applied to the address side of each package containing radioactive materials. Senders are responsible for supplying and affixing this label to the package.
- f. The package must also bear the following endorsements in bold letters: "RETURN TO SENDER IN CASE OF NONDELIVERY" and "RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS, QUANTITIES PERMITTED FOR MOVEMENT BY POST."

135.6 Batteries

135.61 Availability — Mail Classes

Regardless of quantity or type — primary lithium (non-rechargeable) or secondary lithium-ion (rechargeable) — shipments containing lithium cells or batteries are nonmailable in Global Express Guaranteed service. The standards under 135.62 through 135.64 apply to all other outbound international mail classes.

135.62 **General**

Only lithium cells and batteries under 135.63 and 135.64 that are properly installed in the equipment they are intended to operate may be sent internationally or to APO, FPO, or DPO locations when not restricted or prohibited by the destination country or APO, FPO, or DPO location. For specific country restrictions, see the applicable Individual Country Listing. For specific APO, FPO, or DPO restrictions, see the information for the destination ZIP Code in the article titled "Overseas Military/Diplomatic Mail" published in each issue of the *Postal Bulletin*.

Lithium batteries packed with equipment and lithium batteries sent separate from equipment are prohibited. Damaged or recalled batteries are prohibited and may not be mailed internationally under any circumstances.

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135.63 Primary Lithium (Non-Rechargeable) Cells and Batteries

Small consumer-type primary lithium cells and batteries (lithium metal or lithium alloy) like those used to power cameras and flashlights are mailable in a single shipment with the following restrictions:

- a. The batteries must be installed in the equipment being shipped.
- b. Each shipment may contain a maximum of only four lithium cells or two lithium batteries.
- c. The lithium content must not exceed 1 gram (g) per cell.
- d. The total aggregate lithium content must not exceed 2 g per battery.
- e. The batteries installed in the equipment must be protected from damage and short circuit.
- f. The equipment must be equipped with an effective means of preventing it from being turned on or activated.
- g. The equipment must be contained in a strong sealed package and cushioned to prevent movement or damage.

135.64 Secondary Lithium-ion (Rechargeable) Cells and Batteries

Small consumer-type lithium-ion cells and batteries like those used to power cell phones and laptop computers are mailable in a single shipment with the following restrictions:

- a. The batteries must be installed in the equipment being shipped.
- b. Each shipment may contain a maximum of only four lithium-ion cells or two lithium-ion batteries.
- c. The lithium content must not exceed 20 Watt-hour rating (Wh) per cell.
- d. The total aggregate lithium content must not exceed 100 Wh per battery.
- e. Each battery must bear the Wh marking on the battery to determine if it is within the limits defined in 135.64c and 135.64d.
- f. The batteries installed in the equipment must be protected from damage and short circuit.
- g. The equipment must be equipped with an effective means of preventing it from being turned on or activated.
- h. The equipment must be contained in a strong sealed package and cushioned to prevent movement or damage.

136 Nonmailable Goods

136.1 Dangerous Goods

Except as provided in IMM 135, "dangerous goods" as defined by the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, are prohibited in outbound international mail, regardless of mail class. Some examples of dangerous goods include the following:

Explosives or explosive devices.

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- b. Flammable materials.
 - (1) Pyrophoric, flammable, or combustible liquids with a closed cup flash point below 200°F.
 - (2) Flammable solids, including matches.
- c. Oxidizers.
- Corrosives, liquid or solid.
- e. Compressed gases.
 - Flammable.
 - (2) Nonflammable with an absolute pressure exceeding 40 psi at 70°F or 104 psi at 130°F.
- f. Poisons, irritants, controlled substances, and drug paraphernalia.
- g. Magnetized material with a magnetic field strength of .002 gauss or more at a distance of 7 feet.
- h. Dry ice (carbon dioxide solid).

Additional information on dangerous goods is available at www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.html.

136.2 Inert Replica and Explosive Devices

The following types of replica or inert explosive devices are prohibited in outbound international mail:

- a. Military ordnance, ammunition, and shells.
- b. Grenades.
- c. Similar devices that were originally designed for military or combative use (including training).

This prohibition does not extend to items such as children's toys or articles that do not represent the above items in a realistic manner.

136.3 Counterfeit and Pirated Items

Any type of counterfeit or pirated article is prohibited in outbound international mail.

