



September 8, 2022

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 revise *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM)* in various sections to remove references to the Flat Sequencing System (FSS) scheme preparation effective November 7, 2022. The Postal Service is discontinuing the FSS scheme preparation and is revising the DMM to remove the FSS scheme preparation standards.

In addition, the Postal Service will also update Quick Service Guide (QSG) 203, *Optional Information Lines*, 240f, *Commercial - USPS Marketing Mail Automation Flats*, and 260a, *Commercial - Bound Printed Matter Flats*, to remove FSS scheme preparation references.

Enclosed is the Postal Bulletin article on the subject for your review.

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

Sincerely,

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

James Lloyd  
Director (A)  
Labor Relations Policies and Programs

Enclosure

**DMM Revision:**

**FSS Scheme Preparation Discontinued**

Effective November 7, 2022, the Postal Service™ will revise *Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®)* in various sections to remove the Flat Sequencing System (FSS) scheme preparation.

In the July 14, 2022, *Postal Bulletin* (22602) the Postal Service announced extensive changes to several labeling lists including labeling list L006. As a result of these changes the Postal Service is discontinuing the FSS scheme preparation and is revising the DMM to remove the FSS scheme preparation standards.

In addition, the Postal Service will also update Quick Service Guide (QSG) 203, *Optional Information Lines*, 240f, *Commercial - USPS Marketing Mail Automation Flats*, and 260a, *Commercial - Bound Printed Matter Flats*, to remove FSS scheme preparation references.

If you have any questions, or need support, please contact your local BMEU or the MSSC at 1-877-672-0007 or email [MSSC@usps.gov](mailto:MSSC@usps.gov).

Although this revision will not be published in the DMM until November 7, 2022, these standards are effective immediately.

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

**Manual (DMM)**

\* \* \* \* \*

**200 Commercial Mail Letters, Flats, and Parcels**

\* \* \* \* \*

**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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#### 3.2 Format and Content

For First-Class Mail, Periodicals, USPS Marketing Mail, and Bound Printed Matter, standardized documentation includes:

\* \* \* \* \*

c. For mail in trays or sacks, list these required elements:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise item c4 by deleting the second sentence referencing FSS pieces.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

### 7.0 Optional Endorsement Lines (OELs)

#### 7.1 OEL Use

##### 7.1.1 Basic Standards

*[Revise the first sentence of 7.1.1 to read as follows:]*

An optional endorsement line (OEL) may be used to label bundles instead of applying pressure-sensitive bundle labels or facing slips to the top piece of bundles including the correct ZIP code listed in Column B of L006, as described in Exhibit 7.1.1. \*\*\*

##### Exhibit 7.1.1 OEL Formats

*[Delete the following FSS related line items from Exhibit 7.1.1:*

*Carrier Route—basic FSS \*\*\*\*\* SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSC*

*Carrier Route—High density FSS \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSB*

Carrier Route—Periodicals Saturation FSS \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSH  
 ECR—High Density Plus FSS \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSA  
 Carrier Route FSS—Bound Printed Matter \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSC  
 5-Digit (Nonautomation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSE  
 5-Digit Scheme (Automation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSD  
 3-Digit (Nonautomation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSG  
 3-Digit Scheme (Automation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-Digit 12345 FSSF ]  
 \* \* \* \* \*

**Additional required human-readable text for use with combined mailings of USPS**

**Marketing Mail and Periodical flats:**

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete the following FSS related line items from Exhibit 7.1.1 under "Additional required human-readable text...":*

5-Digit Scheme (Automation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSD COMAIL  
 5-Digit (Nonautomation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSE COMAIL  
 3-Digit (Automation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSF COMAIL  
 3-Digit (Nonautomation FSS flats) \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSG COMAIL  
 Carrier Route high density plus (FSS flats) \*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSA COMAIL  
 Carrier Route high density (FSS flats) \*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345 FSSB COMAIL .]  
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**204 Barcode Standards**

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

\* \* \* \* \*

**3.2 Specifications for Barcoded Tray and Sack Labels**

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### 3.2.4 3-Digit Content Identifier Numbers

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Exhibit 3.2.4 3-Digit Content Identifier Numbers

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Periodicals (PER)

\* \* \* \* \*

##### *PER Flats —*

##### *Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded, and Nonbarcoded*

*[Delete the "FSS scheme" and "FSS facility" line items.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

##### *NEWS Flats —*

##### *Merged Carrier Route, Barcoded, and Nonbarcoded*

*[Delete the "FSS scheme" and "FSS facility" line items.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

#### USPS MARKETING MAIL

\* \* \* \* \*

##### *MKT Flats —*

##### *Merged Carrier Route, Automation, and Presorted*

*[Delete the "FSS scheme" and "FSS facility" line items.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Package Services

\* \* \* \* \*

**BPM Flats — Co-sacked Barcoded and Presorted**

*[Delete the “FSS scheme” and “FSS facility” line items.]*

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**207 Periodicals**

\* \* \* \* \*

**12.0 Nonbarcoded (Presorted) Eligibility**

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**12.2 Prices—Outside-County**

Outside-County nonbarcoded (Presorted) prices are based on the following criteria:

*[Revise the last sentence of item a to read as follows:]*

- a. \*\*\* The presort level of the piece is based primarily on the bundle level of the piece, except the presort level of pieces loose in trays is based on the tray level.

