

For: State and County Offices

**PS-3553, USPS Coding Accuracy Support System (CASS) Summary Report
and the Certification Process Comparing SCIMS to the USPS Database**

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

County Offices will be provided PS-3553 every 3 months to use with bulk mailings to receive the maximum discounts. The CASS certification process compares customers' addresses entered by the County Office in SCIMS or AS/400, "Other Name and Address" file, to the USPS database. Addresses that match are assigned ZIP+4 and bar codes.

The FSA customer name and address ZIP+4 code process is revalidated every 3 months to ensure that County Offices continue to receive the ZIP+4 automation rate for bulk mailings.

PS-3553 is:

- a KC-ADC computer-generated form that is automatically produced when address records are processed using CASS-certified software
- valid for 3 months from the date the name and address list is matched against the USPS database and coded.

B Purpose

This notice:

- provides County Offices with a current PS-3553 (CASS certificate) to use with bulk mailings effective upon receiving this notice
- informs County Offices to check (✓) the PS Form 3602-EZ, Move Update Method, "NCOA Link"
- provides State and County Offices with required actions to be completed immediately
- obsoletes Notice CM-687.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2012	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice CM-692

2 Using CASS/Move Update Certification

A National Certification

USPS regulations permit the KC-ADC name and address file to be treated as 1 mailing. 1-CM, paragraphs 295 and 296 provide County Offices with the procedure to process the KC-ADC, ZIP+4 validation file. PS-3553 shall be submitted with each bulk mailing to USPS to receive the automated discount rate. See 5-AS for mailing requirements and rates.

Note: County Offices experiencing difficulty obtaining local USPS approval of PS-3553 should:

- refer local postal representative to Domestic Mail Manual A950.5.2 and A950.5.4
- have local postal representative call the USPS CASS Certification Department at 800-642-2914
- forward additional problems to Ginny Haynes, FSA, PECD, Common Provisions Branch.

In addition to the CASS certification, FSA is **required** to run a separate certification process that compares customers' addresses entered by the County Office in SCIMS to the USPS database for accuracy. This process is run through MSD by a private contractor. The contractor for the 3-month period, which runs concurrently with PS-3553, uses the Move Update Method "NCOA link". This information **must** be provided by checking (✓) the PS Form 3602-EZ, Move Update Method, "NCOA Link", that is used for the bulk mailing, as follows.

Move Update Method:
<input type="checkbox"/> Ancillary Service Endorsement <input type="checkbox"/> <i>FASTforward</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>NCOALink</i> <input type="checkbox"/> ACS <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Method <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple

B Obtaining Automation Rate

See Exhibit 1 for a current copy of PS-3553. To obtain the ZIP+4 automation rate, PS-3553 shall be:

- reproduced locally by County Offices
- submitted with **each** mailing to USPS.

Notice CM-692

3 Required Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall:

- ensure that County Offices are immediately informed of the contents of this notice
- ensure that County Offices follow 1-CM, paragraphs 295 and 296 to process the ZIP+4 download, print Report MAB072-R001, and correct records identified on the report
- direct any questions about this notice to Mike Sienkiewicz by either of the following:
 - e-mail to mike.sienkiewicz@wdc.usda.gov
 - telephone at 202-720-8959.

B County Office Action

County Offices shall:

- follow 1-CM, paragraphs 295 and 296 to process the ZIP+4 download, print Report MAB072-R001, and correct records identified on the report
- contact the State Office if there are any questions or problems making the corrections.

Note: Records that do not pass the validation process shall be updated immediately, as payments will be rejected if addresses are not correct.

Example of PS-3553, USPS CASS Summary Report

This is an example of the new PS-3553 to be inserted after the ZIP+4 process is run.