136.4 Cigarettes and Smokeless Tobacco

Cigarettes (including roll-your-own tobacco) and smokeless tobacco products as defined in Publication 52, part 471 are nonmailable when sent in outbound or inbound international mail. The exceptions for mailing under Publication 52, section 472.2 are not available for shipments of such products in international mail. This standard prevails regardless of any information to the contrary in the Individual Country Listings.

137 Firearms, Knives, and Sharp Instruments

Some knives and sharp instruments (see Publication 52, subchapter 44 and part 633) may be mailed to certain countries under the conditions specified in the Individual Country Listings. See <u>540</u> for U.S. Department of State licensing requirements applicable to the international mailing of arms or implements of war, component parts, and related technical data.

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138 Perishable Matter

138.1 **Animals**

All live or dead animals are nonmailable, except the following:

- a. Live bees, leeches, silkworms, and flies of the family Drosophilidae (see DMM 601.9.3.8).
- b. Dead insects or reptiles, when thoroughly dried.
- c. Parasites and predators of injurious insects, if the following conditions are met:
 - (1) They are admissible in the domestic mail.
 - (2) They are useful in controlling harmful insects.
 - (3) They are exchanged by officially recognized scientific or health agencies.
 - (4) They are sent by First-Class Mail International service, First-Class Package International Service, or Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes.
 - (5) Mailable animals must be in containers conforming to the requirements in the DMM.

138.2 **Plants**

Plants, seeds, and plant materials, including fruits and vegetables, are subject to the provisions of Publication 52, chapter 5; Publication 14, *Prohibitions and Restrictions on Mailing Animals, Plants, and Related Products*; and the quarantine regulations of the country of destination. Customers can obtain information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) Programs at:

USDA APHIS PPQ 4700 RIVER RD RIVERDALE MD 20737-1228

138.3 **Eggs**

138.31 Restrictions

Eggs may be sent only by Priority Mail International. See <u>550</u> for nonpostal regulations on dried whole eggs.

138.32 Packaging

Eggs must be packaged in the following manner:

- a. Eggs mailed to any country except Canada must be placed in a metal egg container. Each egg must be packed in cushioning material. The metal egg container must be enclosed in an outer container of wood with cushioning packed between the two containers.
- b. Eggs mailed to Canada may be packed either as prescribed in 138.32a or in a box of rigid material with a tight-fitting lid. Each egg must be wrapped in protective material and placed on end. Vacant spaces in the box must be filled with packing material to prevent the eggs from striking each other or the box.

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138.4 Food and Other Perishable Articles

Fruits, vegetables, fresh meats, and other articles that easily decompose or that cannot reasonably be expected to reach their destination without spoiling are nonmailable.

139 Cremated Remains

139.1 Eligibility

Cremated remains (human and animal ashes) are permitted to be mailed internationally under the following conditions:

- a. The cremated remains are not otherwise prohibited by the destination country (see the Individual Country Listing).
- b. The package is sent only by Priority Mail Express International service. (See the Individual Country Listings for availability.)

139.2 Packaging

The mailer must package cremated remains (human or animal ashes) in a sealed and siftproof funeral urn. The mailer must place the urn into a strong and durable outer container, and must pack the outer container with sufficient cushioning material to prevent shifting during transit. The outer container must be siftproof to prevent powders from escaping and thereby soiling, damaging, or destroying another mailpiece or any postal equipment, or from causing discomfort to a person. Also see Publication 52, Packaging Instruction 9F.

139.3 Markings

The mailer must indicate the identity of the contents on the required applicable customs declaration form (see 123.61).

140 International Mail Categories

141 **Definitions**

141.1 General

There are five principal categories of international mail that are primarily differentiated from one another by speed of service. They are Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) service, Priority Mail Express International service, Priority Mail International service, First-Class Mail International service, and First-Class Package International Service.

141.2 Global Express Guaranteed

Global Express Guaranteed is the U.S. Postal Service's premium international mail service. Global Express Guaranteed is an expedited delivery service that is the product of a business alliance between the U.S. Postal Service and FedEx Corporation. It provides reliable, high-speed, time-definite service from designated U.S. ZIP Code areas to locations in most destination countries. Global Express Guaranteed is assured to meet

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destination-specific delivery standards or the postage will be refunded. If a shipment is lost or damaged, liability for loss or damaged merchandise or for document reconstruction is limited to a maximum of \$100 or the amount of additional optional insurance purchased. The maximum weight limit for Global Express Guaranteed service is 70 pounds, but lower country-specific weight limits might apply. To determine the maximum weight limit for each country, see the Individual Country Listings or Publication 141, *Global Express Guaranteed Service Guide*.