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

- b. Bundle prices are based on the bundle and container sortation level.

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

- c. Container prices are based on the type of container (tray, sack, or pallet), the level of sortation of the container and where the container is entered.

**12.3 Prices—In-County**

**12.3.1 Five-Digit Prices**

5-digit prices apply to:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item c in its entirety.]*

**12.3.2 Three-Digit Prices**

3-digit prices apply to:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item c in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **13.0 Carrier Route Eligibility**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **13.2 Sorting**

#### **13.2.1 Basic Standards**

\*\*\* Carrier route prices apply to copies that are prepared in carrier route bundles of six or more addressed pieces each, subject to these standards:

\* \* \* \* \*

b. *Nonletter-size mailings.* Carrier route prices apply to carrier route bundles that are sorted in one of the following ways:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item b4 in its entirety.]*

#### **13.2.2 Sequencing Requirements**

*[Revise the text of 13.2.2 to read as follows:]*

Basic carrier route mail must be prepared either in carrier walk sequence or in line-of-travel (LOT) sequence according to USPS LOT schemes (23.8). For high density and saturation pieces, see 13.3.1.

### **13.3 Walk-Sequence Prices**

#### **13.3.1 Eligibility**

*[Revise the last sentence of 13.3.1 to read as follows:]*

\*\*\* High density and saturation mailings must be prepared in carrier walk sequence according to USPS schemes see 23.8.

\* \* \* \* \*

**14.0 Barcoded (Automation) Eligibility**

\* \* \* \* \*

**14.4 Prices—In-County**

**14.4.1 Five-Digit Prices**

5-digit automation prices apply to:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item c in its entirety.]*

**14.4.2 Three-Digit Prices**

3-digit automation prices apply to:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item c in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

**17.0 Documentation**

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**17.4 Detailed Zone Listing for Periodicals**

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**17.4.3 Zone Abbreviations**

Use the actual price name or the authorized zone abbreviation in the listings in 17.3 and 17.4.2.

\* \* \* \* \*



*[Delete the FSS line item under 17.4.3.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

**18.0 General Mail Preparation**

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**18.3 Presort Terms**

Terms used for presort levels are defined as follows:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item c and renumber items d through u as items c through t.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 18.5, FSS Preparation, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 29.5, Destination Flat Sequencing System (DFSS) Facility Entry, in its entirety and renumber 29.6 as 29.5.]*

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**240 Commercial Mail USPS Marketing Mail**

**243 Prices and Eligibility**

\* \* \* \* \*

**5.0 Additional Eligibility Standards for Nonautomation USPS Marketing Mail**

**Letters, Flats, and Presorted USPS Marketing Mail Parcels**

\* \* \* \* \*

**5.6 Nonautomation Price Application – Flats**

**5.6.1 5-Digit Prices for Flats**

The 5-digit price applies to flat-size pieces:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item d in its entirety.]*

### **5.6.2 3-Digit Prices for Flats**

The 3-digit price applies to flat-size pieces:

*[Delete item c in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **6.0 Additional Eligibility Standards for Enhanced Carrier Route USPS Marketing Mail Letters and Flats**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **6.3 Basic Price Enhanced Carrier Route Standards**

#### **6.3.1 Sequencing**

*[Revise the text of 6.3.1 to read as follows:]*

All pieces mailed at basic prices must be prepared in walk sequence or in line-of-travel (LOT) sequence according to LOT schemes prescribed by the USPS (see 245.9.9 and 245.9.10).,

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **6.3.3 Basic Price Eligibility - Flats**

Basic prices apply to each piece in a carrier route bundle of 10 or more pieces that is:

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

- a. Palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0, 705.13.0.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **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 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 tub under 245.9.3 and entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

**6.5.1 Basic Eligibility Standards for High Density and High Density Plus Prices**

All flat-size pieces mailed at high density prices must:

*{Revise the text of item a to read as follows:}*

- a. Be prepared in walk sequence according to schemes prescribed by the USPS (see 245.9.9).

