942.3 Included Services

- 942.31 The following services are provided as part of Registered Mail service at no additional cost to the mailer:
 - a. A mailing receipt;
 - b. <u>Electronic confirmation</u>, <u>upon request</u>, <u>that an article was delivered or</u> that a delivery attempt was made
 - <u>c.[b]</u>A record of delivery, retained by the Postal Service for a specified period of time;
 - <u>d.</u>[c.]A notice of attempted delivery, left at the mailing address if the initial delivery attempt is unsuccessful; and
 - <u>e.</u>[d.]A notice of nondelivery, when Registered Mail is undeliverable-as-addressed and cannot be forwarded.
- **942.32** Registered Mail is forwarded and returned without additional registry charge.

942.4 Mailer Requirements

- **942.41** Registered Mail must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
- Indemnity claims for Registered Mail must be filed within a period of time, specified by the Postal Service, from the date the article was mailed. A claim concerning complete loss of registered articles may be filled by the mailer only. A claim concerning damage to or partial loss of registered articles may be filed by either the mailer or addressee.

942.5 Other Services

[The following services may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this section upon payment of applicable fees:] Other services may be available in conjunction with Registered Mail, as specified by the Postal Service.

	[Service]	[Fee Schedule]
[a.	Collect on Delivery	944]
[b.	Restricted Delivery	946]
[c.	Return Receipt	945]
[d.	Merchandise Return (shippers only)	932]

942.6	Fees	
942.61	The fees for Registered Mail are set forth in Fee Schedule 942.	
942.62	There are no additional Registered Mail fees for forwarding and return of Registered Mail.	
943	INSURANCE	
943.1	Express Mail Insurance	
943.11	Definition	
943.111	Express Mail Insurance provides the mailer with indemnity for loss of, rifling of, or damage to items sent by Express Mail.	
943.12	Availability	
943.121	Express Mail Insurance is available only for Express Mail.	
943.13	Limitations and Mailer Requirements	
943.131	Insurance coverage is provided, for no additional charge, up to [\$500] \$100 per piece for document reconstruction, up to \$5,000 per occurrence, regardless of the number of claimants. Insurance coverage for merchandise is also provided, for no additional charge, up to \$100 per piece. Additional merchandise insurance coverage may be purchased for a fee. The maximum liability for merchandise is \$5,000 per piece. For negotiable items, currency, or bullion, the maximum liability is \$15.	
943.132	Indemnity claims for Express Mail must be filed within a specified period of time from the date the article was mailed.	
943.133	Indemnity will be paid under terms and conditions specified by the Postal Service.	
943.134	Among other limitations specified by the Postal Service, indemnity will not be paid by the Postal Service for loss, damage or rifling:	
	a. Of nonmailable matter;	

c. Due to seizure by any agency of government; or

b. Due to improper packaging;

d. Due to war, insurrection or civil disturbances.

943.14 Other Services

943.141 Reserved

943.15 Fees

943.151 The fees for Express Mail Insurance service are set forth in Fee Schedule 943.

943.2 General Insurance

943.21 Definition

943.211 General Insurance provides the mailer with indemnity for loss of, rifling of, or damage to mailed items. General Insurance provides a bulk option for mail meeting the conditions described below and specified further by the Postal Service.

943.22 Availability

- 943.221 General Insurance is available for mail sent under the following classification schedules:
 - a. First-Class Mail, if containing matter that may be mailed as Standard Mail or Package Services;
 - b. Package Services;
 - c. Regular and Nonprofit subclasses of Standard Mail, for Bulk Insurance only, for mail subject to residual shape surcharge.
- General Insurance is not available for matter offered for sale, addressed to prospective purchasers who have not ordered or authorized their sending. If such matter is received in the mail, payment will not be made for loss, rifling, or damage.
- 943.223 The Bulk Insurance option of General Insurance service is available for mail entered in bulk at designated facilities and in a manner specified by the Postal Service, including the use of electronic manifesting.

943.23 Included Services

For General Insurance, the mailer is issued a receipt for each item mailed. For items insured for more than \$50, a record of delivery is retained by the

Postal Service for a specified period.

- 943.232 For items insured for more than \$50, a notice of attempted delivery is left at the mailing address when the first attempt at delivery is unsuccessful.
- 943.233 Mail undeliverable as addressed will be returned to the sender as specified by the sender or by the Postal Service.
- 943.24 Limitations and Mailer Requirements
- 943.241 Mail insured under section 943.2 must be deposited as specified by the Postal Service.
- 943.242 Bulk Insurance must bear endorsements and identifiers specified by the Postal Service. Bulk Insurance mailers must meet the documentation requirements of the Postal Service.
- 943.243 By insuring an item, the mailer guarantees forwarding and return postage.
- 943.244 General Insurance, other than Bulk Insurance, provides indemnity for the actual value of the article at the time of mailing. Bulk Insurance provides indemnity for the lesser of (1) the actual value of the article at the time of mailing, or (2) the wholesale cost of the contents to the sender.
- 943.245 For General [i]Insurance, other than Bulk Insurance, a claim for complete loss may be filed by the mailer only, and a claim for damage or for partial loss may be filed by either the mailer or addressee. For Bulk Insurance, all claims must be filed by the mailer.
- 943.246 Indemnity claims must be filed within a specified period of time from the date the article was mailed.