141.3 Priority Mail Express International

The next level of service, in terms of speed and value-added features, is Priority Mail Express International. Priority Mail Express International is an expedited mail service that can be used to send documents and merchandise to most of the country locations that are individually listed in this publication. Priority Mail Express International insurance coverage against loss, damage, or missing contents, up to a maximum of \$200, is provided at no additional charge. Additional merchandise insurance coverage up to \$5,000 may be purchased at the sender's option to many countries. Document reconstruction insurance coverage is limited to a maximum of \$100 per shipment. Country-specific maximum weight limits range from 22 pounds to 70 pounds. See the Individual Country Listings. Priority Mail Express International shipments offer a date-certain, postagerefund guarantee to select destinations: see 221.2 and the Individual Country Listings to determine the availability of such service. For all other destinations, Priority Mail Express International shipments are not subject to a postage refund guarantee if a delivery delay occurs.

141.4 Priority Mail International

Priority Mail International is subject to the provisions of the Universal Postal Union Parcel Convention with the exception of Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes. This classification is primarily designed to accommodate larger and heavier shipments whose size and/or weight exceeds the limits for First-Class Mail International Service or First-Class Package International Service. For countries that offer parcel service, maximum weight limits range from 22 pounds to 70 pounds. To determine the maximum weight limit for each country, see the Individual Country Listings. At the sender's option, extra services, such as insurance coverage and return receipt service, may be added on a country-specific basis. Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes are subject to the provisions of the Universal Postal Union Letter-post Convention and provide customers with an economical means of sending correspondence, documents, printed matter, and lightweight merchandise items to foreign destinations. The maximum weight limit is 4 pounds. Registered Mail service is available for Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes and Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes. Insurance is not available for Priority Mail International Flat Rate Envelopes or Small Flat Rate Priced Boxes.

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141.5 First-Class Mail International

First-Class Mail International is a generic term for mailpieces that are letter-size or flat-size, that weigh 4 pounds or less, and that have a value that is \$400 or less. First-Class Mail International items may contain any letter-size or flat-size mailable matter that is not prohibited by the destination country. Aerogrammes are no longer available for purchase. Previously purchased aerogrammes are mailable at the applicable First-Class Mail International letter-size price. At the sender's option, extra services, such as Registered Mail and return receipt, may be added on a country-specific basis.

141.6 First-Class Package International Service

First-Class Package International Service is a generic term for mailpieces that are package-size (small packets), that weigh 4 pounds or less, and that have a value of \$400 or less. First-Class Package International Service items may contain any package-size item (small packet) that is not prohibited by the destination country. At the sender's option, extra services, such as registry and return receipt, may be added on a country-specific basis.

142 Official Mail

142.1 Mailings by Federal Agencies

Official mail (sent by federal agencies and departments listed in Postal Service Handbook DM-103, *Official Mail*) that bears the indicia prescribed in DMM 703 may be sent to foreign destinations. Such items are subject to the postage payment requirements, weight and size limits, customs form requirements, and general conditions for mailing that otherwise apply to the class and category of the international mail being sent.

142.2 **Postal Service Mailings**

International mailpieces that are sent by or on behalf of the U.S. Postal Service must bear the prescribed G-10 permit indicia. Postal Service official mail is subject to all restrictions (e.g., maximum size and weight limits) as defined in the Individual Country Listings for the destination country of mailing.

142.3 Mail of a Former President and Surviving Spouse of a Former President

All nonpolitical mail of former United States Presidents, and of the surviving spouse of a former President, must be accepted without prepayment of postage if it bears the written signature of the sender, or a facsimile signature and the words "POSTAGE AND FEES PAID" in the upper-right corner of the address side.

