

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

MODIFICATION OF MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL MAIL SEALED AND UNSEALED AGAINST  
INSPECTION

Docket No. MC2009-23

**NOTICE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
OF CLASSIFICATION CHANGE**  
(April 20, 2009)

In accordance with 39 C.F.R. §§ 3020.92 and 3020.91, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) hereby gives notice of changes in classification governing whether mail is included in a class maintained for the transmission of letters sealed against inspection within the meaning of 39 U.S.C. § 404(c). With certain exceptions, these proposed changes to the Mail Classification Schedule do not alter the current application of 39 U.S.C. § 404(c). Rather, the changes merely clarify whether the mail is sealed against inspection.

The proposed change to International Surface Airlift (ISAL) constitutes a substantive change, reflecting the fact that this mail is essentially the same as First-Class Mail International in its content and should be accorded similar treatment. The same rationale extends to Global Bulk Economy (GBE) service. For Global Direct service, which consists of mail matter prepared according to destination country requirements, the Postal Service would advise whether such mail is sealed or unsealed in each customized agreement, so as to facilitate verification if necessary to confirm compliance with destination country content eligibility requirements.

The Postal Service has also made several nonsubstantive edits to the text of the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS), removing the term “postal” when modifying the term “inspection,” to promote consistency of wording with 39 U.S.C. § 404(c), Postal Service regulations, and the MCS text for inbound international services. In addition, clarifications are added that Mail for the Blind or Handicapped is not sealed when sent as First-Class Mail International or Priority Mail flat rate envelope or small flat rate box. Further, the GBE, ISAL, and International Priority Airmail text is revised to state that M-Bags within those products are not sealed against inspection.

The Postal Service hereby submits to the Commission conforming changes in the MCS which it believes are consistent with 39 U.S.C. § 3642. Notice of conforming internal regulatory changes to clarify current treatment of most of these categories of mail and to give effect to the new treatment of ISAL service and Global Direct service are to have an effective date of May 11, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 20, 2009

# MAIL CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

## PART A

### MARKET DOMINANT PRODUCTS

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 1125 Outbound Single-Piece First-Class Mail International

##### 1125.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \* Outbound Single-Piece First-Class Mail International (except Free Matter for the Blind or Other Physically Handicapped Persons) is sealed against postal inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law. \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

## PART B

### COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 2200 INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTS

##### 2205 Outbound International Expedited Services

##### 2205.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \*

*Global Express Guaranteed*

\* \* \* \* \*

- d. Only Global Express Guaranteed items that contain documents are sealed against postal inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Express Mail International*

\* \* \* \* \*

- d. Express Mail International is sealed against ~~postal~~ inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2215 Outbound Priority Mail International**

2215.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- c. Only the Priority Mail International Flat-Rate Envelope and Small Flat-Rate Box (except when used as Free Matter for the Blind or Other Physically Handicapped Persons) are sealed against ~~postal~~ inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2225 International Priority Airmail (IPA)**

2225.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- d. International Priority Airmail (except M-Bags) is sealed against ~~postal~~ inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2230 International Surface Air Lift (ISAL)**

2230.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- c. International Surface Air Lift (except M-Bags) is ~~not~~ sealed against ~~postal~~ inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law. ~~Mailing of matter by International Surface Air Lift constitutes consent by the mailer to postal inspection of the contents, regardless of the physical closure.~~

\* \* \* \* \*

**2235 International Direct Sacks—M-Bags**

2235.1 Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- d. M-Bags are not sealed against postal inspection. Mailing of matter by such service constitutes consent by the mailer to postal inspection of the contents, regardless of the physical closure.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2600            Negotiated Service Agreements**

\* \* \* \* \*

**2610   Outbound International**

\* \* \* \* \*

**2610.5        Global Direct**

2610.5.1     Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- f. Global Direct mail (except M-Bags) is either sealed or not sealed against inspection, as specified by customer contract.

\* \* \* \* \*

**2610.6        Global Bulk Economy (GBE) Contracts**

2610.6.1     Description

\* \* \* \* \*

- e. Global Bulk Economy mail (except M-Bags) is sealed against inspection and shall not be opened except as authorized by law.

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