943.25 Other Services

943.251 The following services, if applicable to the subclass of mail, may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this section upon payment of the applicable fees:] Other services may be available in conjunction with General Insurance, as specified by the Postal Service.

	[Service]	[Fee Schedule]
[a.	Parcel Airlift	951]
[b.	Restricted Delivery (for items insured for more than \$50)	946]
[C.	Return Receipt (for items insured for more than \$50)	945]

[d.	Special Handling	952]
[e.	Merchandise Return (shippers only)	932]

943.26 Fees

943.261 The fees for General Insurance are set forth in Fee Schedule 943.

944 COLLECT ON DELIVERY

944.1 Definition

Ollect on Delivery (COD) service allows a mailer to mail an article for which full or partial payment has not yet been received and have the price, the cost of postage and fees, and anticipated or past due charges collected by the Postal Service from the addressee when the article is delivered.

944.2 Availability

- 944.21 COD service is available for collection of \$1,000 or less upon the delivery of postage prepaid mail sent under the following classification schedules:
 - a. Express Mail
 - b. First-Class Mail
 - c. Package Services
- **944.22** Service under this section is not available for:
 - a. Collection agency purposes;
 - b. Return of merchandise about which some dissatisfaction has arisen, unless the new addressee has consented in advance to such return;
 - c. Sending only bills or statements of indebtedness, even though the sender may establish that the addressee has agreed to collection in this manner; however, when the legitimate COD shipment consists of merchandise or bill of lading, the balance due on a past or anticipated transaction may be included in the charges on a COD article, provided the addressee has consented in advance to such action;
 - d. Parcels containing moving-picture films mailed by exhibitors to moving-picture manufacturers, distributors, or exchanges;

e. Goods that have not been ordered by the addressee.

944.3 Included Services

- 944.31 COD service provides the mailer with insurance against loss, rifling and damage to the article as well as failure to receive the amount collected from the addressee. This provision insures only the receipt of the instrument issued to the mailer after payment of COD charges, and is not to be construed to make the Postal Service liable upon any such instrument other than a Postal Service money order.
- A receipt is issued to the mailer for each piece of COD mail. Additional copies of the original mailing receipt may be obtained by the mailer.
- Delivery of COD mail will be made in a manner specified by the Postal Service. If a delivery to the mailing address is not attempted or if a delivery attempt is unsuccessful, a notice of attempted delivery will be left at the mailing address.
- The mailer may receive a notice of nondelivery if the piece mailed is endorsed appropriately.
- 944.35 The mailer may designate a new addressee or alter the COD charges by submitting the appropriate form and by paying the appropriate fee as set forth in Fee Schedule 944.

944.4 Limitations and Mailer Requirements

- The mailer must identify COD mail as COD mail, as specified by the Postal Service.
- **944.42** COD mail must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
- 944.43 A mailer of COD mail guarantees to pay any return postage, unless otherwise specified on the piece mailed.
- **944.44** For COD mail sent as Package Services mail, postage at the applicable rate will be charged to the addressee:
 - a. When an addressee, entitled to delivery to the mailing address under Postal Service regulations, requests delivery of COD mail that was refused when first offered for delivery;
 - For each delivery attempt, to an addressee entitled to delivery to the mailing address under Postal Service regulations, after the second such attempt.

- 944.45 A claim for complete loss may be filed by the mailer only. A claim for damage or for partial loss may be filed by either the mailer or addressee.
- 944.46 COD indemnity claims must be filed within a specified period of time from the date the article was mailed, and meet the requirements specified by the Postal Service.

944.5 Other Services

[The following services, if applicable to the subclass of mail, may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this section upon payment of the applicable fee:] Other services may be available in conjunction with Collect on Delivery, as specified by the Postal Service.

[Service]		[Fee Schedule]
[a.	Registered Mail, if sent as First-Class	942]
[b.	Restricted Delivery	946]
[C.	Special Handling	952]

944.6 Fees

944.61 Fees for COD service are set forth in Fee Schedule 944.

945 RETURN RECEIPT

945.1 Regular Return Receipt

945.11 Definition

Return Receipt service provides evidence to the mailer that an article has been received at the delivery address, including an original or copy of the recipient's signature. Mailers requesting Return Receipt service at the time of mailing will be provided, as appropriate, an original or copy of the signature of the [addressee or addressee's agent]recipient, the date delivered, and the address of delivery, if different from the address on the mailpiece. Mailers requesting Return Receipt service after mailing will be provided a copy of the recipient's signature, the date of delivery and the name of the person who signed for the article.

945.12 Availability

945.<u>1</u>21 Return Receipt service is available for mail sent under the following sections or classification schedules:

	Service	Fee Schedule
a. b.	Certified Mail COD Mail	941 944
C.	Insurance (if insured for more than \$50)	943
d.	Registered Mail	942
e.	Express Mail	

945.122 Return Receipt service is available at the time of mailing or, when purchased in conjunction with Certified Mail, COD, Insurance (if for more than \$50), Registered Mail, or Express Mail, after mailing.

