

FR 46026 and 46103-46104, the Agency announced its intent to request Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for a provision addressing aerial lifts in § 1926.453(a)(2). OSHA stated that the effective date for § 1926.453(a)(2) would be announced in the **Federal Register** at a later date, once OSHA received approval for the information collection requirements in that provision from OMB. The aerial lift provisions contain a requirement for manufacturer certification of "field modified" aerial lifts, which was previously codified in § 1926.556, and which was redesignated at § 1926.453(a)(2) in the final rule.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), OMB has approved the information collection and assigned OMB control number 1218-0216, which expires on October 31, 2000. Under 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an Agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless: (1) The collection displays a valid control number, and (2) the agency informs potential persons who may respond to the collections of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Accordingly, now that OMB has approved the collections in § 1926.453(a)(2), OSHA is codifying the current OMB control number into § 1926.5, which is the central section in which OSHA displays its approved collections under the Paperwork Reduction Act. The effective date of § 1926.453(a)(2) is January 27, 1998.

#### Authority and Signature

This document was prepared under the direction of Charles N. Jeffress, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20210.

#### List of Subjects in 29 CFR Part 1926

Construction; Occupational safety and health; Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 15th day of January, 1998.

**Charles N. Jeffress,**

*Assistant Secretary of Labor.*

Accordingly, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration amends 29 CFR part 1926 as set forth below.

#### PART 1926—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for subpart A of part 1926 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** Section 107, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (Construction Safety Act) (40 U.S.C. 333); secs. 4, 6, 8, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657); Secretary of Labor's Order 12-71 (36 FR 8754), 8-76 (41 FR 25059), or 1-90 (55 FR 9033), as applicable; 29 CFR part 1911.

#### § 1926.5 [Amended]

2. In § 1926.5, the table is amended by adding the entry  
 "§ 1926.453(a)(2).....1218-0216"  
 in numerical order.

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BILLING CODE 4510-26-M

### POSTAL SERVICE

#### 39 CFR Part 20

#### Expansion of Global Priority Mail

**AGENCY:** Postal Service.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** On March 29, 1996, the Postal Service published in the **Federal Register**, 61 FR 14025, an interim rule with a request for comments which expanded Global Priority Mail service by increasing the number of acceptance points, increasing the number of destination countries, and adding weight variable rates for items weighing up to 4 pounds. The Postal Service now adopts the interim regulations, with amendments, as final.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 27, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** R. Jay Thabet, (202) 268-2269.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 29, 1996, the Postal Service published an interim rule expanding Global Priority Mail and requesting comments, 61 FR 14025. Global Priority Mail is an expedited airmail letter service providing fast, reliable, and economical delivery of all items mailable as letters or merchandise up to 4 pounds. Global Priority Mail items receive priority handling in the United States and destination countries. Service is limited to the 34 destination countries identified in the International Mail Manual 226.2. Service is available from designated post offices identified in the International Mail Manual 226.32.

The weight limit for Global Priority Mail items is 4 pounds. The Postal Service offers two sizes of preprinted flat-rate envelopes. The rates for these envelopes are based on a geographic rate zone regardless of the actual weight. Although these envelopes are valid for weights of up to 4 pounds, the practical limitations of the envelopes limit the weight to less than 4 pounds.

The interim rule increased the number of post offices where Global Priority Mail would be available, increased the number of destination countries, and added variable weight-based rates to increase customer convenience.

The Postal Service received one letter containing nine comments on the interim rule.

Comment one suggests that, for those states where all post offices within the state are on the list of acceptance sites, just the state should be listed without showing the different facilities. This suggestion does not take into account that there may arise a case where a post office within a state may not be able to accept Global Priority Mail at some time in the future. The present system of listing the acceptance facilities allows the Postal Service to delete post offices when appropriate.

Comment two suggests that ZIP Codes be listed in numerical order rather than in alphabetical order of the acceptance facility. While both numerical and alphabetical listings are valid, neither is more valid than the other. The Postal Service elects to retain the alphabetical listing.

