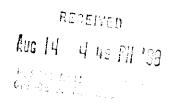
ORIGINAL

# Before The POSTAL RATE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001



Docket No. MC98-1

### RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS GARVEY TO INTERROGATORIES OF OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE (OCA/USPS-T1-23-27)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides the response of witness Garvey to the following interrogatories of Office of the Consumer Advocate:

OCA/USPS-T1-23-27, filed on August 4, 1998.

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

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

Kenneth N Hollies

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. (202) 268-3083; Fax: -5402 Washington, D.C. 20260-1137 August 14, 1998



OCA/USPS-T1-23. Please refer to your testimony at page 1, footnote 2. You state, "The Postal Service will provide full service access via the World Wide Web, using browser functions in lieu of user-installed software."

- a. Please describe in detail how a Mailing Online customer would transmit a Word document "via the World Wide Web, using browser functions in lieu of user-installed software" during (i) the operations test period, (ii) the market test period, (iii) the experimental period, (iv) the post-experiment period.
- b. Please reconcile your testimony with the following. "The Postal Service's preferred objective for this experiment is to have it recommended by the Commission by the end of November, 1998. This would allow the Postal Service to explore the possibility that major software developers could integrate Mailing Online into impending updates of software in order to make the service widely and easily available . . . ." Motion of the USPS for Expedition . . ., July 15, 1998. In particular, why is such integration necessary if "full service access via the World Wide Web" is available "using browser functions in lieu of user-installed software"?
- c. Please explain how "integrat[ing] Mailing Online into impending updates of software [would] make the service [more] widely and easily available."

#### RESPONSE:

- a. (i-iii) Using the built-in file transfer capability of standard browser software, the Mailing Online Web server receives files selected for upload by users from content resident on their local drives or network. This is accomplished via a series of Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) pages which the user views and interacts with while online using the World Wide Web. This process is enabled by the capabilities of the browser and therefore does not require additional software such as might be used in a point-to-point file transfer.
  - (iv) Unknown.
- b-c. Given the fact that the internet is just an access channel, and the World Wide Web is only a graphical interface to the internet, it is important for destinations on the internet to have effective "signposts". Unlike a PC

application which retains and reloads all user information and settings, an internet application effectively disappears each time the user signs off.

Although getting to and navigating the World Wide Web is as simple as "point and click", a user must first know how to get to a specific destination the first time, and then must remember how to return. The "point and click" hyper-linking characteristic has prompted an integration of World Wide Web functionality into many desktop applications such as word processors and even operating systems, e.g. Windows 98. Since Mailing Online access is only available via the World Wide Web, and since its functions compliment but do not replace a user's desktop applications, having "point and click" access to Mailing Online conveniently embedded in the applications themselves, and perhaps even in the desktop operating system as well, will certainly make the service more widely and easily available.

**OCA/USPS-T1-24.** Please refer to Exhibit 1 to your response to interrogatory OCA/USPS-T1-10.

- a. For each date on which more than one transaction occurred, please provide the number of different mailers who transmitted on that date and the volume transmitted on that date by mailer.
- b. Please provide the total number of different mailers who have utilized Mailing Online during the period covered by Exhibit 1.
- c. For each separate mailer who has utilized Mailing Online during the period covered by Exhibit 1, please provide the total number of transactions that occurred during the period covered by Exhibit 1 and the dates on which those transactions occurred. (It is not necessary to identify mailers; merely differentiate them.)
- d. For each separate mailer who has utilized Mailing Online during the period covered by Exhibit 1, please provide the total number of transactions that occurred in each calendar month during the period covered by Exhibit 1.
- e. For each separate mailer who has utilized Mailing Online during the period covered by Exhibit 1, please provide the average number of transactions per calendar month during the period covered by Exhibit 1.

#### RESPONSE.

Answers to each of these questions are provided in the Attachment to Response to OCA/USPS-T1-24. The body of the Attachment contains five pages. One of these reports on operations test activity in Hartford, while the other four report on activity in Tampa. Please note that these latter four pages consist of a single table physically arrayed across all four pages, with columns representing each operations test customer and each row representing dates.

### Attachment to Response to OCA/USPS-T1-24, Page 1

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OCA/USPS-T1-25. Please refer to your response to interrogatory OCA/USPS-T1-3(b)-(f). You state, "Mailing Online mail has been entered through the Dallas, Texas P&DC Business Mail Entry Unit (BMEU). However, primary processing was not performed at this plant since the mail was prepared for immediate drop shipping to plants at Tampa, Florida and/or Hartford, Connecticut."