945.13 Included Services

945.<u>1</u>31 If the mailer does not receive a return receipt within a specified period of time from the date of mailing, the mailer may request evidence of delivery

from the delivery record, at no additional fee.

945.14	Other	Services
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945.141 [Reserved] Other services may be available with Return Receipt, as specified by the Postal Service.

945.2 Return Receipt For Merchandise

945.21 Definition

Return receipt for merchandise service provides evidence to the mailer that an article has been received at the delivery address. A return receipt for merchandise also supplies the recipient's actual delivery address if it is different from the address used by the sender. A return receipt for merchandise may not be requested after mailing.

945.22 Availability

- <u>945.221</u> Return receipt for merchandise is available for merchandise sent under the following sections or classification schedules:
 - a. Priority Mail
 - b. Standard Mail pieces subject to the residual shape surcharge
 - c. Package Services

945.23 Mailer Requirements

- <u>945.231</u> Return receipt for merchandise must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
- Peturn receipt for merchandise mail may be addressed for delivery only in the United States and its territories and possession, through Army/Air Force (APO) and Navy (FPO) post offices, or through the United Nations Post Office, New York.

945.24 Other Services

[Fee Schedule]

945.241 Other services may be available in conjunction with Return Receipt for Merchandise, as specified by the Postal Service.

945.3Fees

945.31 The fees for Return Receipt service are set forth in Fee Schedule 945.

946 RESTRICTED DELIVERY

[Service]

946.1 Definition

946.11 Restricted Delivery service enables a mailer to direct the Postal Service to limit delivery to the addressee or to someone authorized by the addressee to receive such mail.

946.2 Availability

[This service is available for mail sent under the following sections: Other services may be available in conjunction with Restricted Delivery, as specified by the Postal Service.

[OCIVICO]	[i cc concadic]
Certified Mail	941]
COD Mail	944]
Insurance (if insured for more than \$50)	943]
Registered Mail	942]
	Certified Mail COD Mail Insurance (if insured for more than \$50)

- 946.22 Restricted Delivery is available to the mailer at the time of mailing or after mailing.
- 946.23 Restricted Delivery service is available for delivery only to natural persons specified by name.

946.3	Included Services
946.31	A record of delivery will be retained by the Postal Service for a period specified by the Postal Service.
946.4	Other Services
946.41	Reserved
946.5	Fees
946.51	The fee for Restricted Delivery service is set forth in Fee Schedule 946
946.52	The fee (or communications charges) will not be refunded for failure to provide restricted delivery service when requested after mailing, due to prior delivery.

947 **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

947.1 Definition

947.11 Certificate of Mailing service furnishes evidence that mail has been presented to the Postal Service for mailing.

947.2 **Availability**

947.21 Certificate of Mailing service is available for matter sent using any class of mail.

Included Service 947.3

947.31 The mailer may obtain a copy of a Certificate of Mailing on terms specified by the Postal Service.

Limitations 947.4

947.31 The service does not entail retention of a record of mailing by the Postal Service and does not provide evidence of delivery.

947.5 Other Services

947.51 The following services, if applicable to the subclass of mail, may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this classification schedule upon payment of the applicable fees:] Other services may be available with Certificate of Mailing, as specified by the Postal Service.

	[Service]	[Fee Schedule]
[a.	Parcel Airlift	951]
[b.	Special Handling	952]

947.6 Fees

947.61 The fees for Certificate of Mailing service are set forth in Fee Schedule 947.

DELIVERY CONFIRMATION 948

948.1 Definition

948.11 Delivery Confirmation service provides, upon request, electronic confirmation to the mailer that an article was delivered or that a delivery attempt was made.

948.2 Availability

Delivery Confirmation service is available for Letters and Sealed Parcels subclass mail that is parcel-shaped, as specified by the Postal Service; Priority Mail; Standard Mail in the Regular and Nonprofit subclasses that is subject to the residual shape surcharge; and Package Services mail that is parcel-shaped, as specified by the Postal Service[, as well as mail subject to the residual shape surcharge in the Regular and Nonprofit subclasses of Standard Mail].

948.3 Mailer Requirements

- 948.31 Delivery Confirmation service may be requested only at the time of mailing.
- 948.32 Mail for which Delivery Confirmation service is requested must meet preparation requirements specified by the Postal Service, and bear a Delivery Confirmation barcode specified by the Postal Service.
- 948.33 Matter for which Delivery Confirmation service is requested must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
- 948.4 Other Services
- 948.41 Reserved
- 948.5 Fees
- **948.51** The fees for Delivery Confirmation service are set forth in Fee Schedule 948.
- 949 SIGNATURE CONFIRMATION
- 949.1 Definition
- 949.11 Signature Confirmation service provides, upon request, electronic confirmation to the mailer that an article was delivered or that a delivery attempt was made, and a copy of the signature of the recipient.
- 949.2 Availability
- 949.21 Signature Confirmation is available for <u>Letters and Sealed Parcels</u> subclass mail that is parcel-shaped, as specified by the Postal Service; Priority Mail; and Package Services mail that is parcel-shaped, as

specified by the Postal Service.

