

JAN 25 2023

LABOR RELATIONS



January 23, 2023

Mr. Ivan D. Butts
President
National Association of Postal
Supervisors
1727 King Street, Suite 400
Alexandria, VA 22314-2753

Dear Ivan:

As a matter of general interest, the Postal Service will implement the elimination of sack rules for Periodical and USPS Marketing Mail flats on January 22. Mail that will be processed in a plant has to be in flat tubs (flat trays) from the mailers.

There will be a 30-day grace period following the implementation on January 22. This grace period is to allow the mailers time to modify their operations, adjust their mailing plans, and any other procedures to accommodate this change. It will also allow for receipt of mail already in transit for drop ship at the time of the implementation.

During the grace period, the Postal Service will continue to accept and process this flat volume in sacks, bundles, or flat trays without penalty or assessment. The grace period will expire February 21. At that time, mailers will be required to comply with the new rules.

Enclosed are the revisions to the Domestic Mail Manual for your review.

Please contact Bruce Nicholson at 7773 if you have questions concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Lloyd".

James Lloyd
Director

Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosure

Revise the *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service*, Domestic Mail

Manual (DMM) as follows:

***Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual
(DMM)***

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200 Commercial Letters, Cards, Flats, and Parcels

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203 Basic Postage Statement, Documentation, and Preparation Standards

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3.0 Standardized Documentation for First-Class Mail, Periodicals, USPS Marketing Mail, and Flat-Size Bound Printed Matter

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3.4 Sortation Level

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Sortation Level	Abbreviation
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[Revise the item beginning with "Merged 5-Digit" to read as follows:]

Merged 5-Digit [flat trays and pallets (Periodicals and USPS Marketing Mail flats); sacks and pallets (irregular parcels)]	M5D
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[Revise the item beginning with "Merged 5-Digit Scheme" to read as follows:]

Merged 5-Digit Scheme [flat trays and pallets (Periodicals and USPS Marketing Mail flats); sacks and pallets (irregular parcels)]	M5DS
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[Revise the item beginning with "Merged 3-Digit" to read as follows:]

Merged 3-Digit [flat trays (Periodicals flats); sacks (irregular parcels)]	M3D
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[Revise the item beginning with "SCF" to read as follows:]

SCF [flat trays and pallets (Periodicals flats and USPS Marketing Mail); sacks and pallets	SCF
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(Bound Printed Matter and irregular parcels less than 6 ounces)]

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4.0 Bundles

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[Revise the title of 4.4 to read as follows:]

4.4 Exception to Bundle Preparation—Full Letter and Flat Trays

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4.6 Address Visibility for Flats and Parcels

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[Revise the items 4.6b and 4.6c to read as follows:]

- b. Bundles placed in or on 5-digit or 5-digit scheme (L001) flat trays or pallets.
- c. Bundles placed in carrier route and 5-digit carrier routes flat trays or sacks.

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[Revise the title of 4.8 to read as follows:]

4.8 Preparing Bundles in Sacks and Flat Trays

[Revise the introductory text of 4.8 to read as follows:]

In addition to the standards in 4.5 through 4.7, mailers must prepare bundles placed in flat trays and sacks as follows:

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[Revise the title of 4.10 to read as follows:]

4.10 Additional Standards for Unsacked/Untrayed Bundles Entered at DDU

Facilities

[Revise the introductory text of 4.10 to read as follows:]

Mailers may enter unsacked, untrayed, or nonpalletized bundles of carrier route, Periodicals, or USPS Marketing Mail flats and unsacked bundles of Bound Printed Matter (BPM) flats or irregular parcels (BPM only) at destination delivery units (DDUs) if all the following conditions are met:

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4.11 Pieces with Simplified Address

[Revise the last sentence of the introductory text of 4.11 to read as follows:]

***Bundles must be secure and stable subject to weight limits in 705.8.0 if placed on pallets, and weight and height limits in 4.8 if placed in flat trays.

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5.0 Letter and Flat Trays

5.1 General Standards

[Revise the last sentence of the introductory text of 5.1 to read as follows:]

***Periodicals and USPS Marketing Mail flat-size mailings must be prepared in flat trays with green lids under 207.22.7, 207.25.5, 245.8.7, and 245.10.4.3 (see also 5.6.2j).

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5.6.2 Preparation for Flats in Flat Trays

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[Add an item (j) to read as follows:]

- j. Flat trays used in a Periodicals or USPS Marketing Mail flat-size mailing may be nested into each other on a pallet without lids and the pallet then shrink-wrapped.

