

# Release Overview

## January 2022 Changes

**DEPLOYMENT: DECEMBER 26, 2021**  
**EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 9, 2022**

This document describes information for changes under review for the next structural implementation. This document is prepared and based on the knowledge available at the time of its printing and any direction found herein is subject to change prior to the release. The contents of this document are pre-decisional, and subject to change based on Board of Governors and Postal Regulatory Commission decision.

## Pre-Release Document

EVT

**Document last updated date: Monday, October 25, 2021**

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## 1.0 Introduction

Included in this document are potential changes under review for the next Structural Release scheduled for January 2022. This document is prepared and based on the knowledge available at the time of its printing and any direction found herein is subject to change, including additional structure changes prior to the release. The contents of this document are pre-decisional, and subject to change.

Draft postage statements marked with revisions will be posted to Postal Explorer (<http://pe.usps.com>) as they become available.

## 2.0 Applicable Technical Specifications

### 2.1 Updates to *PostalOne!* eDoc Specification Versions Support

#### 2.1.1 Mail.dat eDoc

The table below depicts the Mail.dat specification versions that will be supported with the Release 54.0.0.0:

**Table 1**

<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.dat (eDoc) Version Support			
Versions	Versions Supported Prior to Deployment Date	Versions Supported Deployment Date to Price Change Effective Date	Post-Price Change – Versions Supported on and after Price Change Effective Date
19-1	Supported	Supported only for updates	Supported only for updates
21-1	Supported	Supported	Supported
22-1	-	Supported	Supported

#### 2.1.2 Mail.XML eDoc

The table below depicts the Mail.XML specification versions that will be supported with the Release 54.0.0.0:

**Table 2**

<i>PostalOne!</i> Mail.XML (eDoc) Version Support			
Versions	Versions Supported Prior to Deployment Date	Versions Supported Deployment Date to Price Change Effective Date	Post-Price Change – Versions Supported on and after Price Change Effective Date
23.1	Supported	Supported only for updates	Supported only for updates
24.1	Supported	Supported	Supported
25.0	-	Supported	Supported

### 2.2 Updates to *PostalOne!* Mail.XML Data Distribution, MID-CRID, and FAST Specification Version Support

The table below depicts the specification versions that will be supported with the Release 54.0.0.0:

*Note: there are no changes to supported versions.*

**Table 3**

Versions	Data Distribution Mail.XML		MID-CRID Mail.XML		FAST Mail.XML	
	Current Supported Versions (Prior to Release)	Post-Release Supported Versions	Current Supported Versions (Prior to Release)	Post-Release Supported Versions	Current Supported Versions (Prior to Release)	Post-Release Supported Versions
	Prior to Deployment Date	Deployment Date & onwards	Prior to Deployment Date	Deployment Date & onwards	Prior to Deployment Date	Deployment Date & onwards
14.0A	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
16.0	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported

### 2.3 Updates to Shipping Services File (SSF) Version Support

The table below depicts the specification versions that will be supported with the Release 54.0.0.0:

*Note: there are no changes to supported versions.*

**Table 4**

<b>Versions</b>	<b>eVS Shipping Services File Versions Support</b>	
	<b>Pre-Release</b>	<b>Post-Release</b>
	<b>Prior to Deployment Date</b>	<b>Deployment Date &amp; onwards</b>
<b>1.3</b>	Supported for EMCA/EMRS only	Supported for EMCA/EMRS only
<b>1.4</b>	Supported	Supported
<b>1.6</b>	Supported	Supported
<b>1.7</b>	Supported	Supported
<b>2.0</b>	Supported	Supported

### 3.0 Proposed Parcel Select and Parcel Select Lightweight Machinable SCF rate for DSCF Entry

The USPS is considering support for a new set of products that are sorted as Machinable SCF for Parcel Select and Machinable SCF Parcel Select Lightweight pieces entered at DSCF. These products must be entered at Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF).

- New Labeling List L051 - service area by individual 3-digit ZIP Code prefix for mail destined to a sectional center facility (SCF).
- Postage Statement Changes: PS Form 3605 Package Services
  - o New Lines Parts C and E.