949.3	Mailer Requirements
949.31	Signature Confirmation service may be requested only at the time of mailing.
949.32	Mail for which Signature Confirmation service is requested must meet preparation requirements specified by the Postal Service, and bear a Delivery Confirmation barcode specified by the Postal Service.
949.33	Matter for which Signature Confirmation is requested must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
949.4	Other Services
949.41	Reserved
949.5	Fees
949.51	The fees for Signature Confirmation service are set forth in Fee Schedule 949.
950	PARCEL HANDLING
951	PARCEL AIRLIFT (PAL)
951.1	Definition
951.11	Parcel Airlift service provides for air transportation of parcels on a space available basis to or from military post offices outside the contiguous 48 states.
951.2	Availability
951.21	Parcel Airlift service is available for mail sent under the Package Services Classification Schedule.
951.3	Mailer Requirements
951.31	The minimum physical limitations established for the mail sent under the classification schedule for which postage is paid apply to Parcel Airlift mail In no instance may the parcel exceed 30 pounds in weight, or 60 inches in length and girth combined.
951.32	Mail sent under this section must be endorsed as specified by the Postal

Service.

951.33 Parcel Airlift mail must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.

951.4 Forwarding and Return

Parcel Airlift mail sent for delivery outside the contiguous 48 states is forwarded as set forth in section 2030 of the General Definitions, Terms and Conditions. Parcel Airlift mail sent for delivery within the contiguous 48 states is forwarded or returned as set forth in section 353 as appropriate.

951.5 Other Services

[The following services, if applicable to the subclass of mail, may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this section upon payment of the applicable fees:] Other services may be available in conjunction with Parcel Airlift (PAL), as specified by the Postal Service.

	[Service]	[Fee Schedule]
[a.	Certificate of Mailing	947]
[b.	Insurance	943]
[c.	Restricted Delivery (if insured for more than \$50)	946]
[d.	Return Receipt (if insured for more than \$50)	945]
[e.	Special Handling	952]

- 951.6 Fees
- **951.61** The fees for Parcel Airlift service are set forth in Fee Schedule 951.
- 952 SPECIAL HANDLING
- 952.1 Definition
- 952.11 Special Handling service provides preferential handling to the extent practicable during dispatch and transportation.
- 952.2 Availability
- 952.21 Special Handling service is available for mail sent under the following classification schedules:
 - a. First-Class Mail
 - b. Package Services
- 952.3 Mailer Requirements
- 952.31 Mail sent under this section must be identified as specified by the Postal Service.
- 952.32 Mail sent under this section must be deposited in a manner specified by the Postal Service.
- 952.33 Special Handling service is mandatory for matter that requires special attention in handling, transportation and delivery.
- 952.4 Forwarding and Return
- If undeliverable as addressed, Special Handling mail that is forwarded to the addressee is given special handling without requiring payment of an additional handling fee. However, additional postage at the applicable Standard Mail rate is collected on delivery.
- 952.5 Other Services
- [The following services, if applicable to the subclass of mail, may be obtained in conjunction with mail sent under this section upon payment of the applicable fees:] Other services may be available in conjunction with Special Handling, as specified by the Postal Service.

[Service]

[Fee Schedule]

[a. COD Mail	944]
[b. Insurance	943]
[c. Parcel Airlift	951]
[d. Merchandise Return (shippers only)	932]

952.6 Fees

952.61 The fees for Special Handling service are set forth in Fee Schedule 952.

960 STAMPED PAPER

961 STAMPED ENVELOPES

961.1 Definition

961.11 Plain Stamped Envelopes and printed Stamped Envelopes are envelopes with postage thereon offered for sale by the Postal Service.

961.2 Availability

- **961.21** Stamped Envelopes are available for:
 - a. First-Class Mail within the first rate increment.
 - b. Standard Mail mailed at a minimum per piece rate as specified by the Postal Service.
- **961.22** Printed Stamped Envelopes may be obtained by special request.

- 961.3 Fees
- **961.31** The fees for Stamped Envelopes are set forth in Fee Schedule 961.
- 962 STAMPED CARDS
- 962.1 Definition
- 962.11 Stamped Cards are cards with postage imprinted or impressed on them, and supplied by the Postal Service for the transmission of messages. Double Stamped Cards consist of two attached cards, one of which may be detached by the receiver and returned by mail as a single Stamped Card.
- 962.2 Availability
- **962.21** Stamped Cards are available for First-Class Mail.
- 962.3 Fees
- **962.31** The fees for Stamped Cards are set forth in Fee Schedule 962.
- 970 POSTAL MONEY ORDERS
- 971 MONEY ORDER SERVICE
- 971.1 Definition
- 971.11 Money Order service provides the customer with an instrument for payment of a specified sum of money.
- 971.2 Limitations
- 971.21 The maximum value for which a domestic postal money order may be purchased is \$700. Other restrictions on the number or dollar value of postal money order sales, or both, may be imposed by law or under regulations prescribed by the Postal Service.
- 971.3 Included Services
- **971.31** A receipt of purchase is provided at no additional cost.
- 971.32 The Postal Service will replace money orders that are spoiled or incorrectly prepared, regardless of who caused the error, without charge if replaced on the date originally issued.