Comment three states that, in New York State, Postal Codes 117/118 are no longer listed as acceptance sites, whereas they were listed as acceptance sites for the original test. This was a typographical error; ZIP Codes 117/118 are acceptance sites.

Comment four asks for an explanation of certain abnormalities in the rate structure for variable weights and the volume rates. The differences between weight steps does not have to be equal or linear or based totally on cost changes. The competitors' rates for similar products are a factor. The size and weight of the volume the USPS most wants to attract is another factor in the determination of weight level increases.

Comment five asks for an explanation for the relationship between rates for Canadian and European destinations. The expected traffic to each country group, the competition that we face going to that country group, and the cost to get into each country group were factors used to determine rates. In the example cited, competitors' rates and delivery costs in the country were the most influential.

Comment six states that the relationship between the flat rate envelopes and the variable weight rate should be clarified and the relationship between the flat rate envelope and the volume rate should be clarified. The flat rate developed for envelopes that the Postal Service provides is independent

of the variable weight rate and the volume rate. The Postal Service developed the flat rates as a convenience for the customer. To receive either the variable weight or volume rate options, the customer must provide the appropriate packaging. The envelopes the Postal Service provides are for the convenience of the customer and are not eligible for either the variable weight or volume rate options.

Comment seven suggests a change in wording to Chapter 2 of the International Mail Manual, part 226.62, to read \* \* \* sticker rate must have the DEC-10 sticker affixed to the address side of the package, for clarification purposes. The Postal Service accepts this comment and revises Chapter 2 of the International Mail Manual, part 226.62.

Comment eight notes that section 226.82 of the International Mail Manual does not state where the single piece rate packages can be mailed. In light of this comment the Postal Service revises Chapter 2 of the International Mail Manual, part 226.82, to state that single piece variable weight option may be deposited in the normal manner of deposit for Global Priority Mail.

Comment nine questions the legality of not providing Global Priority Mail service from every post office under the jurisdiction of the United States Postal Service. The United States Postal Service provides service throughout the entire United States as mandated by 39 USC 3623(d). There are some products and services that are not available at all postal retail units. Acceptance of passport applications is an example. In the case of Global Priority Mail, the service is offered at all post offices from which transportation is available which

allows the mailpiece to reach the appropriate airmail facility in time to make the scheduled airline departure on the day after the mailpiece is deposited. If the transportation network at a given post office does not allow for the mailpiece to leave the United States on the day after deposit, that post office does not accept Global Priority Mail. This restriction is in place to preserve the integrity of a premium service for which the customer pays a premium fee.

A transmittal letter making the changes in the pages of 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.

The Postal Service amends part 226 of the International Mail Manual, which is incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR 20.1.

**List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20**

Foreign relations, Incorporation by reference, International postal services.

**PART 20—[AMENDED]**

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, 407, 408.

2. The International Mail Manual is amended to incorporate part 226, Global Priority Mail, as follows:

**226 Global Priority Mail**

**226.1 General**

**226.11 Definition**

Global Priority Mail is an expedited airmail letter service providing fast,

reliable, and economical delivery of all items mailable as letters or merchandise up to 4 pounds. Global Priority Mail items receive priority handling in the United States and in destination countries. Service is available only to destination countries identified in 226.2, from post offices identified in 226.3.

**226.12 Permissible Items**

All items sent as letter class mail (see 221.1) are accepted in Global Priority Mail provided that the contents are mailable and fit securely in the envelope. Global Priority Mail items may contain dutiable merchandise unless the country of destination specifically prohibits dutiable merchandise in letters (see 224.51). Any item that is prohibited in international mail is prohibited in Global Priority Mail. Refer to the "Country Conditions of Mailing" in the Individual Country Listings for individual country prohibitions.