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204 Barcode Standards

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3.0 Standards for Barcoded Tray Labels, Sack Labels, and Container Labels

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3.2 Specifications for Barcoded Tray and Sack Labels

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3.2.4 3-Digit Content Identifier Numbers

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Exhibit 3.2.4 3-Digit Content Identifier Numbers

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[Revise Exhibit 3.2.4 to read as follows:]

CLASS AND MAILING

CIN HUMAN-READABLE CONTENT LINE

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[Revise the text of "Per Flats – Carrier Route," "Per Flats – Barcoded," "Per Flats – Nonbarcoded," "Per Flats – Cosacked Barcoded and Nonbarcoded," and "Per Flats – Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded, and Nonbarcoded" to read as follows:]

PER Flats — Carrier Route

car. rt. sacks or flat trays — saturation	387	PER FLTS WSS ¹
car. rt. sacks or flat trays — high density	388	PER FLTS WSH ¹
car. rt. sacks or flat trays — basic	385	PER FLTS CR ¹
5-digit carrier routes sacks or flat trays	386	PER FLTS 5D CR-RTS
5-digit scheme carrier routes sacks or flat trays	371	PER FLTS CR-RTS SCH
3-digit carrier routes flat trays	351	PER FLTS 3D CR-RTS

PER Flats — Barcoded

5-digit flat trays	372	PER FLTS 5D BC
5-digit scheme flat trays	372	PER FLTS 5D SCH BC
3-digit flat trays	373	PER FLTS 3D BC
SCF flat trays	377	PER FLTS SCF BC

ADC flat trays	374	PER FLTS ADC BC
mixed ADC flat trays	375	PER FLTS BC WKG
Origin mixed ADC flat trays	381	PER FLTS WKG W FCM

PER Flats — Nonbarcoded

5-digit scheme flat trays	378	PER FLT 5D SCH NON BC
5-digit flat trays	378	PER FLTS 5D NON BC
3-digit flat trays	379	PER FLTS 3D NON BC
SCF flat trays	384	PER FLTS SCF NON BC
ADC flat trays	380	PER FLTS ADC NON BC
mixed ADC flat trays	382	PER FLTS NON BC WKG
origin mixed ADC flat trays	381	PER FLTS WKG W FCM

PER Flats — Co-trayed Barcoded and Nonbarcoded

5-digit scheme flat trays	321	PER FLT 5D SCH BC/NBC
5-digit flat trays	321	PER FLTS 5D BC/NBC
3-digit flat trays	322	PER FLTS 3D BC/NBC
SCF flat trays	329	PER FLTS SCF BC/NBC
ADC flat trays	331	PER FLTS ADC BC/NBC
mixed ADC flat trays	332	PER FLTS BC/NBC WKG
origin mixed ADC flat trays	381	PER FLTS WKG W FCM

PER Flats —

Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded, and Nonbarcoded

merged 5-digit sacks or flat trays	339	PER FLTS CR/5D
merged 5-digit scheme sacks or flat trays	349	PER FLTS CR/5D SCH
merged 3-digit flat trays	352	PER FLTS CR/5D/3D

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[Revise the text of "NEWS Flats – Carrier Route," "NEWS Flats – Barcoded," "NEWS Flats – Nonbarcoded," "NEWS Flats – Cosacked Barcoded and Nonbarcoded," and "NEWS Flats – Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded and Nonbarcoded" to read as follows:]

NEWS Flats — Carrier Route

car. rt. sacks or flat trays — saturation	487	NEWS FLTS WSS ¹
car. rt. sacks or flat trays — high density	488	NEWS FLTS WSH ¹