- 971.33 If a replacement money order is issued after the date of original issue because the original was spoiled or incorrectly prepared, the applicable money order fee may be collected from the customer.
- **971.34** Inquiries or claims may be filed by the purchaser, payee, or endorsee.
- 971.4 Other Services
- 971.41 Reserved
- 971.5 Fees
- **971.51** The fees for Money Order service are set forth in Fee Schedule 971.
- 980 ACCEPTANCE ALTERNATIVES
- 981 <u>NETPOST MAILING ONLINE</u>
- 981.1 Definition

<u>Netpost</u> Mailing Online is a service that allows mailers to submit electronic documents, with address lists, for subsequent conversion into hard copy form, entry as mail, and delivery.

- 981.2 Availability
- 981.21 Netpost Mailing Online is available for documents submitted in an electronic form, along with an address list, to be entered under the following classification schedules:
 - a. Express Mail;
 - b. First-Class Mail;
 - c. Regular and Nonprofit subclasses of Standard Mail.
- **981.22** Except as provided in section 981.23, documents presented through Netpost Mailing Online are eligible for only the following rate categories:
 - a. Express Mail Next Day Service and Second Day Service
 - b. First-Class Mail Letters and Sealed Parcels Automation Letters [Basic] Mixed AADC
 - c. First-Class Mail Letters and Sealed Parcels Automation Flats [Basic] Mixed ADC

- d. First-Class Mail Cards Automation Basic Mixed AADC
- e. First-Class Mail Single-Piece Priority Mail
- f. Standard Mail Regular Automation [Basic] Mixed AADC Letters
- g. Standard Mail Regular Automation Basic Flats
- h. Standard Mail Nonprofit Automation Letters Mixed AADC [Basic] (starting on a date to be specified by the Postal Service)
- Standard Mail Nonprofit Automation Basic Flats (starting on a date to be specified by the Postal Service)
- That portion of a <u>Netpost Mailing Online mailing consisting of pieces with addresses that cannot be made to meet Postal Service addressing requirements is not eligible for any Automation [Basic] rate categories, but instead may be sent, at the option of the <u>Netpost Mailing Online customer</u>, at the applicable single- piece rates for First-Class Mail Letters and Sealed Parcels, First-Class Mail Cards, or Priority Mail.</u>

981.3 Mailer Requirements

Documents and address lists must be presented in electronic form, as specified by the Postal Service, through the Internet site specified by the Postal Service. Documents must be prepared using application software approved by the Postal Service.

981.4 Other Special Services

Other [special services that are] <u>may be</u> available in conjunction with [the subclass of mail chosen by the] <u>Netpost</u> Mailing Online, [customer are available for <u>Netpost</u> Mailing Online pieces only] as specified by the Postal Service.

- 981.5 Fees
- **981.51** The fees for Netpost Mailing Online are described in Fee Schedule 981.
- 981.6 Functionally Equivalent Systems

981.61 **General.**

Mailpieces created by a system certified by the Postal Service to be functionally equivalent to <u>Netpost Mailing Online</u> are eligible for the same rate categories as <u>Netpost Mailing Online</u> mailpieces. Mailpieces created

by a certified, functionally equivalent service are in no case eligible for rate categories providing larger discount than Netpost_Mailing Online mailpieces would receive.

981.62 Definition.

A functionally equivalent system is one which is capable of all of the following, comparable to Netpost Mailing Online, as specified by the Postal Service:

- accepting documents and mailing lists from remote users in electronic form, such as via the Internet or converting documents and mailing lists to electronic form;
- using the electronic documents, mailing lists, and other software including sortation software certified by the Postal Service that sorts to the finest level of sortation possible, to create barcoded mailpieces meeting the requirements for automation category mail, with 100 percent standardized addresses on all pieces claiming discounted rates;
- commingling mailpieces from all sources without diversion to any other system and batching them according to geographic destination prior to printing and mailing; and
- d. generating volumes that exceed on average any otherwise applicable volume minimums.

981.63 Certification

981.631 General.

Functionally equivalent systems must meet the requirements for certification specified by the Postal Service.

981.632 Fee.

Functionally equivalent systems are subject to the annual certification fee set forth in Fee Schedule 1000.

981.633 Cancellation.

Certification can be cancelled by the Postal Service for failure to continue to meet the requirements of this section and those specified by the Postal Service.

981.7 Duration of Experimental Service Period

981.71 The provisions of section 981 expire the later of:

- a. three years after the implementation date specified by the Postal Service Board of Governors, or
- b. if, by the expiration date specified in (a), a proposal to make <u>Netpost</u> Mailing Online permanent is pending before the Postal Rate Commission, the later of:
- 1. three months after the Commission takes action on such proposal under section 3624 of Title 39, or
- 2. —if applicable—on the implementation date for a permanent <u>Netpost</u> Mailing Online.

GENERAL DEFINITIONS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1000 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

As used in this Domestic Mail Classification Schedule, the following terms have the meanings set forth below.

