

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES
PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 108-18

Docket No. R2005-1

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID POPKIN [DBP/USPS-95]
(June 17, 2005)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its responses to above-listed interrogatory of David Popkin, filed on May 27, 2005.

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

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

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RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-95

Recently the Postal Service has implemented the use of a 4-state barcode. [a] Please advise the classes and categories of mail that utilize a 4-state barcode. [b] Please advise the data that is contained in the 4-state barcode. [c] Please provide information on how to manually decode the data contained on a 4-state barcode. [d] Please advise the expected cost savings by adding the capability of the 4-state barcodes. [e] Please provide copies of manuals that explain the use of 4-state barcodes.

RESPONSE:

- (a) The 4-state bar code is used on flat mail, so all classes and categories that include flat mail would utilize the 4-state barcode.
- (b) The date and the time the code was created, the machine and feeder the code was created on, as well as a country code and unique sequence number.
- (c) The instructions for manually decoding the data contained on a 4-state barcode is not yet available.
- (d) As explained in (e), the 4-state barcode is simply used to read unresolved addresses that have been manually keyed. Therefore, the expected cost savings of the 4-state barcode is not available.
- (e) There are no manuals that explain the use of the 4-state barcode. However, we will endeavor to explain the use of the 4-state barcode in this response. The 4-state barcode is used in conjunction with manual video keying of unresolved addresses on flat-sized mailpieces. Each address that is manually keyed is assigned to a 4-state barcode. Once a 4-state barcode is generated and a label containing that code is applied to the mailpiece, the barcode is used to read the address as the mailpiece moves through mail processing operations.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served the foregoing document in accordance with Section 12 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure.

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