

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES

Docket No. R2006-1

**Major Mailers Association's
First Set Of Interrogatories and Document Production Requests To
United States Postal Service Witness Marc D. McCrery (MMA/USPS-T42-1-6)
(June 12, 2006)**

Pursuant to Rules 25 and 26 of the Commission's Rules of Practice, Major Mailers Association submits the following interrogatories and document production requests to United States Postal Service Witness Marc D. McCrery (MMA/USPS-T42-1-6).

Respectfully submitted,

Major Mailers Association

By: _____

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**Dated: Middleburg, Virginia
June 12, 2006**

MMA/USPS-T42-1

Please refer to page 2 of your direct testimony where you describe how non-letters are culled out from the raw mail within the Advanced Facer Cancellor System (AFCS). What happens to a mail piece that is less than 6 1/8" tall, less than 1/4" thick and less than 11 1/2 inches long, but weighs up to 4 ounces. In other words, will the mail that meets the definition of a letter except for weight still be processed on automated equipment within the letter production line?

MMA/USPS-T42-2

Please refer to page 2 of your direct testimony where you describe how non-letters are culled out from the raw mail within the Advanced Facer Cancellor System (AFCS). What happens to a mail piece that is less than 6 1/8" tall, less than 1/4" thick and less than 11 1/2 inches long, but weighs up to 3.5 ounces. In other words, will the mail that meets the definition of a letter except for weight still be processed on automated equipment within the letter production line?

MMA/USPS-T42-3

On page 12 of your direct testimony you note that automation-compatible mail rejected from a particular piece of equipment is directed to manual operations. In general, is it safe to conclude that any letters rejected from automation will be processed manually from that point on, until the letter reaches the delivery function? If no, please explain.

MMA/USPS-T42-4

Please refer to page 12 of your direct testimony where you provide some recent statistics regarding barcoding within the Postal Service, as follows:

During FY 2005, the total letter mail volume was approximately 154 billion pieces, of which approximately 99 billion were barcoded through automation discounts, or 64.7 percent of all letters. Customer applied barcodes comprised almost 76 percent of the total letter mail barcodes.

- A. Can you confirm the volumes shown in the table below based on the description that you provide in your testimony? If not, please make corrections to the table, along with any explanations that are required.

FY 2005 Volumes
(Billions)

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Description	Mailer Barcoded (Discount)	Mailer Barcoded (No Discount)	Total Mailer Barcoded (1) + (2)	USPS Barcoded	Total Letters (3) + (4)
[1] First Class	46	18	64		
[2] Other Classes	53	0	53		
[3] Total Pieces [1] + [2]	99	18	117	37	154
[4] Percent of Total (1) / (5) for [3]	64%	12%	76%	24%	100%

- B. Can you fill in the table with actual figures (rounded to the nearest million), as well as the two empty boxes under Column 4, USPS Barcoded? If not, please explain.
- C. Can you confirm that all letters are either barcoded by mailers or by the Postal Service and that of the 154 billion "total letter mail volume," all such letters were barcoded? Please explain your answer. If there are volumes of letters that are not barcoded, please provide those volumes split up between First-Class and Other classes.

MMA/USPS-T42-5

Please describe the experiment that took place a few years ago whereby Standard letters weighing up to 4 ounces were processed on automated letter processing equipment. Please provide any relevant documents, including those relating to the design, conduct, and results of the study, the recommendations made and any steps taken by the Postal Service as a result of that study.

MMA/USPS-T42-6

Please describe and discuss the design specifications/capabilities of the latest automated letter sorting equipment as they relate to the weight of a letter. Please provide all related documents including technical

information/specifications furnished by or to the manufacturers of such equipment if such documents relate to the weight of a letter. For each model of automated letter sorting equipment, please indicate the number of machines deployed at the end of BY 2005 and the number that the Postal Service estimates will be deployed by the end of TY 2008.