1001 Advertising

Advertising includes all material for the publication of which a valuable consideration is paid, accepted, or promised, that calls attention to something for the purpose of getting people to buy it, sell it, seek it, or support it. If an advertising rate is charged for the publication of reading matter or other material, such material shall be deemed to be advertising. Articles, items, and notices in the form of reading matter inserted in accordance with a custom or understanding that textual matter is to be inserted for the advertiser or his products in the publication in which a display advertisement appears are deemed to be advertising. If a publisher advertises his own services or publications, or any other business of the publisher, whether in the form of display advertising or editorial or reading matter, this is deemed to be advertising.

1002 Aspect Ratio

Aspect ratio is the ratio of width to length.

1003 Bills and Statements of Account

- A bill is a request for payment of a definite sum of money claimed to be owing by the addressee either to the sender or to a third party. The mere assertion of an indebtedness in a definite sum combined with a demand for payment is sufficient to make the message a bill.
- A statement of account is the assertion of the existence of a debt in a definite amount but which does not necessarily contain a request or a demand for payment. The amount may be immediately due or may become due after a certain time or upon demand or billing at a later date.
- A bill or statement of account must present the particulars of an indebtedness with sufficient definiteness to inform the debtor of the amount he is required for acquittal of the debt. However, neither a bill nor a statement of account need state the precise amount if it contains sufficient information to enable the debtor to determine the exact amount of the claim asserted.

A bill or statement of account is not the less a bill or statement of account merely because the amount claimed is not in fact owing or may not be legally collectible.

1004 Girth

Girth is the measurement around a piece of mail at its thickest part.

1005 Invoice

An invoice is a writing showing the nature, quantity, and cost or price of items shipped or sent to a purchaser or consignor.

1006 Permit Imprints

Permit imprints are printed indicia indicating postage has been paid by the sender under the permit number shown.

1007 Preferred Rates

Preferred rates are the reduced rates established pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3626.

1008 ZIP Code

The ZIP Code is a numeric code that facilitates the sortation, routing, and delivery of mail.

1009 Nonprofit Organizations and Associations

Nonprofit organizations or associations are organizations or associations not organized for profit, none of the net income of which benefits any private stockholder or individual, and which meet the qualifications set forth below for each type of organization or association. The standard of primary purpose applies to each type of organization or association, except veterans' and fraternal. The standard of primary purpose requires that each type of organization or association be both organized and operated for the primary purpose. The following are the types of organizations or associations that may qualify as authorized nonprofit organizations or associations.

- a. Religious. A nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is one of the following:
 - i. To conduct religious worship;

- ii. To support the religious activities of nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to conduct religious worship;
- iii. To perform instruction in, to disseminate information about, or otherwise to further the teaching of particular religious faiths or tenets.
- b. Educational. A nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is one of the following:
 - i. The instruction or training of the individual for the purpose of improving or developing his capabilities;
 - ii. The instruction of the public on subjects beneficial to the community.

An organization may be educational even though it advocates a particular position or viewpoint so long as it presents a sufficiently full and fair exposition of the pertinent facts to permit an individual or the public to form an independent opinion or conclusion. On the other hand, an organization is not educational if its principal function is the mere presentation of unsupported opinion.

- c. Scientific. A nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is one of the following:
- i. To conduct research in the applied, pure or natural sciences;
- ii. To disseminate systematized technical information dealing with applied, pure or natural sciences.
- d. Philanthropic. A nonprofit organization primarily organized and operated for purposes beneficial to the public. Philanthropic organizations include, but are not limited to, organizations that are organized for:
 - i. Relief of the poor and distressed or of the underprivileged;
 - ii. Advancement of religion;
 - iii. Advancement of education or science;
 - iv. Erection or maintenance of public buildings, monuments, or works:
 - v. Lessening of the burdens of government;

- vi. Promotion of social welfare by organizations designed to accomplish any of the above purposes or:
- (A) To lessen neighborhood tensions;
- (B) To eliminate prejudice and discrimination;
- © To defend human and civil rights secured by law; or
- (D) To combat community deterioration and juvenile delinquency.
- e.Agricultural. A nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is the betterment of the conditions of those engaged in agriculture pursuits, the improvement of the grade of their products, and the development of a higher degree of efficiency in agriculture. The organization may advance agricultural interests through educational activities; the holding of agricultural fairs; the collection and dissemination of information concerning cultivation of the soil and its fruits or the harvesting of marine resources; the rearing, feeding, and management of livestock, poultry, and bees, or other activities relating to agricultural interests. The term agricultural nonprofit organization also includes any nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is the collection and dissemination of information or materials relating to agricultural pursuits.
- f. Labor. A nonprofit organization whose primary purpose is the betterment of the conditions of workers. Labor organizations include, but are not limited to, organizations in which employees or workmen participate, whose primary purpose is to deal with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours of employment and working conditions.
- g. Veterans'. A nonprofit organization of veterans of the armed services of the United States, or an auxiliary unit or society of, or a trust or foundation for, any such post or organization.
- h. Fraternal. A nonprofit organization that meets all the following criteria:
 - Has as its primary purpose the fostering of brotherhood and mutual benefits among its members;
 - ii. Is organized under a lodge or chapter system with a representative form of government;
 - iii. Follows a ritualistic format; and
 - iv. Is comprised of members who are elected to membership by vote

of the members.