car. rt. sacks or flat trays — basic	485	NEWS FLTS CR ¹
5-digit carrier routes sacks or flat trays	486	NEWS FLTS 5D CR-RTS
5-digit scheme carrier routes sacks or flat trays	471	NEWS FLTS CR-RTS SCH
3-digit carrier routes flat trays	451	NEWS FLTS 3D CR-RTS
<i>NEWS Flats — Barcoded</i>		
5-digit flat trays	472	NEWS FLTS 5D BC
5-digit scheme flat trays	472	NEWS FLTS 5D SCH BC
3-digit flat trays	473	NEWS FLTS 3D BC
SCF flat trays	477	NEWS FLTS SCF BC
ADC flat trays	474	NEWS FLTS ADC BC
mixed ADC flat trays	475	NEWS FLTS BC WKG
origin mixed ADC flat trays	481	NEWS FLTS WKG W FCM
<i>NEWS Flats — Nonbarcoded</i>		
5-digit scheme flat trays BC	478	NEWS FLT 5D SCH NON
5-digit flat trays	478	NEWS FLTS 5D NON BC
3-digit flat trays	479	NEWS FLTS 3D NON BC
SCF flat trays	484	NEWS FLTS SCF NON BC
ADC flat trays	480	NEWS FLTS ADC NON BC
mixed ADC flat trays	482	NEWS FLTS NON BC WKG
origin mixed ADC flat trays	481	NEWS FLTS WKG W FCM
<i>NEWS Flats — Co-trayed Barcoded and Nonbarcoded</i>		
5-digit scheme flat trays BC/NBC	421	NEWS FLT 5D SCH
5-digit flat trays	421	NEWS FLTS 5D BC/NBC
3-digit flat trays	422	NEWS FLTS 3D BC/NBC
SCF and origin/entry SCF flat trays	429	NEWS FLTS SCF BC/NBC
ADC flat trays	431	NEWS FLTS ADC BC/NBC
mixed ADC flat trays	432	NEWS FLTS BC/NBC WKG
origin mixed ADC flat trays	481	NEWS FLTS WKG W FCM
<i>NEWS Flats —</i>		

Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded, and Nonbarcoded

merged 5-digit	439	NEWS FLTS CR/5D
merged 5-digit scheme	449	NEWS FLTS CR/5D SCH
merged 3-digit flat trays	452	NEWS FLTS CR/5D/3D
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[Revise the text of "Enhanced Carrier Route Flats – Nonautomation," "MKT Flats – Cosacked Automation and Nonautomation," "MKT Flats – Merged Carrier Route, Automation, and Presorted," "MKT Flats – Automation," "MKT Flats – Nonautomation," and "MKT Flats – Residual Pieces Subject to FCM Single-Piece Prices" to read as follows:]

Enhanced Carrier Route Flats — Nonautomation

saturation price sacks or flat trays	587	MKT FLTS ECRWSS ¹
high density or high density plus price sacks or flat trays	588	MKT FLTS ECRWSH ¹
basic price sacks or flat trays	589	MKT FLTS ECRLOT ¹
5-digit carrier routes sacks or flat trays	586	MKT FLTS CR-RTS
5-digit scheme car. rts. sacks or flat trays	529	MKT FLTS CR-RTS SCH

MKT Flats — Co-trayed Automation and Nonautomation

5-digit scheme flat trays	521	MKT FLT 5D SCH BC/NBC
5-digit flat trays	521	MKT FLTS 5D BC/NBC
3-digit and origin/entry 3-digit flat trays	522	MKT FLTS 3D BC/NBC
ADC flat trays	531	MKT FLTS ADC BC/NBC
mixed ADC flat trays	532	MKT FLTS BC/NBC WKG

MKT Flats —

Merged Carrier Route, Automation, and Presorted

merged 5-digit	539	MKT FLTS CR/5D
merged 5-digit scheme	549	MKT FLTS CR/5D SCH

MKT Flats — Automation

5-digit flat trays	572	MKT FLTS 5D BC
5-digit scheme flat trays	572	MKT FLTS 5D SCH BC
3-digit flat trays	573	MKT FLTS 3D BC
ADC flat trays	574	MKT FLTS ADC BC

mixed ADC flat trays	575	MKT FLTS BC WKG
MKT Flats — Nonautomation		
5-digit scheme flat trays	578	MKT FLT 5D SCH NON BC
5-digit flat trays	578	MKT FLTS 5D NON BC
3-digit flat trays	579	MKT FLTS 3D NON BC
ADC flat trays	580	MKT FLTS ADC NON BC
mixed ADC flat trays	582	MKT FLTS NON BC WKG

MKT Flats — Residual Pieces Subject to FCM Single-Piece Prices

residual flat trays	582	MKT FLTS WKG
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PACKAGE SERVICES

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BPM Flats — Co-sacked Barcoded and Presorted

[Revise the text of "BPM – Co-sacked Barcoded and Presorted" to read as follows:]

