

h. In three-tier package-based Barcoded rate mailings under M895, pieces in AADC overflow trays must be secured into 5-digit packages in the 5-digit presort tier, and 3-digit packages in the 3-digit presort tier. These packages require no labeling.

i. In tray-based mailings, pieces in 5-digit overflow trays must be secured into and labeled as 5-digit packages. Pieces in 3-digit overflow trays and SCF overflow trays must be secured into and labeled as 3-digit packages.

3.0 ADDITIONAL STANDARDS—FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND OTHER PERIODICALS AND STANDARD MAIL (A)

3.1 Cards and Letter-Size Pieces

Cards and letter-size pieces are subject to these specific packaging standards:

a. The maximum thickness for packages of walk-sequence rate mail is 4 inches. The maximum thickness for other packages is 6 inches.

b. Card-size pieces must always be prepared in packages.

c. Packages must be prepared in all less-than-full trays, and for nonupgradable Retail First-Class and Regular Standard Mail, and for nonautomation-compatible Publications Service and other than Barcoded rate Regular Periodicals.

d. Separator cards may be used instead of packaging for carrier route groups in full Enhanced Carrier Route 5-digit carrier routes trays. Separator cards must be used instead of packaging for carrier route groups in full trays of Automation Carrier Route First-Class and Standard Mail, and in full trays of Barcoded rate Regular Periodicals. Separator cards must be prepared from paper or card stock, must be at least 1/4 inch higher than the highest piece in the mailing, and must be placed in front of the corresponding groups of mail.

e. For card-size pieces and mail in less-than-full trays, packages of letter-size pieces of Automation First-Class and Automation Standard Mail, automation-compatible Publications Service and Barcoded rate Regular Periodicals, and upgradable Retail First-Class and Regular Standard Mail must be secured with rubber bands. Other packages of letter-size pieces must be secured with rubber bands, elastic strapping, flat plastic strapping, or string. (Elastic strapping must have a minimum strength of 15 pounds and a minimum of 150% elongation prior to breaking. Minimum tension, when applied to bundle, must be 50% breaking strength. Elastic strapping may not be used unless approved by USPS

Engineering. If requested, the mailer must be able to show such approval for the strapping material used for a mailing.)

3.2 Flat-Size Pieces

Flat-size pieces are subject to these specific packaging standards:

a. Though not subject to a specific thickness limit, packages of flats must be secure and stable, and are subject to specific weight limits if palletized.

b. Flat-size pieces must always be prepared in packages unless excepted by standard.

3.3 All Pieces

All pieces are subject to these standards:

a. For mail prepared using a simplified address, all pieces for the same post office must be tied in packages of 50 when possible. If packages of other quantities are produced, the actual number of pieces must be shown on the facing slip that must be attached to show distribution desired (e.g., rural route, city route, post office boxholder).

b. One package containing fewer than the otherwise applicable minimum number of pieces may be prepared when it represents the last package for a presort destination to which other packages (each containing at least the minimum volume required) were previously prepared in the same mailing.

c. Packages up to 1 inch thick must be secured with appropriate banding placed once around the girth (narrow dimension). Thicker packages must be secured with at least two bands, the first placed around the length and the second around the girth so that the second band crosses over the first. Additional ties may be used if none lies along the outer 1 inch of any package edge.

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[Delete current 5.0 and 6.0.]

M030 Container Preparation

M031 Labels

[In 1.7 and 4.13, replace “second-class” in the heading and text with “Periodicals” and replace “2C” with “PERIOD”; in 2.1a, replace “First-, third-, and fourth-class” with “First-Class and Standard Mail” and replace “second-class” with “Periodicals”; in 3.2a, replace “First- and third-class” with “First-Class and Standard Mail” and replace “second-class” with “Periodicals”; in 4.2, replace “second-class” with “Periodicals” and replace “third- or fourth-class” with “Standard Mail”; in 4.8, insert “(Preferred

Periodicals only)” after “optional city,” replace “second-class” with “Periodicals,” and replace “third-class” with “Standard Mail”; in 4.14, replace “second-class” with “Periodicals”; in 5.0, replace “First- and third-class” with “First-Class and Standard Mail (A),” replace “second- or third-class” with “Periodicals or Standard Mail (A),” replace “First-, second-, and third-class” with “First-Class, Periodicals, and Standard Mail (A),” replace “third-class” with “Standard Mail (A),” and replace “[T]hird- and fourth-class” with “Standard Mail”; no other change in text.]

M032 Barcoded Container Labels

1.0 BARCODED TRAY LABELS

1.1 Standards

Barcoded tray labels are required for Automation First-Class, automation-compatible Publications Service Periodicals, and Automation Standard Mail mailings of letter-size pieces, and Automation First-Class mailings of flat-size pieces. Barcoded trays labels may be used on any other mailing. Mailer-produced barcoded tray labels must meet the standards below.

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[In 1.2, replace “First- and third-class mail” with “First-Class and Standard Mail (A)” and replace “second-class” with “Periodicals.”]

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Exhibit 1.3c, Contents Identifier Codes

[Replace “2C” with “PERIOD”; replace “3C” with “STD A”; and replace “4C” with “STD B.”]

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2.0 BARCODED SACK LABELS

[Replace current 2.1 and 2.2 with new 2.1, below, and renumber current 2.3 through 2.5 as 2.2 through 2.4, respectively; in renumbered 2.2, replace “First-, third-, and fourth-class mail” with “First-Class and Standard Mail” and replace “second-class” with “Periodicals”; in renumbered 2.4e, change the reference from 2.5d to 2.4d; in renumbered 2.4f, replace “200 (2C)” with “200 (PERIOD).”]

2.1 Standards

Barcoded sack labels are required for Barcoded rate Regular and automation-compatible Publications Service Periodicals and Automation Standard Mail flat-size pieces prepared in sacks. Barcoded sack labels may be used for other Periodicals and Standard Mail prepared in sacks. Mailer-produced