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## **FP Mailing Solutions Announces United States Postal Service (USPS®) Shape-Based Rate Change**

### ***New Postage Rates Based on Weight and Shape***

ADDISON, IL- May 2007 -- FP Mailing Solutions, a world-class mailroom solutions provider, announces the USPS-confirmed rate change, which will become effective **May 14, 2007**. Along with increasing the cost of a one-ounce first-class letter to **41¢**, the USPS® is implementing a **shape-based pricing (SBP)** system. SBP mandates that postal rates are determined by the shape of a package, as well as the weight. New package classification types include letter, flat, and parcel.



SBP will have little effect on the average postage user. Users that simply mail bills and correspondence in standard number 10 envelopes will see a First-Class Mail® rate adjustment of 2¢, bringing the current rate to 41¢. The good news is that there will actually be a **decrease** in the additional ounce charges.

Where the newly proposed postage rates have a more dramatic effect on the new calculation of postage is the customer doing a great quantity of large and varied-shape mail on a daily basis. An item that is too thick or large to be classified as a normal First-Class Mail® letter will fall into one of two other defined categories. A “flat” falls between the height range of 6.125 to 12.000 inches in height, and 11.500 to 15.000 inches in length, and a thickness between 0.250 and 0.750 inches. A “parcel” is any piece of mail falling outside of these dimensions.

Then on May 2, the Governors of the Postal Service announced revisions to the above rate change, which states that they accepted the decision of the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) to modify two of its earlier rate case recommendations – lowering the price of the Priority Mail® Flat-Rate Box to \$8.95 (from \$9.15) and extending the nonmachinable (NMO) surcharge (which encourages mailing efficiencies) to all single piece and presorted First-Class Mail® letters, regardless of weight.

**USPS Rates – Effective May 14, 2007**

<b>FIRST-CLASS MAIL®</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>New</b>
Single-Piece Letter – First Ounce	\$0.39	\$0.41
Single-Piece Flat – First Ounce	\$0.52	\$0.80
Single-Piece Parcel – First Ounce	\$0.52	\$1.13
Each Additional Ounce	<b>\$0.24</b>	<b>\$0.17</b>
Nonmachinable Surcharge	\$0.13	\$0.17
Postcards	\$0.24	\$0.26
Automation Letter (5-digit) – First Ounce	\$0.29	\$0.31
Automation Flat (5-digit) – First Ounce	\$0.38	\$0.38
Presorted Letter – First Ounce	\$0.37	\$0.37
Presorted Flat – First Ounce	\$0.43	\$0.70

New technologies and solutions from FP that can automatically process these different types of media (such as the recently-introduced **centormail™** digital mailing system) will enable customers to be SBP-complaint immediately. This new rating structure will allow substantial savings to the mailing professionals who take advantage of specialized FP equipment that can save customers money in light of the new rate structure. Their intimate knowledge of how to leverage the new rates for efficiency and reduced costs is of value to large and small businesses. Contact your local FP dealer to learn more about how current FP technologies can make the most of your postal budget or call FP Mailing Solutions direct at 1-(800) 341-6052.

**About FP Mailing Solutions**

With U.S. headquarters in Addison, IL, FP Mailing Solutions is a world-class mailroom solutions provider, meeting the needs of small, mid-sized, and large organizations. FP Mailing Solutions is known for technologically-advanced equipment, its strong dealer network, superior customer experience, and excellent value. For more information, visit [www.fp-usa.com](http://www.fp-usa.com).