142.4 General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (OAS)

The following standards apply when mail is sent as OAS General Secretariat official mail:

 Only unregistered or registered First-Class Mail International and First-Class Package International Service items bearing the return address of the OAS General Secretariat and weighing not more than 4 pounds

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are accepted without postage when addressed to the OAS member countries listed in 142.4b. Items in all other mail classes must be prepaid by the mailer.

b. The following countries are members of the Organization of American States (OAS):

Antigua and Barbuda	Ecuador	Saint Christopher and
Argentina	El Salvador	Nevis
Bahamas	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Barbados	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the
Bolivia	Haiti	Grenadines
Brazil	Honduras	Suriname
Canada	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago
Chile	Mexico	United States
Colombia	Nicaragua	Uruguay
Costa Rica	Panama	Venezuela
Dominica	Paraguay	
Dominican Republic	Peru	

142.5 Pan American Sanitary Bureau Mail

Only unregistered First-Class Mail International and First-Class Package International Service items bearing the return address of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau and weighing not more than 4 pounds are accepted without postage affixed when addressed to an OAS member country listed in 142.4b or to Cuba. Registered First-Class Mail International and First-Class Package International Service items, as well as items in all other mail classes, must be prepaid by the mailer.

150 Postage

151 Postage Prices

See Individual Country Listings.

152 Payment Methods

152.1 **Prepayment**

Each item must be fully prepaid to ensure prompt dispatch and to avoid assessment of charges against the addressee. For the treatment of shortpaid and unpaid mail, see 420.

152.2 Computing Postage

152.21 Determining Single-Piece Weight

To determine single-piece weight in any mailing at single-piece prices, or in a bulk price mailing of nonidentical-weight pieces, weigh each piece individually. To determine single-piece weight in any other bulk or presort price mailing of identical-weight pieces (e.g., IPA or ISAL), weigh a sample group of at least 10 randomly selected pieces and divide the total sample weight by the number of pieces in the sample. Express all single-piece weights in decimal pounds rounded off to four decimal places.

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152.22 Rounding Numerical Values

For these standards:

a. Round off requires increasing by 1 the last digit to be kept if the digit to its right, which is not to be kept, is 5 or greater. If that digit is 4 or less, the last digit kept is unchanged (e.g., 3.3761 rounded off to two decimal places is 3.38, whereas 3.3741 is 3.37).

b. Round up requires increasing by 1 the last digit to be kept if there are any digits to its right, regardless of value (e.g., rounding up either 3.3701 or 3.3791 to two decimal places yields 3.38).

152.3 **Stamps**

152.31 Types of Stamps

The following types of stamps may be used to pay for postage and fees for extra services listed under chapter 3 for all single-piece international mail transactions:

- a. Denominated postage stamps: A denominated postage stamp's value is based on the dollar amount that is printed on the stamp. Any denominated postage stamp issued by the United States, unless listed in DMM 604.1.3, is valid for postage.
- b. Nondenominated postage stamps (excludes precanceled stamps under 152.33): A nondenominated postage stamp's value is linked to its domestic postage issue price (e.g., the Antique Toys stamp, issued on June 7, 2002, has a postage value of 37 cents). A complete listing of nondenominated postage stamps is available in Quick Service Guide (QSG) 604a found online at http://pe.usps.com/cpim/ftp/manuals/qsg300/q604a.pdf.
- c. Nondenominated semi-postal stamps: Nondenominated semi-postal stamps (e.g., Stop Family Violence or Breast Cancer Research) are sold at a price that exceeds the postage value of the stamp, with the amount exceeding postage going to the stated cause. Only their value (at the time of purchase) may be used to pay postage. A complete listing of these semi-postal stamps and their issue prices are available in QSG 604a found online at http://pe.usps.com/cpim/ftp/manuals/gsg300/q604a.pdf.
- d. Forever Stamps (domestic): A domestic Forever stamp's value is linked to the domestic First-Class Mail single-piece 1-ounce machinable letter price that is in effect on the day of use (mailing) regardless of when the stamp is purchased and regardless of how prices may change in the future.
- e. Global Forever Stamps: A Global Forever stamp's value is linked to the First-Class Mail International single-piece 1-ounce machinable letter price that is in effect on the day of use (mailing) regardless of when the stamp is purchased and regardless of how prices may change in the future. Global Forever stamps can be used to mail a postcard or 1-ounce machinable letter-size mailpiece anywhere in the world. In addition, mailers may use a Global Forever stamp as postage for any type of single-piece international or domestic mailpiece. Global Forever stamps are round and always bear the words "Global Forever."