Line Number	Zone	Entry	Rate	Status/Change
TBD	--	DSCF	Parcel Select Machinable – SCF	Add new Line
TBD	--	DSCF	Parcel Select Machinable Dimensional – SCF	Add new Line
TBD	--	DSCF	Parcel Select Lightweight SCF	Add new Line

- Mail.dat changes: New combinations for existing Rate Ingredients -

Mail Class	Processing Category	Rate Category	Rate Type	MPU Surcharge	Destination Entry	Zone	Rate
PS	MP	PM	D	N	S	N	Parcel Select Machinable SCF DSCF
PS	MP	PM	D	D, T	S	N	Parcel Select Dimensional Machinable SCF DSCF
LW	MP	PM	P	N	S	N	Parcel Select Lightweight Machinable SCF DSCF

Note: the .mpu Machinability Indicator validation (5076) will be converted to an ERROR with this proposed change.

- Mail.XML changes: New combinations for existing Rate Ingredients -

Mail Class	Processing Category	Rate Category	Rate Type	Surcharge Type	Entry Facility	Zone	Rate
PS	MP	PM	D	N	S	N	Parcel Select Machinable SCF DSCF
PS	MP	PM	D	D, T	S	N	Parcel Select Dimensional Machinable SCF DSCF
LW	MP	PM	P	N	S	N	Parcel Select Lightweight Machinable SCF DSCF

Note: a new proposed specification will add Machinability Indicator to PostageStatementCreateRequests. This proposed change will support the Machinability Indicator validation.

- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: New Rate Indicators of SR (SCF Dimensional Rectangular) and SN (SCF Dimensional non-Rectangular) will be implemented to support the Rate Ingredients combinations -

Mail Class	Processing Category	Destination Rate Indicator	Rate Indicator	Zone	Rate
3	36	38	37	39	SSF v2.0 – D1 record
037-038	372	375	373-374	376-377	SSF v1.6/v1.7 D1 record
PS	3	S	DE	00	Parcel Select Machinable SCF DSCF
PS	3	S	SR, SN	00	Parcel Select Machinable SCF DSCF Dimensional Rectangular / Dimensional Non-Rectangular
LW	3	S	DE	00	Parcel Select Lightweight Machinable SCF DSCF

- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Competitive

[BNS41832](#)

## 4.0 Proposed Parcel Select and Parcel Select Lightweight rates for local HUB Entry

The USPS is considering support of a new set of destination entered presort rates for Parcel Select and Parcel Select Lightweight entered at local HUB. The service would be offered to **customers with an agreement** to enter product to be worked at the HUB (HUB/3-Digit containers) or in 5-digit ZIP Scheme containers that can be cross docked to the destination DDU. These products must be entered at the Destination Service Hub (DSH).

- Labeling List L054 – NSA Only – Hub Sort
- Postage Statement Changes: TBD
- Mail.dat changes: No impact
- Mail.XML changes: New impact
- Shipping Services File (SSF): New Rate Ingredients and new combinations –
  - o New Destination Rate Indicator = H, Destination Service Hub (DSH)
  - o New Rate Indicator = 5R, 5-Digit Dimensional Rectangular and 5N, 5-Digit Dimensional Non-Rectangular

Mail Class	Processing Category	Destination Rate Indicator	Rate tr Indicator	Zone	Rate
3	36	38	37	39	SSF v2.0 – D1 record
037-038	372	375	373-374	376-377	SSF v1.6/v1.7 D1 record
PS	3,5	H	SP, DR, DN	00	Parcel Select HUB DSH Dimensional Rectangular / Non-Rectangular
PS	3,5	H	5D, 5R, 5N	00	Parcel Select DDU DSH Dimensional Rectangular / Non-Rectangular
LW	3,4	H	SP	00	Parcel Select Lightweight HUB DSH
LW	3,4	H	5D	00	Parcel Select Lightweight DDU DSH

- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Market Dominant

[BNS41832.2](#)

## 5.0 Proposed Fees for Non-Standard Parcel Sizes for Certain Domestic Competitive Products

The Postal Service is considering the creation of new fees for packages exceeding a non-standard dimension or cubic measurement for Retail, Commercial, and NSA competitive Domestic (USPS Retail Ground, PME, PM, PS/PSLW, Retail Ground LOR) packages (excluding PMOD and USPS Flat Rate packaging or Regional Rate packaging supplied by the Postal Service). The proposed new fees will be for parcels that require additional handling due to dimensions/cubic measurement. Dimensional weight pricing and oversize pricing remain in place where applicable.