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:-----USPS CODING ACCURACY SUPPORT SYSTEM (CASS) SUMMARY REPORT-----:
:
:
:-----A. SOFTWARE-----:
:
: 1. CASS CERTIFIED COMPANY NAME : 2. CASS CERT. SOFTWARE NAME/VERSION : 3. CONFIG :
:   PITNEY BOWES SOFTWARE INC. :   CODE-1 PLUS FOR IBM MAINFRAME :   MMM :
:   :   :   3.06.00.N :   :   :
:-----:
: 4. Z4CHANGE CERTIFIED CO. NAME : 5. Z4CHANGE SOFTWARE NAME/VERSION : 6. CONFIG :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:-----:
: 7. DIRECTDPV CERTIFIED CO NAME : 8. DIRECTDPV CERT SFTW NAME/VERSION : 9. CONFIG :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:-----:
: 10. ELOT CERTIFIED COMPANY NAME : 11. ELOT CERT. SOFTWARE NAME/VERSION : 12. CNFIG :
:   PITNEY BOWES SOFTWARE INC. :   CODE-1 PLUS 3.06.00.N :   MMM :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:-----:
: B. LIST :
:
: 1. LIST PROCESSOR'S NAME : 2. DATE LIST PROCESSED : 3. DATE OF DATABASE USED :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:-----:
: 4. LIST NAME OR ID NO. : 5. NUMBER OF LISTS : 6. TOTAL RECORDS SUBMITTED :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:   :   :   :   :   :
:-----:
: C. OUTPUT :
:
: OUTPUT RATING : 1. TOTAL CODED : 2. VALID (FROM-TO) : 3. DATE : 4. TYPE : 5. TOTAL CODED : 6. VALID (FROM-TO) :
:-----:
: A. ZIP+4/DPV : 10584889 : 10/28/2011-04/25/2012 : D.5-DIGIT : 10946171 : 10/28/2011-10/27/2012 :
:   CONFIRMED : : : CODED : : :
:-----:
: B. Z4CHANGE/ : 0 : N/A : E.CR-RT : 10944964 : 10/28/2011-01/26/2012 :
:   PROCESSED : : : CODED : : :
:-----:
: C. DIRECTDPV : 0 : N/A : F.ELOT : 10635220 : 10/28/2011-01/26/2012 :
:   : : : ASSIGNED : : :
:-----:
: D. MAILER :
:
: 1. MAILER'S SIGNATURE : 2. DATE SIGNED : 3. NAME & ADDRESS OF MAILER :
:   GINNY HAYNES : 11-1-2011 : GINNY HAYNES :
:   : : COMMON PROVISIONS BRANCH :
:   : : STOP 0517 :
:   : : 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, SW :
:   : : WASHINGTON DC, 20250-0517 :
:-----:
: I CERTIFY THAT THE MAILING SUBMITTED WITH :
: THIS FORM HAS BEEN CODED (AS INDICATED ABOVE) USING CASS-CERTIFIED SOFTWARE :
: MEETING ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS LISTED IN THE DMM SECTION 708. :
:-----:
: E. QUALITATIVE STATISTICAL SUMMARY (QSS) :
:
: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY: QSS IS SOLELY MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE LIST :
: PROCESSOR'S REVIEW AND ANALYSIS. THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED :
: BY THE POSTAL SERVICE PERSONNEL IN DETERMINING RATE ELIGIBILITY UNDER ANY :
: CIRCUMSTANCES. SEE FOLLOWING PAGE(S) FOR A DETAILED EXPLANATION. :
:-----:
: HIGH RISE : HIGH RISE : RURAL RTE : RURAL RTE : LACSLINK : EWS : SUITELINK :
:   DEFAULT : EXACT : DEFAULT : EXACT : : : :
:-----:
: 133486 : 297165 : 172 : 124785 : 5104 : 0 : 18108 :
:-----:
: PRIVACY NOTICE: FOR INFORMATION REGARDING OUR PRIVACY POLICY, VISIT USPS.COM. :
:-----:
: PS FORM 3553, SEPTEMBER 2008 (PAGE 1 OF 2) AT WWW.USPS.COM/FORMS/ALLFORMS.HTM
    
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Example of PS-3553, USPS CASS Summary Report (Continued)

INSTRUCTIONS

A. SOFTWARE

- 1,4,7. COMPANY NAMES: ENTER THE NAME FOR EACH KIND OF SOFTWARE, AS IT APPEARS ON THE CASS/MASS CERTIFICATE.
- 2,5,8. SOFTWARE NAME & VERSION: ENTER NAME AND VERSION USED FOR EACH KIND OF SOFTWARE, AS IT APPEARS ON THE CASS/MASS CERTIFICATE.
- 3,6,9. CONFIGURATION: ENTER THE SPECIFIC SOFTWARE CONFIGURATION PARAMETER SETTINGS AS IT APPEARS ON THE CASS/MASS CERTIFICATE.

