

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

Market Test of Experimental Product-
Global eCommerce Marketplace (GeM)
Non-Published Rates

Docket No. MT2016-1

NOTICE OF INQUIRY NO. 1

(Issued April 29, 2016)

On March 16, 2016, the Postal Service filed notice of its intent to conduct a market test of an experimental product identified as Global eCommerce Marketplace (GeM) Merchant beginning on or after April 30, 2016.¹ To clarify the Postal Service's Notice, on March 30, 2016, Chairman's Information Request No. 1 was issued.² In its responses, the Postal Service identified four companies presently offering end-to-end services that are similar to GeM Merchant: Pitney Bowes Borderfree, FedEx Crossborder (formerly FedEx Bongo), UPS i-Parcel, and DHL iCart.³ UPS filed comments arguing that "GeM Merchant will provide an unfair and inappropriate competitive advantage for the Postal Service" and requested that the Commission reject the proposed market test and order termination of any ongoing operational testing of GeM Merchant.⁴

¹ Notice of the United States Postal Service of Market Test of Experimental Product- Global eCommerce Marketplace (GeM) Merchant Solution and Notice of Filing GeM Merchant Model Contract and Application for Non-Public Treatment of Materials Filed Under Seal, March 16, 2016 (Notice).

² Chairman's Information Request No. 1, March 30, 2016.

³ Response of the United States Postal Service to Chairman's Information Request No. 1, April 6, 2016, question 1a.

⁴ Comments of United Parcel Service on Postal Service Notice of Global eCommerce Marketplace Proposed Market Test, April 19, 2016, at 4.

To assist the Commission in determining whether GeM Merchant will provide an unfair and inappropriate competitive advantage, the Commission issues this Notice of Inquiry to seek the following information from interested parties:

1. Annual revenues of competing products for each of the last 3 years;
2. Annual volumes of competing products for each of the last 3 years; and
3. Estimates of the annual volume and revenue of the related market as a whole.

The responses may be filed under seal with the Commission consistent with the requirements outlined in 39 C.F.R. part 3007. The responses are due May 9, 2016.

By the Commission.

Ruth Ann Abrams
Acting Secretary