This proposal outlines that when the length (defined as the longest side) of a package exceeds a configured length range (currently proposed at “greater than 22 inches”), or when the package volume exceeds a configured volume range (currently proposed at “greater than 2 cubic feet”), all parcel dimensions (Length, Width, Height) must be provided as part of electronic documentation.



Note: These proposed configured length and volume range values must be coded as configurable values to allow future adjustments.

As described above, the proposed fees will be based on two categories: 1) If package length falls within one of the configured package length ranges, and 2) if package volume falls within the configured package volume range. A separate fee for volume may also be imposed in addition to the fee charged due to length of the package.

For packages with a proposed volume of greater than 2 cubic feet and proposed length greater than 22 inches, applicable codes/fees must be provided in the files. See table below for details by file type.

File Type	Field	22 < Length <= 30 (unit: inches)	Length > 30 (unit: inches)	Volume > 2 (unit: cu. Ft.)
Mail.dat	Service Type	L1	L2	L4
Mail.XML	Service Code	L1	L2	L4
Shipping Services File (SSF)	Extra Service Code	881	882	883
Indicium Creation Record (ICR) file	Extra Service Code	881	882	883

These thresholds should be parameter driven to be easily configurable. Pricing can be driven by the length code, the volume code, or both codes. For example, pricing a package with a length of 23 inches, width of 15 inches, height of 15 inches and volume of 2.99 cubic feet will be calculated by adding the fee associated with both the length and volume to the base price.

- Postage Statement Changes: All PS Forms for affected Mail Classes – New Lines in Section S
  - o S46 - Nonstandard Fee - None/Origin > 22" <= 30"
  - o S47 - Nonstandard Fee - DNDC/DSCF > 22" <= 30"
  - o S48 - Nonstandard Fee - DDU/DHub > 22" <= 30"
  - o S49 - Nonstandard Fee - None/Origin > 30"
  - o S50 - Nonstandard Fee - DNDC/DSCF > 30"
  - o S51 - Nonstandard Fee - DDU/DHub > 30"
  - o S52 - Nonstandard Fee - None/Origin > 2 Cubic Ft
  - o S53 - Nonstandard Fee - DNDC/DSCF > 2 Cubic Ft
  - o S54 - Nonstandard Fee - DDU/DHub > 2 Cubic Ft
- Mail.dat changes: See table above. .sfr record Service Type field – New values for Service Type L1, L2, L3, and L4 (to represent the Non-Standard Fees)
- Mail.XML changes: See table above. PostageStatementCreateRequest > ExtraServiceData > ServiceCode – New values for ServiceCode L1, L2, L3, and L4 (to represent the Non-Standard Fees)
- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: See table above. New Extra Service Code (ESC) values of 880, 881, 882, 883 (to represent the Non-Standard Fees)
- Indicium Creation Record (ICR) File: See table above. New Extra Service Code (ESC) values of 880, 881, 882, 883 (to represent the Non-Standard Fees)
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Competitive Domestic

[BNS66393](#)

## 6.0 Proposed Dimensional Data Non-Compliance Fee for Certain Competitive Packages

The Postal Service is considering the creation of a non-compliance fee when dimensions are required and not provided or inaccurately provided for the following competitive packages paid through Retail, Commercial, and NSA competitive Domestic (USPS Retail Ground, PME, PM, FCPS, PS/PSLW, Retail Ground LOR) packages (excluding PMOD and USPS Flat Rate packaging or Regional Rate packaging supplied by the Postal Service). This Non-Compliance Fee will apply to packages that have a length greater than 22 inches or have a package volume greater than one cubic foot and the dimensions were not provided or were incorrect. Prior to this release, dimensions were required to be provided in the manifest file when packages were greater than one cubic foot. This release requires dimensions to be provided for packages that exceed 22 inches in length. The fee will only be assessed if:

- Captured dimensions exceed defined threshold values
- Manifested dimensions provided are inaccurate and are over threshold limits