5-digit scheme sacks BC/NBC	648	PSVC FLTS 5D SCH
5-digit sacks	648	PSVC FLTS 5D BC/NBC
3-digit sacks	661	PSVC FLTS 3D BC/NBC
SCF sacks	667	PSVC FLTS SCF BC/NBC
ADC sacks	668	PSVC FLTS ADC BC/NBC
mixed ADC sacks	669	PSVC FLTS BC/NBC WKG

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207 Periodicals

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12.0 Nonbarcoded (Presorted) Eligibility

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12.3 Prices—In-County

12.3.1 Five-Digit Prices

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[Revise the text of 12.3.1b to read as follows:]

- b. Nonletter-size pieces in 5-digit scheme bundles and 5-digit bundles of six or more addressed pieces each, placed in 5-digit scheme flat trays, or 5-digit flat trays, or palletized under 705.8.0 or 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0.

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12.3.2 Three-Digit Prices

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[Revise the text of 12.3.2b to read as follows:]

- b. Nonletter-size pieces in 5-digit scheme, 5-digit, 3-digit scheme, and 3-digit bundles of six or more addressed pieces each, placed in 3-digit flat trays; or 3-digit scheme and 3-digit bundles of six or more addressed pieces each, prepared under 705.8.0 or 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0.

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13.0 Carrier Route Eligibility

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13.2 Sorting

13.2.1 Basic Standards

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[Revise the text of 13.2.1b(2) and 13.2.1b(3) to read as follows:]

2. Bundles in carrier route, 5-digit scheme carrier routes, 5-digit carrier routes sacks/flat trays, or 3-digit carrier routes flat trays under 23.0. Sacks/flat trays may be palletized under 705.8.0.
3. Unsacked/untrayed bundles entered at a destination delivery unit under 23.4.2 and 29.6.5.

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18.0 General Mail Preparation

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18.4 Mail Preparation Terms

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[Revise the text of 18.4j to read as follows:]

- j. A 5-digit scheme carrier routes sort for carrier route Periodicals flats prepared in sacks/flat trays and irregular parcels prepared in sacks or as bundles on pallets yields a 5-digit scheme carrier routes sack/flat tray or pallet for those 5-digit ZIP Codes listed in L001 and 5-digit carrier routes sacks/flat trays or pallets for other areas. The 5-digit ZIP Codes in each scheme are treated as one presort destination. Sacks/flat trays or pallets prepared for a 5-digit scheme carrier

routes destination that contain carrier route bundles for only one of the schemed

5-digit areas are still considered to be sorted to 5-digit scheme carrier routes. Preparation of 5-digit scheme carrier routes sacks/flat trays or pallets must be done for all 5-digit scheme destinations.

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[Revise the text of 18.4s to read as follows:]

- s. An *origin/entry SCF flat tray* contains all 5-digit and 3-digit bundles (regardless of quantity) for the SCF in whose service area the mail is verified. At the mailer's option, such a flat tray may be prepared for the SCF area of each entry Post Office. This presort level applies only to nonletter-size Periodicals prepared in flat trays.

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[Revise the text of 18.4y to read as follows:]

- y. A "*logical presort destination*" represents the total number of pieces that are eligible for a specific presort level based on the required sortation, but which might not be contained in one bundle or in one container (flat tray, sack or pallet) due to preparation requirements or the piece size. For example, there may be 42 mailpieces for ZIP Code 43112 forming a "logical" 5-digit bundle, and they are prepared in three physical 5-digit bundles because of the weight and height restrictions on bundles.

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20.0 Sacks and Trays

20.1 Basic Standards

20.1.1 General

Mailings must be prepared in letter trays (letters), flat trays (flats) under 22.7 and 25.5, or sacks (carrier route, 5-digit scheme cr-rt and 5-digit cr-rt flats and all periodicals

parcels). Palletized mail is subject to 705.8.0. See 203.5.0 and 203.6.0 for tray and sack standards.

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22.0 Preparing Nonbarcoded (Presorted) Periodicals

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22.4 Bundles With Fewer Than Six Pieces

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[Revise the text of 22.4a to read as follows:]

- a. Place bundles in only 5-digit, 3-digit, and SCF flat trays that contain at least 24 pieces, or in origin/entry SCF flat trays, as appropriate.

