

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORIES OF OF
TIME WARNER, INC.
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS VAN-TY-SMITH
(TW/USPS-T17-5-6)
(March 7, 2000)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the responses of witness Ramage to the following interrogatories of Time Warner, Inc.: TW/USPS-T17-5-6, filed on February 22, 2000, and redirected from witness Van-Ty-Smith.

Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.
Chief Counsel, Ratemaking



Kenneth N. Hollies

**RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS RAMAGE
INTERROGATORIES OF TIME WARNER, INC.,
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS VAN-TY SMITH**

TW/USPS-T17-5. Please refer to USPS-LR-I-14, which contains a June 1998 version of Handbook F-45, In-Office Cost System, Field Operating Instructions. Included with the manual is a June 1998 Transmittal letter, declaring previous issues of handbook F-45 and update memos obsolete and stating that the new handbook takes effect immediately. Given that June 1998 was a few months before the end of FY98, please answer the following.

- a. At what time did the IOCS data collectors effectively start to use the new CODES software described in LR-I-14?
- b. During which portion of FY98, and for which portion of the tallies in the FY98 IOCS data base, were IOCS data collectors using the updated instructions in LR-I-14?
- c. Generally, what is the typical delay between the times when: (1) IOCS data collection procedures are modified at headquarters; and (2) data collectors in the field have been fully trained in the revised procedures and are following the revised procedures in the collection of live data?

RESPONSE:

- a. The CODES software described in LR-I-14 became effective at the beginning of PQ 3 FY 1998, February 28, 1998.
- b. The June 1998 F-45 was mailed to the field on July 2, 1998. Thus they would become available to the data collectors during pay period 15 of FY 1998. However, even prior to the issuance of the June 1998 F-45, the data collectors were properly trained for the then-current version of CODES-IOCS. Anytime that items are added or deleted from CODES software data entry screens, the data collectors are notified of the change and receive training on the changes. In addition, all data collectors have one training day per Postal Quarter, which is used to keep the data collectors up-to-date on new or current CODES software releases.
- c. Generally, data collectors are trained in new data collection procedures prior to being implemented in the field. See my response to part b, above.

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TW/USPS-T17-6. Were the instructions followed by IOCS data collectors with regard to responses to Question 19 in FY98 different from the Question 19 instructions they followed in FY96? If yes, please describe in detail all differences.

RESPONSE:

No. This is because there were no changes to IOCS Q19 between FY 1996 and FY1998. The CODES IOCS Question 19 screens are reproduced below for version 6.0 (effective PQ1 FY 1996) and version 8.2 (effective PQ 3 FY 1998).

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| 02/29/00 |-----| IOCS 19 - Version 6.0 |-----| 08:49 |
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+-----+
| MANUAL, MECHANIZED OR AUTOMATED OPERATION
|
| Make ONE Selection, then [ENTER]
|
| A. Manual                      L. Small Parcel and Bundle Sorting Machine
| B. OCR                          M. NMO Machine
| C. Mail Processing BCR/BCS      N. Multi-Slide
| D. Delivery BCR/BCS            O. Conveyor
| E. Carrier Sequence BCS        P. ACDCS
| F. MPLSM/SPLSM                 Q. Central Banding
| G. Letter Facer/Canceler       R. Culling Machine
| H. Flat Facer/Canceler         S. Remote Barcoding Computer Terminal
| I. Sack Sorting Machine         T. Transport Equipment
| J. Parcel Sorting Machine       U. All Other Equipment
| K. Flat Sorting Machine
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| 02/29/00 |-----| IOCS 19 - Version 6.0 |-----| 08:49 |
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| MANUAL OPERATIONS
|
| Make ONE Selection, then [ENTER]
|
| a. Letter Case Distribution
| b. Flat Case Distribution
| c. Parcel Piece Distribution
| d. Collection Mail Canceling and
|   Meter Mail Preparation Units
| e. Presort Mail Units
| f. Opening Units
| g. Pouch/Rack Units
| h. Platform Units
| i. Other Manual Operations
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RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS RAMAGE
INTERROGATORIES OF TIME WARNER, INC.,
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS VAN-TY SMITH

02/29/00 | IOCS 19 - Version 8.2 | 12:18

MANUAL, MECHANIZED OR AUTOMATED OPERATION

Make ONE Selection, then [ENTER]

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| A. Manual | L. Small Parcel and Bundle Sorting Machine |
| B. OCR | M. NMO Machine |
| C. Mail Processing BCR/BCS | N. Multi-Slide |
| D. Delivery BCR/BCS | O. Conveyor |
| E. Carrier Sequence BCS | P. ACDCS |
| F. MPLSM/SPLSM | Q. Central Banding |
| G. Letter Facer/Canceler | R. Culling Machine |
| H. Flat Facer/Canceler | S. Remote Barcoding Computer Terminal |
| I. Sack Sorting Machine | T. Transport Equipment |
| J. Parcel Sorting Machine | U. All Other Equipment |
| K. Flat Sorting Machine | |

02/29/00 | IOCS 19 - Version 8.2 | 12:18

MANUAL OPERATIONS

Make ONE Selection, then [ENTER]

- a. Letter Case Distribution
- b. Flat Case Distribution
- c. Parcel Piece Distribution
- d. Collection Mail Canceling and
Meter Mail Preparation Units
- e. Presort Mail Units
- f. Opening Units
- g. Pouch/Rack Units
- h. Platform Units
- i. Other Manual Operations

DECLARATION

I, Mark F. Ramage, hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing answers are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.


Mark F. Ramage

Date: MARCH 7, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

K N Hollis

Kenneth N. Hollis

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March 7, 2000