- a. Please define "drop shipping" as used here.
- b. Please confirm that some shipments to Tampa contained "calendars to customers in Chicago and other cities around the country . . . ." USPS-T-7 at 2, line 4. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- c. Does the Dallas P&DC routinely prepare dispatches to Tampa and Hartford as part of its outgoing sort plan? If not, to where would Dallas routinely dispatch pieces destined for Tampa or Hartford?
- d. You state "that no exceptional handling was requested" for Mailing Online mail entered through the Dallas P&DC. Please define "exceptional handling."
- e. You state that Mailing Online mail "was prepared in pouches labeled for drop shipment." Please describe all transportation received by these pouches, including the origin and destination of each leg, from the time the pouches are dispatched from the Dallas P&DC.

#### RESPONSE:

- a. Drop shipping refers here to the enclosure of prepared mailings within pre-labeled Express Mail pouches prior to acceptance at a local Business Mail Entry Unit. The pouches are sealed after local acceptance processing and dispatched via Express Mail transportation to another office for "open and distribute" handling, meaning that the pouches are opened at the destination facility and the enclosed mail is entered into the processing stream as appropriate for its class and makeup.
- b. I can only confirm that Witness Wilcox so testifies in USPS-T-7.
- I have no knowledge of the sort plans at the Dallas, Texas P&DC. Such knowledge is immaterial to the Mailing Online operations test.

- d. For this purpose, it refers to any handling outside of the usual or any request beyond the ordinary course of business as defined by an entry unit's normal operating procedures.
- e. Transportation for the Express Mail drop shipments from Dallas to Tampa and Hartford are detailed on the attached Express Mail Service Leg forms, Attachments 1 & 2.

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U.S. POSTAL SERVICE EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE LEG	2a.ND PU   3. 1st Ship   4. Cancel   03/10/98   / /
G/X   City Code   Agmt.No.   Leg No.   In G 200 494 QBB	t'l 2b.Reship 5.Cho Date Items : 05/04/98 7a
6. FROM: MANAGER OF MARKETING DALLAS DISTRICT 951 W BETHEL RD COPPELL TX 75099-9	17. TO:  MANAGER-DISTRIBUTION & OPERATIONS  "OPEN & DISTRIBUTE"  3201 WEST SPRUCE ST  TAMPA FL 33630-9722
Firm Representative Phone EXPEDITED SRV SPEC (214) 760-4640	Firm Representative Phone EXPEDITED SRV SPEC (202) 636-1401
7a. Pickup between 1130-1230	18a. Delivery between -
7b. By: 75240	195. By:
8. Customer tender before: To: [ ] P.O. [ ] AMF Name: Zip + 4 Code :	19. Customer claim after: 2359 To: [ X ] P.O. [ ] AMF Name: TAMPA FL Zip + 4 Code: 33630-9722
9. Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Mailed X X X X X	Sun 20. Pickup chọ waiver Del. chọ waiver
Delivered X X X X X X	21. EMCA established at:
10. FREQUENCY CODE    Mailing   Delivery   Service   K7   K7   22    11.Exception to established frequence	
12. Service less than weekly	22. Express Mail Zone:  23. Agency Control No.: 411  Sub-Control No.: 02548
13. USPS Notes PICK UP ADDRESS: XEROX DTC	24. ROUTING INFORMATION DEPART ARRIV Place Time   Place Time
4490 ALPHA RD DALLAS TX 75244-4505	NTMPC 1405 750V8372 DFW 14
XEROX WILL CALL SPRING VALLEY	DFW 1920 DL930 TPA 22
WHEN SATURDAY PICKUP IS NEEDED.	COME DAY
010 7700	SERVICE
14. SIC 7399 15. Mkt No.	SEKATE
16. Account Rep: BUSINESS CTR	
25. Signature: DIANA FISHER	

RESPONSE OF UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITNESS GARVEY TO INTERROGATORIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE CONSUMER ADVOCATE OCA/USPS-T1-26. Please refer to your response to OCA/USPS-T1-2. Please explain the rationale for having the Postal Service hold the permits on which the mailings are submitted.

#### RESPONSE:

Two factors influenced this decision: (1) since the Postal Service is collecting the postage directly from Mailing Online customers, it will have funds in hand when the transaction is complete. It would not make sense, nor would it be cost effective, to transfer these postage funds to a third party only to receive them again when the mail is entered some 24 hours later. (2) Since the files are being split and routed based on ZIP Codes, and then batched according to print site destination, postage paid for one customer transaction will potentially represent multiple entry points. The consequent accounting would represent a formidable challenge if a centralized accounting system were not being used, and the only logical holder of such a centralized account is the Postal Service since all other parties are site specific vendors or customers.

OCA/USPS-T1-27. Please refer to your response to OCA/USPS-T1-3(d). Please provide a copy of the pages which will have prices entered upon them, and any other pages that are changed, from USPS-LR-5/MC98-1 once signatures are affixed.

#### RESPONSE:

The completed and signed contract, including prices, will be filed as a Library

Reference immediately upon award. Award is expected to be made within days.

#### **DECLARATION**

I, Lee Garvey, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing answers are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Dated: 8/14/98

#### **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.

Kenneth N Hollies

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260-1137 August 14, 1998