

ORDER NO. 6205

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Michael Kubayanda, Chairman;
Ann C. Fisher, Vice Chairman;
Mark Acton;
Ashley E. Poling; and
Robert G. Taub

Minor Correction to Product Description in
Mail Classification Schedule

Docket No. MC2022-57

ORDER APPROVING MINOR CORRECTIONS TO THE
MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

(Issued June 22, 2022)

I. INTRODUCTION

On May 6, 2022, the Postal Service filed a notice of minor corrections to the International Money Transfer Service (IMTS)-Inbound product description in the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190.¹ The Postal Service seeks to remove certain countries from the list of countries in MCS subsection 2625.2 consistent with certain Postal Bulletin notices. Notice at 1. For the reasons discussed below, the Commission approves the proposed corrections.

¹ Notice of United States Postal Service of Filing Minor Corrections to the Product Description of International Money Transfer Service-Inbound, May 6, 2022 (Notice).

II. BACKGROUND

The Postal Service proposes two corrections to MCS section 2625.2, which lists the countries where IMTS-Inbound is offered. First, it requests that the Commission remove Japan from the list of countries when this docket is concluded because the Postal Service terminated the exchange of international postal money orders with Japan Post. *Id.* at 2. Second, the Postal Service proposes to remove the Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, and St. Vincent from the list of countries effective October 1, 2022. *Id.* It explains that it will stop cashing international postal money orders issued by the postal operators of those countries. *Id.*

The Postal Service asserts that the Notice satisfies the requirements of 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190(c) because the proposed corrections are consistent with applicable authorities and do not constitute material changes to the IMTS-Inbound product description. *Id.* The Notice includes a copy of the affected sections of the MCS with the proposed changes in legislative format, which the Postal Service contends satisfies 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190(c)(3). *Id.* at 3; Attachment – Mail Classification Schedule.

On May 9, 2022, the Commission issued an order pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3040.191 establishing the present docket, appointing a Public Representative, and providing interested persons with the opportunity to comment.²

III. COMMENTS

The Public Representative submitted comments on June 6, 2022.³ The Commission received no other comments. The Public Representative asserts that based on Commission precedent, the proposed changes are minor corrections to a product description in the MCS that comply with 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190. PR Comments at 5. He states that the proposed corrections will “ensure that product descriptions in

² Notice and Order Concerning Minor Corrections to Product Description in the Mail Classification Schedule, May 9, 2022 (Order No. 6168).

³ Public Representative Comments, June 6, 2022 (PR Comments).

the [MCS] accurately represent” the Postal Service’s current offerings by accurately reflecting the countries where IMTS-Inbound is offered. *Id.* at 2. He notes that nothing indicates that the proposed corrections are inconsistent with federal law or Commission directives. *Id.*

The Public Representative asserts that the determinative issue is whether the proposed corrections constitute “material changes to the product description” under 39 C.F.R. § 3040.180. *Id.* He states that based on Commission precedent regarding updates to product descriptions adding or removing countries, the proposed corrections should not constitute material changes to the MCS. *Id.* at 3-4. He recommends that the Commission explain the difference between material changes and minor corrections to the MCS and examine the meaning of the relevant factors considered when making this determination. *Id.* at 4-5.

IV. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

The Postal Service filed the proposed corrections pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190, which requires the Postal Service to submit minor corrections to product descriptions to ensure the MCS accurately represents current Postal Service offerings. Pursuant to 39 C.F.R. § 3040.192, and for the reasons stated below, the Commission approves the proposed corrections.

The Commission finds that the Postal Service complied with the procedural requirements of 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190(b) by filing notice of the corrections more than 15 days before the intended effective date and including a copy of the proposed changes to the MCS. *See* 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190(b), (c)(3). The proposed corrections will help ensure that the IMTS-Inbound product description in the MCS accurately represents the Postal Service’s current offerings as required by 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190(a). They are also consistent with the policies and applicable criteria of chapter 36 of title 39 of the United States Code, 39 C.F.R. §§ 3040.190-192, and applicable Commission directives and orders.

