

DOCKET SECTION

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, 1997

Docket No. R97-1

MOTION FOR LATE ACCEPTANCE OF AND RESPONSE  
OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
TO INTERROGATORIES OF UNITED PARCEL SERVICE  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS MAYES  
(UPS/USPS-T37-57, 58, 60 & 61)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides responses to the following interrogatories of United Parcel Service: UPS/USPS-T37-57, 58, 60 & 61, filed on September 8, 1997, and redirected from witness Mayes. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim and is followed by the response.

The Postal Service moves that these responses be accepted one day late due to the need to coordinate with field personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr.  
Chief Counsel Ratemaking



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September 23, 1997

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO UPS INTERROGATORIES  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS MAYES**

**UPS/USPS-T37-57. Please refer to your response to UPS/USPS-T37-15, and to DMM section E652.**

- (a) Please confirm that in order for mailings presented to DMUs at a mailer's plant to be eligible for DBMC rates, the mailer must provide transportation to the dropship point at all times. If not confirmed, please explain.**
- (b) Please provide a detailed explanation of how mail presented to the Postal Service, at the origin post office BMEU serving the mailer's plant under an authorized plant-verified drop shipment postage payment system, can be eligible for DBMC rates. Please Include [sic] an example to support your answer and identify who is responsible for providing transportation to the BMEU and DBMC.**

**Response:**

- (a) Not confirmed. The mailer may also choose to pay for postal transportation by way of using Priority Mail or Express Mail drop shipments to expedite the mail to the DBMC.**
- (b) The conditions that must be met by the mailer when bringing plant-verified dropshipment mail to a BMEU for verification and clearance are outlined in DMM section P750.2.2a-g. DMM section P750.2.3 sets forth the mailer's responsibility for transporting mail to the destination BMC or other destinations and for loading/unloading the truck. The mailer would bring the mail to the post office. The acceptance clerk would verify the mail makeup and postage, check the mailing statement(s) and Form(s) 8125, and if the mailing has been properly prepared and paid for, the clerk would then sign the Form 8125. Once the mail is cleared for dispatch, the mailer must transport the mail, or use Express Mail or Priority Mail dropshipment of the mail, to the destination office.**

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO UPS INTERROGATORIES  
REDIRECTED FROM WITNESS MAYES**

UPS/USPS-T37-58. Please refer to your response to UPS/USPS-T37-15, and to DMM section E652. For a qualified DBMC mailing dropshipped by a mailer at the Chicago BMC, please explain whether a mailer could designate any one of the following facilities as the entry facility and use the zone chart for that facility to calculate postage (assuming all parcels destinating in the service area for each facility below):

- (a) Palatine, IL SCF
- (b) South Suburban SCF, IL
- (c) Chicago, IL 60607-9998, Post office
- (d) Wausau, WI SCF
- (e) Iron Mountain, MI SCF
- (f) Gary, IN, SCF.

Response:

A mailer cannot designate an alternate entry point for DBMC mail. Under certain conditions (see DMM section E652.4.0), the Postal Service can designate an SCF as the acceptance point if it benefits the Postal Service.

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO UPS INTERROGATORIES  
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UPS/USPS-T37-60. Please refer to your response to UPS/USPS-T37-15, and to DMM section E652.

- (a) Does all mail have to be verified before being dropshipped at a DBMC to get DBMC rate mailings? Explain your answer.
- (b) Can dropship mail for DBMC rate mailings be verified before dropshipping at the DBMC at locations other than DMUs? If yes, please identify and describe all of those types of facilities. If no, explain your answer.
- (c) Please confirm that for plant and BMEU authorized plant verified drop shipments at a DBMC for DBMC-rate mailings, the DBMC rechecks verification before acceptance. If not confirmed, explain your answer.

Response:

- (a) The mail may be verified and postage paid at the DBMC entry point if the mailer is authorized. It need not be verified prior to arrival at the DBMC. See DMM sections E651.2.1b. and E652.3.2.
- (b) Under the plant-verified dropship program, a mailing may be verified at any postal facility with a Business Mail Entry function instead of at a DMU. Please refer to DMM sections P750.2.2, E651.2.1, and E652.3.2.
- (c) Not confirmed. The acceptance clerk at the DBMC would compare the mail presented to the information on the accompanying Form 8125 to make sure that it matches the information on the form as to the volumes of mail, the class of mail and the permit holder. The acceptance clerk at the DBMC is not required to verify the mail makeup for parcels entered as plant-verified dropship mail, as such verification has already been performed.

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UPS/USPS-T37-61. Please provide a copy of all publications, brochures, directives, manuals, forms, packets, and other information that would be provided to a mailer inquiring about Postal Service DBMC Parcel Post Service.

Response:

The information provided to the mailer inquiring about DBMC Parcel Post service would depend on the familiarity of the mailer with postal practices and services as well as the size of the mailer's anticipated shipments. Some customers would receive a copy of the DMM and be referred to the BMC Information Guide, available on the Postal Service's web page ([http://ribbs.usps.gov/html/bulk\\_mail\\_center\\_information.htm](http://ribbs.usps.gov/html/bulk_mail_center_information.htm)). The web page also includes a directory of BMC Service Specialists, secondary sort plans, and critical entry times and dispatch of value for each BMC. Some customers would be referred for training in the postal business centers. For any customers perceived to represent potentially large shipments of such mail, a Postal Service employee would go to the mailer's plant to provide information and assistance in person.

## 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.



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