

addition to those commitments, the mailer will be required to install and use Postal Service-provided workstations to process IPCS packages and to sort and prepare them for dispatch, as the service dictates.

The Postal Service hereby amends IPCS to Japan to allow an alternative entry option for those qualifying mailers whose plants are more than 500 miles from the JFK Processing Facility.

Although 39 U.S.C. 407 does not require advance notice and opportunity for submission of comments, and the Postal Service is exempted by 39 U.S.C. 410(a) from the advance notice requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act regarding proposed rulemaking (5 U.S.C. 553), the Postal Service invites interested persons to submit written data, views, or arguments concerning this amendment to the interim rule.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20

International postal service, Foreign relations.

The Postal Service adopts the following amendments to the International Mail Manual, which is incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR 20.1.

PART 20—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 20 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 401, 404, 407, 408.

2. Subchapter 620 of the International Mail Manual is amended as follows:

620 International Package Consignment Service

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625 IPCS Service Agreements

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625.2 Required Provisions

Each service agreement must contain the following:

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d. For a mailer processing packages at the mailer's plant, the mailer's commitment to use Postal Service-provided workstations to process all IPCS packages and to sort and prepare those packages for dispatch as specified by the Postal Service.

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626 IPCS to Japan

626.1 Description

626.11 General

IPCS to Japan provides the mailer with three delivery options and with preparation by the Postal Service (or on

Postal Service-provided equipment) of the customs forms required by Japan Post.

626.12 JFK Processing Facility

All IPCS packages processed by the Postal Service are processed at, and dispatched to Japan from, a dedicated facility (the JFK Processing Facility) at JFK International Airport.

626.13 Delivery Options

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626.132 Standard Air Service.

Packages sent as Standard Air Service are transported by air to Japan, where they enter Japan Post's domestic airmail system for delivery. The mailer can track Standard Air Service packages through dispatch from the JFK Processing Facility or the appropriate air mail facility.

626.133 Economy Air Service.

Packages sent as Economy Air Service are transported by air to Japan, where they enter Japan Post's domestic surface mail system for delivery. The mailer can track Economy Air Service packages through dispatch from the JFK Processing Facility or the appropriate air mail facility.

626.2 Acceptance

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626.22 More Than 500 Miles From JFK

626.221 Drop Shipment to JFK. If the plant at which the mailer's IPCS packages originate is more than 500 miles from the JFK Processing Facility, the mailer may present the packages for verification at the plant and transport them as a drop shipment to the JFK Processing Facility for acceptance according to a schedule agreed upon by the mailer and the Postal Service.

626.222 Transport to Air Mail Facility. Alternatively, the mailer may process the packages, using Postal Service-provided workstations, and prepare dispatches as specified by the Postal Service. The Postal Service verifies and accepts the dispatches at the mailer's plant according to a schedule agreed upon by the mailer, and the Postal Service transports the packages to an appropriate air mail facility for dispatch to Japan.

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627 Customs Forms Required

The mailer is not normally required to affix customs forms to IPCS packages sent to Japan if the packages are processed at the JFK Processing Facility. In such cases, the Postal Service prints the necessary customs forms, based on the package-specific information transmitted by the mailer, and affixes

the forms to the packages. If the packages are processed at the mailer's plant on Postal Service-provided workstations, those workstations print the necessary forms that the mailer normally affixes to the packages. During the interim period in which the Postal Service and the mailer are establishing the information system linkages to enable the Postal Service to accomplish this, the mailer must affix the appropriate customs forms to the packages, as follows:

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628 Preparation Requirements

628.1 Express Service

628.11 Processing at JFK

Every package sent through Express Service must bear a label identifying it as an Express Service package. The mailer is not normally required to affix this label when such packages are processed at the JFK Processing Facility. In this case, the Postal Service prints the necessary label and affixes it to the Express Service package. During the interim period in which the Postal Service and the mailer are establishing the information systems linkages to enable the Postal Service to accomplish this, the mailer is required to affix to every Express Service package Label 11-B, Express Mail Post Office to Addressee, or an alternative label as directed by the Postal Service.

628.12 Processing at Mailer's Plant

When packages are processed at the mailer's plant on Postal Service-provided workstations, the workstations print the necessary label, and the mailer affixes it to the Express Service package.

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A transmittal letter making the changes in the International Mail Manual will be published and transmitted automatically to subscribers. Notice of issuance of the transmittal letter will be published in the Federal Register as provided by 39 CFR 20.3.

Stanley F. Mires,

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