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[Revise the title of 22.5 to read as follows:]

22.5 Letter Tray Preparation—Letter-Size Pieces

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[Revise the title of 22.6 to read as follows:]

22.6 Sack Preparation—Parcels

For mailing jobs that also contain a barcoded mailing, see [22.1.2](#). For other mailing jobs, preparation sequence, sack size, and labeling:

[Delete item 22.6a in its entirety and renumber the remaining items as (a) through (g) respectively; revise the new items a through g to read as follows:]

- a. *5-digit*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.
 1. Line 1: use city, state, and 5-digit ZIP Code on mail (see [21.0](#) for overseas military mail).
 2. Line 2: “PER” or NEWS” as applicable; followed by “IRREG” as applicable;

followed by "5D".

- b. *3-digit*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.
 - 1. Line 1: use [L002](#), Column A.
 - 2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “IRREG” as applicable; followed by “3D’.
- c. *SCF*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.
 - 1. Line 1: use [L002](#), Column C.
 - 2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “IRREG” as applicable; followed by “SCF’.
- d. *Origin/entry SCF*, required for the SCF of the origin (verification) office, optional for the SCF of an entry office other than the origin office, (no minimum); for Line 1 use [L002](#), Column C.
 - 1. Line 1: use [L002](#), Column C.
 - 2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “IRREG” as applicable; followed by “SCF’.
- e. *ADC*, required at 72 pieces, optional at 24 pieces minimum.
 - 1. Line 1: use [L004](#), Column B.
 - 2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by or “IRREG” as applicable; followed by “ADC’.
- f. *Origin mixed ADC*, required; no minimum; for any remaining bundles for destinations in [L201](#), Column B, corresponding to the origin ZIP Code in Column A.
 - 1. Line 1: Use [L201](#), Column C.
 - 2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable, followed by “IRREG” as applicable, followed by “WKG W FCM.”
- g. *Mixed ADC*, required (no minimum).

1. Line 1: Use [L009](#), Column B.

2. Line 2: “PER” or “NEWS” as applicable; followed by “IRREG” as applicable; followed by “WKG” for irregular parcels.

[Revise the title of 22.7 to read as follows:]

22.7 Tray Preparation—Flat-Size Pieces

[Revise the Introductory text of 22.7 to read as follows:]

Mailers must place flat sized pieces in flat trays (see 203.5.6) instead of sacks unless prepared as direct carrier route, 5-digit scheme carrier route, or 5-digit carrier route (see 23.4.1 [and](#) 705.9.0 [or](#) 705.10.0). Mailers also may prepare nonmachinable (see 26.0) flats in flat trays. Bundling is not permitted unless a bundle is more finely presorted than the tray’s presort destination. The trays are subject to a container charge, and any bundles are subject to a bundle charge. Tray preparation, sequence, and labeling:***

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23.0 Preparing Carrier Route Periodicals

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23.6 Bundles With Fewer Than Six Pieces

[Revise the text of 23.6a to read as follows:]

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- a. Place bundles in only 5-digit scheme carrier routes and 5-digit carrier routes sacks/flat trays that contain at least 24 pieces, or 3-digit carrier routes or merged 3-digit flat trays that contain at least one six-piece carrier route bundle.

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23.7 Multi-Box Section Bundles—Optional Preparation

[Revise the text of 23.7e to read as follows:]

- e. Place bundles in existing carrier-route flat trays, 5-Digit scheme carrier routes, or 5-Digit carrier routes sacks/flat trays.

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25.0 Preparing Flat-Size Barcoded (Automation) Periodicals

25.1 Basic Standards

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25.1.7 Exception—Barcoded and Nonbarcoded Flats on Pallets

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[Revise the text of 25.1.7b and 25.1.7c to read as follows:]

- b. Mailing jobs prepared entirely in flat trays and claiming this exception must be cobundled under 705.11.0.
- c. As an alternative to 705.9.0 through 705.13.0, if a portion of the job is prepared as palletized barcoded flats, the nonbarcoded portion may be prepared as palletized flats and paid at nonbarcoded machinable and carrier route prices. The nonbarcoded price pieces that cannot be placed on ADC or finer pallets may be prepared as flats in flat trays and paid at the nonbarcoded prices.

25.1.8 Bundles With Fewer Than Six Pieces

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[Revise the text of 25.1.8a to read as follows:]

- a. Place 5-digit and 3-digit bundles in only 5-digit scheme, 5-digit, 3-digit, and SCF flat trays, as appropriate, that contain at least 24 pieces, or in merged 3-digit flat trays that contain at least one six-piece carrier route bundle, or in origin/entry SCF flat trays.