NOTE: IF INFORMATION ENTERED IN THIS SECTION REPRESENTS THE LIST PROCESSING OF MORE THAN ONE CERTIFIED COMPANY, ATTACH A LIST OF COMPANY NAMES, SOFTWARE NAMES AND VERSIONS, AS WELL AS THE CONFIGURATION TO CODE THE ADDRESS INFORMATION USED IN THE MAILING.

B. LIST

1. LIST PROCESSOR'S NAME: ENTER THE NAME OF THE COMPANY THAT CODED THE ADDRESS LIST(S) AND/OR PERFORMED ZIP+4 MATCHING, USING CASS CERTIFIED SOFTWARE. ATTACH A LIST IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS REQUIRED.
2. DATE LIST PROCESSED: ENTER THE PROCESSING DATE FOR EACH LIST. IF MULTIPLE LISTS, ENTER THE OLDEST DATE FROM THE LISTS.
3. DATE OF DATABASE PRODUCT USED: ENTER THE VERSION DATE OF EACH DATABASE PACKAGE USED FOR PROCESSING. IF MULTIPLE LISTS, ENTER THE OLDEST VERSION DATE FROM THE LISTS.
4. LIST NAME OR ID NO: PRINT THE NAME OR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE ADDRESS LIST. IF MORE THAN ONE LIST IS USED, LEAVE BLANK. IF THE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IS USED, THE NUMBER MUST BE PRECEDED BY 'ID#'.
5. NUMBER OF LISTS: ENTER THE NUMBER OF LISTS USED TO PRODUCE THE MAILING.
6. TOTAL RECORDS SUBMITTED FOR PROCESSING: ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ADDRESS RECORDS (FROM ALL LISTS IN ITEM B5) SUBMITTED AT THE TIME THE LIST(S) WAS CODED.

C. OUTPUT

1. TOTAL CODED: ENTER THE TOTAL NUMBER CODED.
2. VALIDATION PERIOD: ENTER THE EFFECTIVE DATES AS SHOWN BELOW.

ZIP+4 CODED/DPV CONFIRMED

FROM DATE - 30 DAYS BEFORE (THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH OR BIMONTHLY) OR NO LATER THAN 105 DAYS AFTER THE FILE DATE.

TO DATE - 180 DAYS AFTER FROM THE ZIP+4 'FROM' DATE.

DIRECTDPV

FROM DATE - 30 DAYS BEFORE (THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH OR BIMONTHLY) OR NO LATER THAN 105 DAYS AFTER THE ZIP+4 PRODUCT FILE DATE.

TO DATE - 180 DAYS AFTER THE DIRECTDPV/ZIP+4 VALID 'FROM' DATE.

FIVE-DIGIT CODED

FROM DATE - 30 DAYS BEFORE (THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH OR BIMONTHLY) OR NO LATER THAN 105 DAYS AFTER THE ZIP+4, FIVE-DIGIT ZIP, OR THE CARRIER ROUTE PRODUCT DATE.

TO DATE - 365 DAYS AFTER FROM THE FIVE-DIGIT VALID 'FROM' DATE.

TOTAL CARRIER ROUTE CODED

FROM DATE - 30 DAYS BEFORE OR UP TO 105 DAYS AFTER THE ZIP+4, FIVE-DIGIT ZIP, OR THE CARRIER ROUTE PRODUCT DATE (THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH OR BIMONTHLY) OR UP TO 105 DAYS AFTER THE FILE DATE.

TO DATE - 90 DAYS AFTER THE CARRIER ROUTE VALID 'FROM' DATE.

ELOT SEQUENCED NO. ASSIGNED

FROM DATE - 30 DAYS BEFORE OR UP TO 105 DAYS AFTER THE ELOT FILE PRODUCT DATE (THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH OR BIMONTHLY).

TO DATE - 90 DAYS AFTER THE ELOT VALID 'FROM' DATE.

D. MAILER

1. SIGNATURE: SIGNATURE OF INDIVIDUAL WHO PROCESSED THE LIST, OR THE MAILER'S REPRESENTATIVE.
2. DATE SIGNED: ENTER THE DATE THIS FORM IS SIGNED.
3. NAME & ADDRESS OF MAILER: ENTER THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL WHOSE SIGNATURE APPEARS IN ITEM D1.