United States Postal Service®

INDUSTRY*ALERT*

February 18, 2022

Pending Periodicals – EPS Postage Issue

The United States Postal Service has identified an issue with the way Pending Periodicals (PP) are charged when using an Enterprise Payment System (EPS) account for payment.

Specifically, EPS is under charging PP Mailers and in some cases refunding customers for funds USPS never collected. PP transactions consist of 2 elements; first is a charge for the Periodicals (PE) rate, second is a charge for difference in postage between the PE rate and the commercial rate (FCM/MKT) as appropriate. This second part is a "Reserve Fund" which is put aside until final disposition of the PP application. **EPS does not recognize the second part of this transactions and does not collect the Reserve Fund from the customer.**

PostalOne! tracks the Reserve Fund regardless of EPS status so it looks like reserve funds are accumulating even though USPS did not collect any money for this part of the transaction. This results in Mailers getting refunds of the reserve funds (which they never paid) when they are approved for PE rates. When PP is not approved USPS attempts to collect the reserve fund but because the mailer never paid for and USPS didn't collect the money results in USPS having to collect the funds directly from the customer.

USPS will be contacting affected mailers with information on the next steps to proceed with funding your Pending Periodicals mailings.

If additional information is needed please contact the MSSC Helpdesk at MSSC@usps.gov 1-877-672-0007.

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