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[Revise the text of 25.1.8c to read as follows:]

- c. Place 5-digit scheme and 3-digit scheme bundles in only 5-digit scheme, 3-digit, and SCF flat trays, as appropriate, that contain at least 24 pieces, or in merged 3-digit flat trays that contain at least one six-piece carrier route bundle, or in

origin/entry SCF flat trays.

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[Revise the title of 25.1.9 to read as follows:]

25.1.9 Cotraying and Cobundling With Nonbarcoded and Carrier Route Price Mail

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[Revise the text of 25.1.9b and 25.1.9c to read as follows:]

- b. If the mailing job contains a machinable barcoded and nonbarcoded mailing, then it must be prepared under the cotraying standards in 705.9.0. Machinable barcoded and nonbarcoded pieces may be cobundled under the standards in 705.11.0.
- c. If the mailing job contains a carrier route mailing and a machinable barcoded mailing, then it must be separately trayed under 23.0 and 25.0 or prepared using the merged flat tray option under 705.10.0.

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240 Commercial Mail USPS Marketing Mail

243 Prices and Eligibility

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5.0 Additional Eligibility Standards for Nonautomation USPS Marketing Mail

Letters, Flats, and Presorted USPS Marketing Mail Parcels

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5.6 Nonautomation Price Application – Flats

5.6.1 5-Digit Prices for Flats

[Revise item a to read as follows:]

In a 5-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces, or 15 or more pieces, as applicable; properly placed in a 5-digit/scheme flat tray (see full flat tray 245.1.4).

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[Revise item c to read as follows:]

- c. In a 5-digit bundle of 10 or more pieces, or 15 or more pieces, as applicable; properly placed in a merged 5-digit/scheme or 5-digit flat tray under 705.10.0.

5.6.2 3-Digit Prices for Flats

[Revise item a to read as follows:]

- a. In a 5-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces, or 15 or more pieces, as applicable, or in a 3-digit/scheme bundle of 10 or more pieces; properly placed in a 3-digit flat tray (see full flat tray 245.1.4).

5.6.3 ADC Prices for Flats

[Revise items a and b to read as follows:]

- a. In a 5-digit/scheme, 3-digit/scheme, or ADC bundle of 10 or more pieces properly placed in an ADC flat tray (see full flat tray 245.1.4).
- b. In an optional 3-digit/scheme origin/entry flat tray.

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5.6.4 Mixed ADC Prices for Flats

[Revise the text of 5.6.4 to read as follows:]

[Mixed ADC prices apply to flat-size pieces in bundles that do not qualify for 5-digit, 3-digit, or ADC prices; placed in mixed ADC flat trays or on ASF, NDC, or mixed NDC pallets under 705.8.0.

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6.3 Basic Price Enhanced Carrier Route Standards

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6.3.4 Basic Carrier Route Bundles on a 5-digit/Direct Container (Basic-CR Bundles/Container) Price Eligibility-Flats

[Revise the text of 6.3.4 to read as follows:]

The Basic-CR Bundles/Container discount applies to each piece in a carrier route

bundle of 10 or more pieces that are palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0,

or 705.13.0 on a 5-digit carrier route or 5-digit scheme carrier route pallet entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU entry or in a carrier route sack or flat tray under 245.9.7a or 203.5.8 and entered at the DDU.

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6.5 High Density and High Density Plus (Enhanced Carrier Route) Standards - Flats

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6.5.3 High Density Carrier Route Bundles on a 5-digit/Direct Container (High Density-CR Bundles/Container Discount Eligibility)–Flats

[Revise the text of 6.5.3 to read as follows:]

The High Density-CR Bundles/Container discount applies to 125 or more High Density-eligible pieces that are palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0 on a 5-digit carrier route, 5-digit carrier routes, or 5-digit scheme carrier route pallet entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU entry or in a carrier route sack or flat tray under 245.9.7a or 203.5.8 and entered at the DDU.

6.5.4 High Density Plus Carrier Route Bundles on a 5-digit/Direct Container (High Density Plus-CR Bundles/Container Discount Eligibility)–Flats

[Revise the text of 6.5.4 to read as follows:]

The High Density Plus-CR Bundles/Container discount applies to 300 or more High Density Plus-eligible pieces that are palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0 on a 5-digit carrier route, 5-digit carrier routes, or 5-digit scheme carrier route pallet entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU entry or in a carrier route sack or flat tray under 245.9.7a or 203.5.8 and entered at the DDU.