2000 DELIVERY OF MAIL

2010 Delivery Services

The Postal Service provides the following modes of delivery:

- a. Caller service. The fees for caller service are set forth in Fee Schedule 921.
- b. Carrier delivery service.
- c. General delivery.
- d. Post office box service. The fees for post office box service are set forth in Fee Schedule 921.

2020 Conditions of Delivery

2021 General.

Except as provided in section 2022, 2030, and 3030, mail will be delivered as addressed unless the Postal Service is instructed otherwise by the addressee in writing.

2022 Refusal of Delivery.

The addressee may control delivery of his mail. The addressee may refuse to accept a piece of mail that does not require a delivery receipt at the time it is offered for delivery or after delivery by returning it unopened to the Postal Service. For mail that requires a delivery receipt, the addressee or his representative may read and copy the name of the sender of registered, insured, certified, COD, return receipt, and Express Mail prior to accepting delivery. Upon signing the delivery receipt the piece may not be returned to the Postal Service without the applicable postage and fees affixed.

2023 Receipt.

If a signed receipt is required, mail will be delivered to the addressee (or competent member of his family), to persons who customarily receive his mail or to one authorized in writing to receive the addressee's mail.

2024 Jointly Addressed Mail.

Mail addressed to several persons may be delivered to any one of them.

When two or more persons make conflicting orders for delivery for the same mail, the mail shall be delivered as determined by the Postal Service.

2025 Commercial Mail Receiving Agents.

Mail may be delivered to a commercial mail receiving agency on behalf of another person. In consideration of delivery of mail to the commercial agent, the addressee and the agent are considered to agree that:

- a. No change-of-address order will be filed with the post office when the agency relationship is terminated;
- b. When remailed by the commercial agency, the mail is subject to payment of new postage.

2026 Mail Addressed To Organizations.

Mail addressed to governmental units, private organizations, corporations, unincorporated firms or partnerships, persons at institutions (including but not limited to hospitals and prisons), or persons in the military is delivered as addressed or to an authorized agent.

2027 Held Mail.

Mail will be held for a specified period of time at the office of delivery upon request of the addressee, unless the mail:

- a. Has contrary retention instructions;
- b. Is perishable; or
- c. Is registered, COD, insured, return receipt, certified, or Express Mail for which the normal retention period expires before the end of the specified holding period.

2030 Forwarding and Return

2031 Forwarding.

Forwarding is the transfer of undeliverable-as-addressed mail to an address other than the one originally placed on the mailpiece. All post offices will honor change-of-address orders for a period of time specified by the Postal Service.

2032 Return.

Return is the delivery of undeliverable-as-addressed mail to the sender.

2033 Applicable Provisions.

The provisions of sections 150, 250, 350, 450, 550, 935 and 936 apply to forwarding and return.

2034 Forwarding for Postal Service Adjustments.

When mail is forwarded due to Postal Service adjustments (such as, but not limited to, the discontinuance of the post office of original address, establishment of rural carrier service, conversion to city delivery service from rural, readjustment of delivery districts, or renumbering of houses and renaming of streets), it is forwarded without charge for a period of time specified by the Postal Service.

3000 POSTAGE AND PREPARATION

3010 Packaging

Mail must be packaged so that:

- The contents will be protected against deterioration or degradation;
- b. The contents will not be likely to damage other mail, Postal Service employees or property, or to become loose in transit:
- The package surface must be able to retain postage indicia and address markings;
- d. It is marked by the mailer with a material that is neither readily water soluble nor easily rubbed off or smeared, and the marking will be sharp and clear.

3020 Envelopes

Paper used in the preparation of envelopes may not be of a brilliant color. Envelopes must be prepared with paper strong enough to withstand normal handling.

3030 Payment of Postage and Fees

Postage must be fully prepaid on all mail at the time of mailing, except as authorized by law or this Schedule. Except as authorized by law or this Schedule, mail deposited without prepayment of sufficient postage shall be delivered to the addressee subject to payment of deficient postage, returned to the sender, or otherwise disposed of as specified by the Postal Service. Mail deposited without any postage affixed will be returned to the sender without any attempt at delivery.

3040 Methods for Paying Postage and Fees

Postage for all mail may be prepaid with postage meter indicia, adhesive stamps, permit imprint, or other payment methods specified by the Postal Service. Prior authorization for use of certain payment methods may be required, as specified by the Postal Service. A fee is charged for authorization to use a permit imprint, as set forth in Schedule 1000.

3050 Reserved

3060 Special Service Fees

Fees for special services may be prepaid in any manner appropriate for the class of mail indicated or as otherwise specified by the Postal Service.

3070 Marking of Unpaid Mail

Matter authorized for mailing without prepayment of postage must bear markings identifying the class of mail service. Matter so marked will be billed at the applicable rate of postage set forth in this Schedule. Matter not so marked will be billed at the applicable First-Class rate of postage.

3080 Refund of Postage

When postage and special service fees have been paid on mail for which no service is rendered for the postage or fees paid, or collected in excess of the lawful rate, a refund may be made. There shall be no refund for registered, COD, general insurance, and Express Mail Insurance fees when

the article is withdrawn by the mailer after acceptance. In cases involving returned articles improperly accepted because of excess size or weight, a refund may be made.