- Postage Statement Changes: No impact
- Mail.dat changes: No impact
- Mail.XML changes: No impact
- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: No impact
- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Competitive

[BNS110094](#)

## 7.0 Proposed Plus One Product for USPS Marketing Mail

The USPS is considering converting the Plus One Market Test offering to a permanent product for USPS Marketing Mail. This product must be included with the USPS Marketing Mail Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) Saturation Automation Letter mailing. At least 90% of the mailing must claim Saturation prices with the remainder allowed to be any combination of High Density and/or High Density Plus. Pallets and trays of Plus One card must be identified on the Pallet Placard as a Plus One mailing. Plus One cards will be presented in their own trays at the same time as the host mailing – separate from the host mail piece.

- Postage Statement Changes: PS Form 3602 USPS Marketing Mail Regular and Nonprofit – New lines for Plus One pieces
- Mail.dat changes: New .cqt Rate Category for Plus One (use existing value of PO). Both host piece and the Plus One piece must be represented with their own rate ingredients and piece detail information
- Mail.XML changes: New RateCategoryType for Plus One (use existing value of PO). Both host piece and the Plus One piece must be represented with their own rate ingredients and piece detail information.
- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: No impact
- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Market Dominant

[BNS66926](#)

## 8.0 Proposed Updates for USPS Tracking Plus

The USPS is considering expanding the USPS Tracking Plus service to include Market Dominant and International products. USPS Tracking Plus service is currently limited to Competitive and Domestic products. Related to this product the Market Dominants products that are under consideration are Bound Printed Matter, First Class Mail, and Media Mail. The International products that are under

consideration are Priority Mail Express International, Outbound Priority Mail International, and Outbound Single-piece First-Class Package International Service for which Electronic USPS Delivery Confirmation International Service is available, and pieces for those services for which Insurance has been purchased (not to include Global Express Guaranteed).

- Postage Statement Changes: PS Form 3700 – International Mail and PS Form 3600 FCM – First-Class Mail and Packages – Addition of line S35 USPS Tracking Plus
- Mail.dat changes:
  - o .sfr field “Service Type” to include new values “B2 = USPS Tracking Plus – Scan Retention” and “B3 = USPS Tracking Plus – Scan + Signature Retention.”
  - o .sfr new field “Service Additional Type” to be supported as A/N of 2 characters; this field will be used to represent the duration for which retention is requested.
- Mail.XML changes:
  - o “ExtraServiceData” > serviceCodeType” to include new values “B2 = USPS Tracking Plus – Scan Retention” and “B3 = USPS Tracking Plus – Scan + Signature Retention.”
  - o New values for existing field “serviceCodeSubType” to be supported; these values will be used to represent the duration for which retention is requested.
- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: No impact – SSF to use existing Service Type Codes (STCs) in combination with applicable Mail Class and Products
- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Market Dominant and International

[BNS78255](#)

## 9.0 Proposed Updates for Pending Periodicals

The USPS is considering changing how pricing is calculated for Periodicals publications which are pending approval. The proposal will result in calculating the postage based on a configured percentage of Periodicals prices (corresponding mail classes). The proposal will require a price table with each mail class and a corresponding configurable % charged of Periodicals price, this table will be published as part of the DMM 207.5.2.3.

Proposed DMM table related to % of periodicals to be calculated:

PERIODICALS	ASSOCIATED CLASS/SUBCLASS	REASON FOR ASSOCIATED CLASS/SUBCLASS	%
Periodicals Flats	Marketing Mail Flats <sup>2</sup>	Meets Flat Dimension Requirement up to 15.99 oz.	% TBD
Periodicals Letters	Marketing Mail Letters <sup>2</sup>	Meets Letter Dimension Requirement up to 15.99 oz.	% TBD
Periodicals Nonprofit Flats	Marketing Mail NP Flats <sup>2</sup>	Eligible for both Periodicals Nonprofit & Marketing Nonprofit & Meets Flat Dimension Requirement up to 15.99 oz.	% TBD
Periodicals Nonprofit Letters	Marketing Mail NP Letters <sup>2</sup>	Eligible for both Periodicals Nonprofit & Marketing Nonprofit & Meets Letter Dimension Requirement up to 15.99 oz.	% TBD
Periodicals Nonprofit Parcels	Marketing Mail NP Parcels <sup>2</sup>	Minimum of 200 pcs or 50 lbs. Parcels under 1 pound	% TBD
Periodicals Parcels	Bound Printed Matter Parcels <sup>3</sup>	Bound Publication with weight 1 lb. & over 3/4 inch thick	% TBD
Periodicals Flats	Bound Printed Matter Flats <sup>3</sup>	Bound Publication with weight 1 lb. & Meets Flat Dimension Requirement	% TBD
Periodicals Letters	First Class Letters - Single Piece <sup>4</sup>	Mailing less than 200 pieces Meets Letter Dimension Requirement	% TBD
Periodicals Flats	First Class Flats -Single Piece <sup>4</sup>	Mailing less than 200 pieces & Meets Flat Dimension Requirement	% TBD
Periodicals Parcels	First Class Parcels - Retail <sup>4</sup>	Mailing less than 200 pieces & Meets Flat Dimension Requirement	% TBD
Periodicals Parcels	Parcel Select <sup>5</sup>	Unbound Publication and exceeds 3/4" thick or weighs over 15.99 oz.	% TBD
Periodicals Parcels	Priority Mail Commercial Parcels <sup>6</sup>	Commercial Parcels weighs under 1 pound	% TBD
Periodicals Parcels	Priority Mail Commercial Parcels <sup>6</sup>	Commercial Parcels weighs over 1 pound but under 2 pounds	% TBD
Periodicals Flats	Priority Mail Commercial Flats <sup>6</sup>	Commercial Flats weighs under 1 pound	% TBD
Periodicals Flats	Priority Mail Commercial Flats <sup>6</sup>	Commercial Parcels weighs over 1 pound but under 2 pounds	% TBD

- Postage Statement Changes: PS Form 3541 Periodicals – Postage Statement will include the following updates:
  - o First page of statement for will be updated to include Part P - Total Postage While Pending
  - o New Part P — Periodicals Pending Authorization will be added, the part will allow for the mailing to identify the class of mail that is being mailed while publication authorization is pending. The postage will be calculated using a % of the mail class selected in this Part P
    - New Line P1 : Pending Postage: Total Periodicals Postage \$\_\_\_ x \_\_\_% (per DMM 207.5.2.3) = \$\_\_\_
    - New Line P2 : Pending Postage: Pending Postage (P1) \$\_\_\_ + Total Periodical Postage \$\_\_\_ = \$\_\_\_
- Mail.dat changes: No impact
- Mail.XML changes: No impact
- Shipping Services File (SSF) Changes: No impact
- Indicum Creation Record (ICR) File: No impact
- Price Change Type / Product Type: Market Dominant

BNS6097

# 10.0 Document Change Log

<i>DATE</i>	<i>SECTION</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>
<b>8/25/2021</b>	All	DRAFT Compiled & Published
<b>9/28/2021</b>	8	Added section on proposal related to Pending Periodicals9.0 PROPOSED NON-COMPLIANCE FEE FOR PACKAGES 11
<b>9/20/2021</b>	9	Added section on proposal related to Non-Compliance Fee for packages
<b>10/12/2021</b>	All	Added DEPLOYMENT: DECEMBER 26, 2021 EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 9, 2022
<b>10/12/2021</b>	4	Updated L014 to L054 for NSA only labeling list for Hub sort
<b>10/12/2021</b>	5	Removed BPM PARCELS TRANSFER TO COMPETITIVE
<b>10/12/2021</b>	6	Moved PROPOSED FEES FOR NON-STANDARD PARCEL SIZES FOR CERTAIN COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS to section 5
<b>10/12/2021</b>	6	Added PROPOSED DIMENSIONAL DATA NON-COMPLIANCE FEE FOR CERTAIN COMPETITVIE PACKAGES
<b>10/12/2021</b>	9	Added PROPOSED UPDATES FOR PENDING PERIODICALS
<b>10/12/2021</b>	10	Moved DOCUMENT CHANGE LOG to section 10
<b>10/25/2021</b>	5	Updated ESCs for Non-Standard fees