\* \* \* \* \*

**6.5.2 High Density and High Density Plus Prices for Flats**

High density or high density plus prices apply to each piece meeting the density standards in 6.5.1 or in a carrier route bundle of 10 or more pieces that is:

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

- a. Palletized under 705.8.0, 705.10.0, 705.12.0, 705.13.0.

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete item e in its entirety.]*

**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 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 tub under 245.9.3 and entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or 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 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 tub under 245.9.3 and entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU.

\* \* \* \* \*

**6.7 Saturation Enhanced Carrier Route Standards - Flats**

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**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 on a 5-digit carrier route, 5-digit carrier routes, or 5-digit scheme carrier route pallet entered at the origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU entry, or in a carrier route sack or tub under 245.9.3 and entered at an Origin (None), DNDC, DSCF, or DDU.

\* \* \* \* \*

### **7.0 Eligibility Standards for Automation USPS Marketing Mail**

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### **7.5 Price Application for Automation Flats**

Automation prices apply to each piece properly sorted into qualifying groups:

*[Revise the text of items a and b to read as follows:]*

- a. The 5-digit price applies to flat-size pieces in a 5-digit/scheme bundle or 15 or more pieces, as applicable.
- b. The 3-digit price applies to flat-size pieces in a 3-digit/scheme bundle.

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## **245 Mail Preparation**

### **1.0 General Information for Mail Preparation**

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*[Delete 1.6, FSS Preparation, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **8.0 Preparing Nonautomation Flats**

#### **8.1 Basic Standards**

All mailings and all pieces in each mailing at Regular USPS Marketing Mail and Nonprofit USPS Marketing Mail nonautomation prices are subject to specific preparation standards in 8.2 through 8.9 and to these general standards (automation price mailings must be prepared under 10.0):

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise the text of item d to read as follows:]*

d. Sortation determines price eligibility as specified in 243.5.0.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **9.0 Preparing Enhanced Carrier Route Flats**

### **9.1 Basic Standards**

All mailings and all pieces in each mailing at Enhanced Carrier Route USPS Marketing Mail and Nonprofit Enhanced Carrier Route USPS Marketing Mail nonautomation prices are subject to specific preparation standards in 9.2 through 9.7 and to these general standards:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Revise the first sentence of item d to read as follows:]*

d. All pieces in the mailing must meet the specific sortation and preparation standards in 9.0 or the palletization standards in 705.8.0. \*\*\*

*[Revise item e to read as follows:]*

e. Sortation determines price eligibility as specified in 243.5.0.

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## **246 Enter and Deposit**

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**4.0 Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) Entry**

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**4.2 Eligibility**

\* \* \* \* \*

**4.2.2 Flats**

Pieces in a mailing that meets the standards in 2.0 and 4.0 are eligible for the DSCF price, as follows:

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete items c and d in their entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 6.0, Destination Flat Sequencing System (DFSS) Facility Entry, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

**260 Commercial Mail Bound Printed Matter**

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**265 Mail Preparation**

**1.0 General Information for Mail Preparation**

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 1.6, FSS Preparation, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

**266 Enter and Deposit**

\* \* \* \* \*

**5.0 Destination Sectional Center Facility (DSCF) Entry**

**5.1 Eligibility**

Bound Printed Matter pieces in a mailing meeting the standards in 3.0 are eligible for the DSCF price when they meet all of the following additional conditions:

\* \* \* \* \*

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

b. Are deposited at a DSCF listed in L005 or a USPS-designated facility and are addressed for delivery within the DSCF's service area.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **5.2 Presorted Flats**

*[Revise the first sentence of 5.2 to read as follows:]*

Presorted flats and automation flats in sacks for the 5-digit, 3-digit, and SCF sort levels or on pallets at the 5-digit scheme, 5-digit, 3-digit, SCF, and ASF sort levels may claim DSCF prices. \*\*\*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 7.0, Destination Flat Sequencing System (DFSS) Facility Entry, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **700 Special Standards**

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## **705 Advanced Preparation and Special Postage Payment Systems**

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*[Delete 14.0, FSS Scheme Preparation, in its entirety and leave 14.0 as "Reserved".]*

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## **15.0 Combining USPS Marketing Mail Flats, Bound Printed Matter Flats, and Periodicals Flats**



**15.1 Basic Standards**

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**15.1.6 Piece Prices**

*[Revise the first sentence of 15.1.6 to read as follows:]*

Apply piece prices based on the bundle level. \*\*\*

\* \* \* \* \*

*[Delete 15.1.11, Preparation for FSS Zones, in its entirety.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

We will incorporate these revisions into the next online update of the DMM, which is available via Postal Explorer® at <http://pe.usps.com>.

*- Product Classification, Product Solutions, 9-22-22*