V. General Comments

All the manufacturers supported the Postal Service efforts to improve meter security and control. One manufacturer specifically commented that the Postal Service was business-like and professional in giving manufacturers an opportunity to discuss their views on the regulations in an open forum. Another commenter believed that the Postal Service had disregarded comments previously made by manufacturers on the proposed regulations.

To keep the manufacturers informed, the Postal Service held several meetings to discuss the proposed regulations. Each manufacturer was given an opportunity to express the specific views of its organization and of the industry. In addition, the Postal Service conducted a series of customer focus group sessions to provide a forum for comments from interested parties who were not manufacturers. A public meeting also was conducted in which the manufacturers and others could express their views. The Postal Service noted the concerns and opinions from these discussions before publishing the proposed regulations.

One commenter stated that market tests or analyses were not conducted to measure the effect the proposed regulations would have on customers. In addition, the commenter believed that the regulations do not take into account new technology for encrypted data verification.

Participants in the customer focus groups recognized the need for revising meter regulations and indicated that any inconvenience to meter users will be minimal. They supported the Postal Service's effort because, in their opinion, meter misuse and fraud affect postage rates.

The Postal Service has solicited the cooperation of the meter manufacturers in the development of encrypted indicia. This effort is under way, and the results and specifications will be

published for public review and comment when they become available.

VI. Revisions

The following sections were revised since the proposed rule; the revisions are reflected in the final rule.

A. PS Form 3601-A

The statement on PS Form 3601–A, Application for a License to Lease and Use Postage Meters, pertaining to the penalties for submission of a false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement is deleted.

Reference

Exhibit B

B. PS Form 3602-A

The use of PS Form 3602–A, Daily Record of Meter Register Readings, is voluntary, but its use is recommended to support refunds in case of register malfunctions.

References

DMM P030.2.1 Procedures DMM P030.2.6 Licensee Responsibilities DMM P030.3.4 Alternative Meter Setting Location DMM P030.3.7 Postage Transfers and

Refunds
DMM P030.3.8 Postage Adjustments,

Misregistering Meters

DMM P020 2 11 Periodic Exemination

DMM P030.3.11 Periodic Examination of CMRS Meters

39 CFR 501.22(g) Distribution controls.
39 CFR 501.22(h)(2) Distribution controls.
39 CFR 501.25(b)(3) Inspections of meters in use.

C. Computerized Remote Postage Meter Resetting System

For customers participating in the Computerized Remote Postage Meter Resetting System (CMRS) program, the Postal Service will include deposit tickets with check payments.

Reference

39 CFR 501.28(e)(6) Computerized remote postage meter resetting (parts of proposed 39 CFR 501.28 are renumbered).

D. Deposits in U.S. Treasury

Deposits in the Postal Service fund at Treasury are backed in full faith and credit by the U.S. Treasury.

Reference

39 CFR 501.28(b)(1) Computerized remote postage meter resetting.

E. Manufacturer Suspensions

Manufacturer suspensions may be withdrawn before the end of the 90-day period if the Postal Service determines that the manufacturer—s solution and implementation are satisfactory.

References

39 CFR 501.5(c)(4)(iii) Suspension and revocation of authorization.

39 CFR 501.12(b)(4)(iii) Suspension and revocation of approval.

F. Domestic Mail Manual

Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) P030.2.0, Meter License, is reorganized and renumbered since the proposed rule. DMM P030.1.9, Appeals, is renumbered as DMM P030.2.5.

G. High-Volume Mailers

High-volume mailers are defined for manufacturer meter inspections.

Reference

 $39\ \text{CFR}\ 501.25$ Inspection of meters in use.

H. Domestic Mail Manual Transition Book

Domestic Mail Manual Transition Book part 144 is transferred as revised to 39 CFR 501, with the exception of these sections: 144.312, 144.313, 144.341, 144.342, 144.344, 144.345, 144.346, 144.347, 144.348, 144.349, 144.35, 144.363, 144.37, 144.382(b), 144.383(b), 144.383(c), 144.383(d), 144.384, 144.53, 144.54, 144.61, 144.62, 144.63, 144.64, 144.65, and 144.67.

TABLES OF CROSS-REFERENCES.—DOMESTIC MAIL MANUAL (DMM) REVISIONS

DMM P030 old section	DMM P030 new section	Changes and comments
1.1	1.1	Editorial changes.
1.2	1.2	1.2 is revised to update names and addresses of authorized meter manufacturers. Editorial changes.
1.3	1.3	Editorial changes.
1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7	1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7	None.