The Public Representative asserts that the determinative issue in this case is whether the proposed corrections constitute “material changes to the product description” under 39 C.F.R. § 3040.180. PR Comments at 2. The Commission previously stated that the paramount consideration in determining whether a classification change is a material change or a minor one is “the degree to which the proposed alteration affects the characteristics of the product.”⁴ It explained that “factors for determining whether a change is material include whether the proposed change would significantly alter the user experience for the product and whether it would significantly impact competitors offering a similar service.”⁵

The Commission finds that the Postal Service’s proposed corrections are not material changes because they neither materially impact the characteristics of the IMTS-Inbound product nor significantly change the user experience for this product. This finding is consistent with past Commission orders concluding that changes to country price lists and groupings are minor corrections rather than material changes.⁶ There is no evidence that the proposed corrections will significantly impact competitors offering a similar service.

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission approves the proposed minor corrections to the IMTS-Inbound product description. Revisions to the MCS language appear below the signature line of this Order. The revision relating to Japan will take effect immediately. All other revisions (which relate to Bahamas, Barbados, British

⁴ See Docket No. RM2015-6, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Changes and Corrections to the Mail Classification Schedule, November 14, 2014, at 9, 14 (Order No. 2250).

⁵ Docket No. MC2021-25, Order Approving Minor Corrections to the Mail Classification Schedule, November 25, 2020, at 4 (Order No. 5761) (citing Order No. 2250 at 10).

⁶ See, e.g., Docket No. MC2020-27, Order Approving Minor Classification Change, December 4, 2019 (Order No. 5331); Docket No. MC2020-7, Order Approving Minor Classification Changes, November 8, 2019 (Order No. 5297); Docket No. MC2016-172, Order Approving Minor Classification Change, August 8, 2016 (Order No. 3458); Docket No. MC2016-10, Order Approving Minor Classification Changes, November 9, 2015 (Order No. 2808). See *a/so* Docket No. MC2020-8, Order Approving Minor Changes to a Product Description, November 8, 2019 (Order No. 5298); Docket No. MC2014-30, Order Approving Minor Classification Change, July 18, 2014 (Order No. 2127); Docket No. MC2012-17, Order Approving Minor Classification Change Concerning Timor-Leste, May 23, 2012 (Order No. 1351); Docket No. MC2011-4, Order Concerning Classification Changes, November 22, 2010 (Order No. 594).

Virgin Islands, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts, and St. Vincent) will take effect on October 1, 2022.

V. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

It is ordered:

1. The proposed minor corrections to the International Money Transfer Service-Inbound product description are in accordance with 39 C.F.R. § 3040.190 *et seq.* and are not inconsistent with any applicable provisions of title 39.
2. The Mail Classification Schedule language attached below the signature line of this Order is approved. The revision relating to Japan will take effect immediately. All other revisions will take effect on October 1, 2022, as described in the body of this Order.

By the Commission.

Jennie L. Jbara
Alternate Certifying Officer

CHANGES TO THE MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

The following material represents a change to the Mail Classification Schedule. The Commission uses two main conventions when making changes to the Mail Classification Schedule. New text is underlined. Deleted text is struck through.

Part B—Competitive Products
2000 Competitive Product List

2625 **International Money Transfer Service—Inbound**

2625.2 Price Categories

The following price categories are available for the product specified in this section:

- Inbound Money Transfer Service Agreements 1
 - Baseline Reference*
 - N/A
 - Included Agreements*
 - ~~Bahamas~~
 - ~~Barbados~~
 - ~~Belize~~
 - ~~British Virgin Islands~~
 - ~~Dominica~~
 - ~~Japan~~
 - ~~Montserrat~~
 - ~~Peru~~
 - ~~St. Kitts~~
 - ~~St. Vincent~~