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6.7 Saturation Enhanced Carrier Route Standards – Flats

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6.7.2 Saturation Prices for Flats

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[Revise item c to read as follows:]

- c. Placed in a merged 5-digit scheme or merged 5-digit flat tray.

[Add new item d to read as follows:]

- d. Placed in a 5-digit scheme carrier routes or 5-digit carrier routes sack/flat tray.

6.7.3 Saturation–(including EDDM) Carrier Route Bundles on a 5-digit/Direct Container (Saturation–CR Bundles/Container Discount Eligibility)–Flats

[Revise the text of 6.7.3 to read as follows:]

The Saturation-CR Bundles/Container discount applies to at least 90 percent or more of the active residential addresses or 75 percent or more of the total number of active possible delivery addresses on each carrier route that are palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0, or 705.13.0 on a 5-digit carrier route, 5-digit carrier routes, or 5-digit scheme carrier route pallet entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU entry or in a carrier route sack or flat tray under 245.9.7a or 203.5.8 and entered at the DDU.

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245 Mail Preparation

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1.0 General Information for Mail Preparation

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1.3.2 Flats

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[Revise item c. to read as follows:]

- c. 5-digit scheme (bundles and flat trays) for flats meeting the automation-

compatibility standards in 201.4.0: the ZIP Code in the delivery address on all

pieces is one of the 5-digit ZIP Code areas processed by the USPS as a single scheme, as shown in L007.

* * * * *

[Revise item e. to read as follows:]

- e. *Merged 5-digit flat trays:* the carrier route bundles and/or automation price 5-digit bundles and/or Presorted price 5-digit bundles in a flat tray are all for a 5-digit ZIP Code that has an "A" or "C" indicator in the Carrier Route Indicators field in the City State Product that allows combining carrier route price bundles with automation price 5-digit bundles and Presorted price 5-digit bundles in the same 5-digit container.

* * * * *

[Revise item g. to read as follows:]

- g. *Merged 5-digit scheme flat tray:* the 5-digit ZIP Codes on pieces in carrier route bundles and/or automation price 5-digit bundles and/or Presorted price 5-digit bundles in a flat tray are all for 5-digit ZIP Codes that are part of a single scheme as shown in L001, and the automation price 5-digit bundles and/or the Presorted price 5-digit bundles also are for 5-digit ZIP Codes that have an "A" or "C" indicator in the Carrier Route Indicators field in the City State Product that allows combining carrier route bundles with automation price 5-digit bundles and Presorted price 5-digit bundles in the same 5-digit container.

* * * * *

[Revise item q. to read as follows:]

- q. *Residual pieces/bundles/flat trays:* contain material remaining after completion of a presort sequence. Residual mail lacks the volume set by standard to require or allow preparation to a particular destination, and usually does not qualify for a

presort price.

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1.4 Preparation Definitions and Instructions

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[Add new item (e) to read as follows; renumber current items (e) through (y) as (f) through (z):]

- e. A full flat tray is one that is physically full. Although a specific minimum volume is required (at least a single stack of mail lying flat on the bottom of the tray and filling the tray to the bottom of the handholds) before a tray may or must be prepared to the corresponding presort destination, trays must be filled with additional available pieces (up to the reasonable capacity of the tray) when standards require preparation of full trays.

[Revise new item f. to read as follows:]

- f. A full sack is defined in the standards for the class and price claimed.

* * * * *

[Revise new item h. to read as follows:]

- h. A 5-digit scheme sort for flats meeting the automation-compatibility standards in 201.3.0 yields 5-digit scheme bundles for those 5-digit ZIP Codes identified in L007 and 5-digit bundles for other ZIP Codes. When standards require 5-digit/scheme sort, mailers must prepare all possible 5-digit scheme bundles and flat trays of flats, then prepare all possible 5-digit bundles and flat trays. The 5-digit ZIP Codes in each scheme are treated as a single presort destination subject to a single minimum volume, with no further separation required. Bundles prepared for a 5-digit scheme destination that contain pieces for only one of the schemed 5-digit ZIP Codes are still considered 5-digit scheme sorted and are labeled accordingly. Bundles must be labeled using an optional endorsement line

(OEL) under 203.7.0 or with a red "5 SCH" bundle label. Bundles are placed in

appropriate containers using the OEL "label to" 5-digit ZIP Code or using L007 column B.

