

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

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2006

Docket No. R2006-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORIES OF DAVID B. POPKIN
(DBP/USPS-556-561)

The United States Postal Service hereby provides its responses to the following interrogatories of David B. Popkin, filed on August 16, 2006: DBPUSPS-556-561.

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

Scott L. Reiter

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2999, Fax -5402
scott.l.reiter@usps.gov
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RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO INTERROGATORY OF DAVID B. POPKIN

DBP/USPS-556

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264. Please provide any reasons that you believe that the experiences observed in these two Districts would not be similarly observed country-wide.

RESPONSE:

The POS ONE (and IRT) software has been changed since the OIG audit was performed. Software changes were effective in early November 2005.

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

DBP/USPS-557

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264.

On page i of the Report it states that retail associates will be required to enter the length, width, and height of some parcels into POS ONE.

[a] Please advise the characteristics of those parcels that will require entering the dimensions into the POS ONE.

[b] Have the modifications to the POS ONE system been completed to allow for the way retail associates measure parcels?

[c] If not, please advise the implementation schedule.

[d] Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that entering the data into the POS ONE will perform the necessary calculations and determination of the proper postage, including any surcharge.

RESPONSE:

- a. For Priority Mail (not flat rate envelopes) weighing 1.5001 – 14.0 lb. and Parcel Post weighing at least 6 oz., POS ONE requires the retail associate (RA) to indicate what kind of packaging has been used for the article. If the article is not in packaging of known size (i.e., not in a USPS-supplied container), POS ONE requires the RA to enter the length. If the length (which is the longest dimension) is such that a surcharge is possible, the system also requires entry of width and depth (or girth if the article is irregular in shape).
- b.& c. The POS ONE changes were completed in November 2005.
- d. POS ONE evaluates the information entered by the RA, assigns the appropriate surcharge(s), and calculates the proper postage.

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

DBP/USPS-558

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264. Please confirm, or explain if you are unable to confirm, that the POS ONE determinations will still require the ability of the retail associate recognizing the necessity of entering the dimension data into the POS ONE.

RESPONSE:

The POS ONE changes do not depend on the RA's recognizing the necessity of entering dimension data. Please see the response to DBP/USPS-557(a).

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

DBP/USPS-559

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264. Please explain the concerns that the 7.9% compliance rate that this study revealed will have on the level of compliance that will be expected with the implementation of the dim-weight program.

RESPONSE:

With the implementation of the dim-weight program, the Postal Service will make further appropriate changes to POS ONE/IRT so that retail associates are required to measure packages when necessary.

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

DBP/USPS-560

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264. Please advise the steps that have been taken in the ten months since the report was released to improve the 7.9% level of compliance in recognizing the need for applying the surcharge.

RESPONSE

Please see the responses to DBP/USPS-556-559.

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

DBP/USPS-561

Please refer to Report Number DR-AR-05-517 provided in your response to Interrogatory DBP/USPS-264. Please advise the steps that are being planned to improve the 7.9% level of compliance in recognizing the need for applying the surcharge.

RESPONSE

Please see the responses to DBP/USPS-559.