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152.32 Additional Postage for Nondenominated Postage Stamps, Forever Stamps, or Forever Print-on-Demand Indicias

Because international postage prices are always higher than the comparable domestic postage prices, mailers who affix a single nondenominated postage stamp (see 152.31b), a single nondenominated semi-postal stamp (see 152.31c), a single domestic Forever stamp (see 152.31d), or a single Forever Print-on-Demand Indicia label (see 152.4) to their outbound mailpieces must add additional postage to comply with the international price schedule.

152.33 Precanceled Stamps

Except for the "Nonprofit Org." variant, mailers may use precanceled stamps for only IPA mailings (see 293.333) and ISAL mailings (see 293.333). The same conditions that are applicable to domestic mail under DMM 604 apply.

Postage Meters, Postage Validation Imprints (PVI), Forever Print-on-Demand Indicia, and PC Postage

Postage meter imprints, postage validation imprint (PVI) labels, Forever Printon-Demand Indicia labels, and PC Postage imprints are collectively identified as "postage evidencing systems." A postage evidencing system is a device or system of components that a customer uses to print evidence that postage required for mailing has been paid. Postage evidencing systems print indicia, such as meter imprints or information-based indicia (IBI), to indicate postage payment. Mailers may print these indicia directly on a mailpiece or on a label that is affixed to a mailpiece to pay postage and fees for extra services (see chapter 3) for all single-piece mail transactions. In addition, postage meters may also be used to pay for the "per piece price" portion of IPA (see 292) and ISAL (see 293) mailings. For additional information, including a listing of authorized postage meter and PC Postage providers, see DMM 604.4.

152.5 Additional Standards for Forever Print-on-Demand Indicia Labels

Mailers may use the USPS-produced Forever Print-on-Demand Indicia labels, which bear an information-based indicia (IBI) and the word "Forever," in the same way as the Forever stamp described in 152.31d.

152.6 **Permit Imprint**

152.61 Conditions of Use

Postage may be paid by permit imprint, subject to the standards in DMM 124, 604, and 705. Postage charges are computed on PS Form 3700. This postage payment method may be used for postage and extra service fees for the following services:

- a. Global Express Guaranteed service prepared under 213.8.
- b. Priority Mail Express International service prepared under <u>223.221</u>.
- c. Priority Mail International service.

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- d. First-Class Mail International service.
- e. First-Class Package International Service.
- f. International Priority Airmail (IPA) service.
- g. International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) service.

152.62 Place of Mailing

Mail must be deposited and accepted at the Post Office that issued the permit, at a time and place designated by the postmaster, except as otherwise provided for drop shipments.

152.63 Usage Criteria

152.631 Global Express Guaranteed, Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International, and First-Class Package International Service

For Global Express Guaranteed, Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International, and First-Class Package International Service items, a mailer may use a permit imprint for international items addressed to recipients in foreign countries as follows:

The minimum for items from one mail class is 200 pieces or 50 pounds.
 The mailer must submit the appropriate postage statement for the mail class.

Note: The mailer may submit mailings for more than just one mail class, but the mailing for each mail class must meet the minimum of 200 pieces or 50 pounds, and the mailer must submit a postage statement for each mail class. If a mailing for a mail class does not meet the minimum requirements, the mailer may qualify to use a permit imprint for international items under items 152.631b or 152.631c.

- b. If the mailer fails to meet the minimum requirement for *one* mail class (see <u>152.631a</u>), the mailer may submit items from multiple mail classes totaling at least 200 pieces or 50 pounds *combined* from the various mail classes. The mailer must physically separate the items by mail class and submit a separate postage statement for each mail class.
- c. If the mailer fails to meet the minimum requirement for either one mail class (see 152.631a) or multiple mail classes (see 152.631b), the mailer may submit international permit imprint mailing items with any qualifying domestic permit imprint mailing under DMM 604 or 705, or with any qualifying international permit imprint mailing under 152.632 or 152.633 with no minimum quantity requirement. The mailer must physically separate the items by mail class, must submit a separate postage statement for each mail class, and must present both the international permit imprint mailing and the qualifying domestic permit imprint mailing at the same time.

152.632 First-Class Mail International

For First-Class Mail International items, a mailer may use a permit imprint for international items addressed to recipients in foreign countries *only* when a mailing contains a minimum of 200 pieces or 50 pounds of First-Class Mail International service items. In contrast to 152.631b, the mailer may *not* combine First-Class Mail International service items with items from other

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international mail classes, and in contrast to <u>152.631c</u>, the mailer may not combine First-Class Mail International service items with domestic mail classes to reach the minimum quantity requirement.