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[Revise new items k. through m. to read as follows:]

- k. *A merged 5-digit sort for USPS Marketing Mail flats prepared in flat trays yields merged 5-digit flat trays that contain carrier route bundles and/or automation price 5-digit bundles, and/or Presorted price 5-digit bundles that are all for a 5-digit ZIP Code that has an "A" or "C" indicator in the Carrier Route Indicators field in the City State Product that allows combining carrier route bundles, automation price 5-digit bundles, and Presorted price 5-digit bundles in the same 5-digit flat tray or pallet. The merged 5-digit sort is optional for USPS Marketing Mail flats prepared in flat trays. Flat trays prepared for a merged 5-digit destination that contain only a single price level of bundle(s) (only carrier route bundle(s) or only automation price 5-digit bundle(s) or only Presorted price 5-digit bundle(s)) or that contain only two price levels of bundle(s) are still considered to be merged 5-digit sorted and are labeled accordingly. If preparation of merged 5-digit flat trays is performed, it must be done for all 5-digit ZIP Code destinations with an "A" or "C" indicator in the Carrier Route Indicators field in the City State Product that allows combining carrier route bundles, automation price 5-digit bundles, and Presorted price 5-digit bundles in the same 5-digit container.*
- l. *A merged 5-digit sort for USPS Marketing Mail flats prepared as bundles on pallets yields merged 5-digit pallets that contain carrier route bundles and noncarrier route 5-digit bundles (automation price 5-digit bundles and/or Presorted price 5-digit bundles). The merged 5-digit sort is optional for USPS Marketing Mail flats prepared in flat trays under 705.10.0. Flat trays or pallets*

prepared for a merged 5-digit destination that contain only a single price level of

bundle(s) (only carrier route bundle(s) or only automation price 5-digit bundle(s) or only Presorted price 5-digit bundle(s)) or only two price levels of bundle(s) are still considered to be merged 5-digit sorted and must be labeled accordingly.

m. *A merged 5-digit scheme sort for USPS Marketing Mail flats prepared in flat trays under 705.10.0 yields merged 5-digit scheme flat trays that contain carrier route bundles and noncarrier route 5-digit bundles (automation price 5-digit bundles and/or Presorted price 5-digit bundles) for those 5-digit ZIP Codes that are part of a single scheme as shown in L001. Flat trays prepared for a merged 5-digit scheme destination that contain only a single price level of bundle(s) (only carrier route bundle(s) or only automation price 5-digit bundle(s) or only presorted price 5-digit bundle(s)), or only two price levels of bundle(s), or bundles for only one of the schemed 5-digit ZIP Codes are still considered to be merged 5-digit scheme sorted and must be labeled accordingly. If preparation of merged 5-digit scheme flat trays is performed, it must be done for all 5-digit scheme destinations in L001.*

* * * * *

[Revise new item y. to read as follows:]

y. A *“logical” presort destination* represents the total number of pieces that are eligible for a specific presort level based on the required sortation, but which might not be contained in a single bundle or in a single container (flat tray, sack, or pallet) due to applicable preparation requirements or the size of the individual pieces. For example, there may be 42 mailpieces for ZIP Code 43112 forming a USPS Marketing Mail *“logical”* 5-digit bundle, and they are prepared in three physical 5-digit bundles because of the applicable weight and height restrictions on bundles. For pallets, 2,800 pounds of mail may be destined to an SCF

destination, and these would form the "logical" SCF pallet, but the mail is placed

on two physical SCF pallets each weighing 1,400 pounds because of the 2,200 pound maximum pallet weight requirement.

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3.0 Letter Trays, Flat Trays, and Sacks

[Revise the second sentence of 3.0 to read as follows:]

*** Flat mailings must be prepared in flat trays or sacks (carrier route, 5-digit scheme carrier route and 5-digit carrier route only) except when permitted to be prepared in letter trays under other applicable standards in this section. ***

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8.0 Preparing Nonautomation Flats

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8.1 Basic Standards

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[Revise the text of 8.1b2 to read as follows:]

2. Unless excepted by standard, all pieces must be in the flat-size processing category and must be prepared in flat trays, sacks or on pallets. Certain flat-size pieces may be prepared in letter trays under 3.0.

8.4 Loose Packing

[Revise the text to read as follows:]

District managers may authorize loose packing of unbundled pieces in flat trays if no pieces in a flat tray would be more finely sorted if bundled. Pieces must be faced and packed to remain oriented in transit. Requests for loose packing must be made in advance through the Post Office of mailing.

8.5 Required Traying