3090 Calculation of Postage

When a rate schedule contains per piece and per pound rates, the postage shall be the sum of the charges produced by those rates. When a rate schedule contains a minimum per piece rate and a pound rate, the postage shall be the greater of the two. When the computation of postage yields a fraction of a cent in the charge, the next higher whole cent must be paid.

4000 POSTAL ZONES

4010 Geographic Units of Area

In the determination of postal zones, the earth is considered to be divided into units of area thirty minutes square, identical with a quarter of the area formed by the intersecting parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude. The distance between these units of area is the basis of the postal zones.

4020 Measurement of Zone Distances

The distance upon which zones are based shall be measured from the center of the unit of area containing the dispatching sectional center facility or multi-ZIP coded post office not serviced by a sectional center facility. A post office of mailing and a post office of delivery shall have the same zone relationship as their respective sectional center facilities or multi-ZIP coded post offices, but this shall not cause two post offices to be regarded as within the same local zone.

4030 Definition of Zones

4031 Local Zone.

The local zone applies to mail mailed at any post office for delivery at that office; at any city letter carrier office or at any point within its delivery limits for delivery by carriers from that office; at any office from which a rural route starts for delivery on the same route; and on a rural route for delivery at the office from which the route starts or on any rural route starting from that office.

4032 First Zone.

The first zone includes all territory within the quadrangle of entry in conjunction with every contiguous quadrangle, representing an area having

a mean radial distance of approximately 50 miles from the center of a given unit of area. The first zone also applies to mail between two post offices in the same sectional center.

4033 Second Zone.

The second zone includes all units of area outside the first zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 150 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4034 Third Zone.

The third zone includes all units of area outside the second zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 300 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4035 Fourth Zone.

The fourth zone includes all units of area outside the third zone lying in whole or in part within a radius approximately 600 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4036 Fifth Zone.

The fifth zone includes all units of area outside the fourth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 1,000 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4037 Sixth Zone.

The sixth zone includes all units of area outside the fifth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 1,400 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4038 Seventh Zone.

The seventh zone includes all units of area outside the sixth zone lying in whole or in part within a radius of approximately 1,800 miles from the center of a given unit of area.

4039 Eighth Zone.

The eighth zone includes all units of area outside the seventh zone.

4040 Zoned Rates

Except as provided in section 4050, rates according to zone apply for zone-rated mail sent between Postal Service facilities including armed forces post offices, wherever located.

4050 APO/FPO Mail

4051 General.

Except as provided in section 4052, the rates of postage for zone-rated mail transported between the United States, or the possessions or territories of the United States, on the one hand, and Army, Air Force and Fleet Post Offices on the other, or among the latter, shall be the applicable zone rates for mail between the place of mailing or delivery and the city of the postmaster serving the Army, Air Force or Fleet Post Office concerned.

4052 Transit Mail.

The rates of postage for zone-rated mail that is mailed at or addressed to an Armed Forces post office and is transported directly to or from Armed Forces post offices at the expense of the Department of Defense, without transiting any of the 48 contiguous states (including the District of Columbia), shall be the applicable local zone rate; provided, however, that if the distance from the place of mailing to the embarkation point or the distance from the point of debarkation to the place of delivery is greater than the local zone for such mail, postage shall be assessed on the basis of the distance from the place of mailing to the embarkation point or the distance from the point of debarkation to the place of delivery of such mail, as the case may be. The word "transiting" does not include enroute transfers at coastal gateway cities which are necessary to transport military mail directly between military post offices.

5000 PRIVACY OF MAIL

5010 First-Class and Express Mail

Matter mailed as First-Class Mail or Express Mail shall be treated as mail which is sealed against postal inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

5020 All Other Mail

Matter not paid at First-Class Mail or Express Mail rates must be wrapped or secured in the manner specified by the Postal Service so that the contents may be examined. Mailing of sealed items as other than First-Class Mail or Express Mail is considered consent by the sender to the postal inspection of the contents.

6000 MAILABLE MATTER

6010 General

Mailable matter is any matter which:

- a. Is not mailed in contravention of 39 U.S.C. Chapter 30, or of 17 U.S.C. 109;
- While in the custody of the Postal Service is not likely to become damaged itself, to damage other pieces of mail, to cause injury to Postal Service employees or to damage Postal Service property; and
- c. Is not mailed contrary to any special conditions or limitations placed on transportation or movement of certain articles, when imposed under law by the U.S. Department of the Treasury; U.S. Department of Agriculture; U.S. Department of Commerce; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Transportation; and any other Federal department or agency having legal jurisdiction.

6020 Minimum Size Standards

The following minimum size standards apply to all mailable matter:

- a. All items must be at least 0.007 inch thick, and
- b. all items, other than keys and identification devices, which are 0.25 inch thick or less must be
 - i. rectangular in shape,
 - ii. at least 3.5 inches in width, and
 - iii. at least 5 inches in length.

6030 Maximum Size and Weight Standards

Where applicable, the maximum size and weight standards for each class or subclass of mail are set forth in sections 130, 230, 330, 430, 521.6, and 530. Additional limitations may be applicable to specific subclasses, and rate and discount categories as provided in the eligibility provisions for each subclass or category.