Note: As discussed in 152.631c, a mailer who meets the minimum requirements for First-Class Mail International service items may combine with that mailing other permit imprint mailings for Global Express Guaranteed, Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International, or First-Class Package International Service items. The mailer must physically separate the items by mail class and submit a separate postage statement for each mail class.

152.633 IPA and ISAL

See <u>292.23</u> and <u>293.23</u> for the minimum quantity requirements that govern the entry of International Priority Airmail (IPA) items and International Surface Air Lift (ISAL) items, respectively.

Note: As discussed in <u>152.631c</u>, a mailer who meets the minimum requirements for IPA or ISAL items may combine with that mailing other permit imprint mailings for Global Express Guaranteed, Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International, or First-Class Package International Service items. The mailer must physically separate the items by mail class and submit a separate postage statement for each mail class.

152.634 **M-bags**

For M-bag mailings (see 260), no minimum quantity requirement applies.

152.64 Required Format

Each mailpiece sent under this payment method must bear a permit imprint indicia showing that postage is paid. Permit imprint indicia must be prepared in one of the formats shown in <u>Exhibit 152.64</u>. No variations or additions — such as Bulk Rate, Media Mail, Presorted Standard, Enhanced Carrier Route Sort, Automation Rate, Nonprofit Organization, or Bound Printed Matter — are allowed. Mailpieces may bear a company permit imprint, in which the exact name of the company or individual holding the permit is shown in the indicium in place of the city, state, and permit number. The mailer may substitute the abbreviation "INTL" in place of "INTERNATIONAL" in any of the indicia formats in <u>Exhibit 152.64</u>. Mailings prepared with a company permit imprint must comply with the standards in DMM 604.5.3.9.

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Exhibit 152.64 **Indicia Formats**

GLOBAL EXPRESS GUARANTEED

GLOBAL EXPRESS GUARANTEED U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

GLOBAL EXPRESS GUARANTEED U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL

PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW YORK, NY
PERMIT NO. 1

PRIORITY MAIL EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
JOHN DOE COMPANY

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW YORK, NY
PERMIT NO. 1

EXPRESS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

Note: Indicia indicating the mail class "EXPRESS MAIL INTERNATIONAL" are authorized only through January 26, 2014.

PRIORITY MAIL INTERNATIONAL

PRIORITY MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

PRIORITY MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

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Exhibit 152.64

Indicia Formats (cont'd)





FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID

1 OZ

PERMIT NO. 1



FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL

U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1 FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 60607 PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

FIRST-CLASS MAIL INTERNATIONAL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE



FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

1 OZ

PERMIT NO. 1



FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

FIRST-CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1 FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE
INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 60607
PERMIT NO. 1

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

FIRST-CLASS PACKAGE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

International Mail Services 152.64

Exhibit 152.64 **Indicia Formats (cont'd)**

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL (IPA)



INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL

U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1 INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 60607 PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
JOHN DOE COMPANY

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW YORK, NY
PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT (ISAL)



INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT

FIRST-CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1 INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 60607
PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

AIRMAIL M-BAGS

AIRMAIL M-BAG U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

AIRMAIL M-BAG U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

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Exhibit 152.64 **Indicia Formats (cont'd)**

IPA M-BAGS

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL M-BAG U.S. POSTAGE PAID NEW YORK, NY PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL PRIORITY AIRMAIL M-BAG U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

ISAL M-BAGS

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT M-BAG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW YORK, NY
PERMIT NO. 1

INTERNATIONAL SURFACE AIR LIFT M-BAG U.S. POSTAGE PAID JOHN DOE COMPANY

OFFICIAL MAIL

[Enter applicable class of mail — see 152.41]
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
AGENCY NAME
PERMIT NO. G-999

[Enter applicable class of mail — see 152.41]

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID AGENCY NAME PERMIT NO. G-999

153 Placement of Postage

- a. Postage stamps and postage-paid impressions must be applied to the address side of mail in the upper-right corner. The postage meter stamp, postage validation imprinter (PVI) label, or permit may be affixed directly on the mailpiece or on the wrapper when plastic wrap is used.
- Nonpostage stamps, labels resembling postage stamps, or impressions resembling postage-paid impressions must *not* be placed on the address side of international mailpieces.

154 Remailed Items

New postage is required when mailpieces are reentered after having been returned to the sender by a foreign postal administration.