**226.13 Packaging**

Items must fit comfortably within the flat-rate envelope without distorting or bursting the container. Do not use excessive tape to keep the envelopes from bursting. Use only one piece of tape to secure the flap.

**226.2 Availability**

Global Priority Mail is available to the following countries. Countries specifically identified will have service only to specific cities within those countries, as noted below:

**COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION**

Western Europe	Pacific Rim	North America	South America	Middle East
Austria Belgium Denmark Finland France (including Monaco) Germany Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>1</sup> Iceland Ireland Liechtenstein Luxembourg Netherlands, The Norway Portugal Spain Sweden Switzerland	Australia China <sup>2</sup> Hong Kong Japan Korea, Republic of New Zealand Philippines Singapore Taiwan Thailand Vietnam	Canada Mexico <sup>3</sup>	Brazil <sup>4</sup> Chile <sup>5</sup>	Israel. <sup>6</sup> Saudi Arabia. <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Guernsey, Jersey, and the Isle of Man.

<sup>2</sup> Destinations in China are limited to Beijing, Dalian, Guangzhou, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Suzhou, Tianjin, Wuxi, Xiamen, and Zhuhai ONLY.

<sup>3</sup>Destinations in Mexico are limited to Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Monterrey ONLY.

<sup>4</sup>Destinations in Brazil are limited to Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro ONLY.

<sup>5</sup>Destinations in Chile are limited to Santiago, Valparaiso, and Viña del Mar ONLY.

<sup>6</sup>Destinations in Israel are limited to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Haifa ONLY.

<sup>7</sup>Destinations in Saudi Arabia are limited to Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam ONLY.

### 226.3 Mailing Locations

#### 226.31 Acceptance Offices and Pickup Service Locations

Global Priority Mail service is available only through the designated post offices and the additional post offices listed in 226.32. Pickup Service is available for an additional fee. (See 226.83.)

#### 226.32 Service Areas

Service is available only from the metropolitan areas as defined by the ZIP Code ranges shown in Exhibit 226.32. If Global Priority Mail is presented at a non-participating retail unit, advise the customer that the item cannot be accepted as Global Priority Mail. Refer customer to the nearest Global Priority Mail retail acceptance unit. Within these service areas, prepaid items may be given to carriers, deposited in Express Mail collection boxes, or mailed at post offices, stations, and branches.

Exhibit 226.32 Global Priority Mail Acceptance Cities and Three-Digit ZIP Codes

#### ALABAMA

Anniston: 362  
Birmingham: 352  
Huntsville: 356, 357, 358  
Mobile: 366  
Montgomery: 361, 368

#### ARIZONA

Phoenix: 850, 852, 853  
Tucson: 857

#### ARKANSAS

Little Rock: 722  
West Memphis: 723

#### CALIFORNIA

Industry: 917, 918  
Inglewood: 902, 903, 904, 905  
Long Beach: 906, 907, 908  
Los Angeles: 900, 901  
North Bay: 949  
Oakland: 945, 946, 947, 948,  
Pasadena: 910, 911, 912  
Salinas: 939  
San Diego: 919, 920, 921  
San Francisco: 940, 941, 943, 944  
San Jose: 950, 951  
Santa Ana: 926, 927, 928  
Van Nuys: 913, 914, 915, 916

#### COLORADO

Brighton: 806  
Colorado Springs: 808, 809  
Denver: 800, 801, 802, 803  
Longmont: 805  
Pueblo: 810

#### CONNECTICUT

Hartford: 060, 061, 062  
New Haven: 063, 064, 065, 066  
Stamford: 068, 069  
Waterbury: 067

#### DELAWARE

Wilmington: 197, 198, 199

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Washington, DC)

Washington: 200, 202, 203, 204, 205

#### FLORIDA

Daytona Beach: 321  
Fort Myers: 339  
Ft. Lauderdale: 333  
Gainesville: 326, 344  
Jacksonville: 320, 322  
Lakeland: 338  
Manasota: 342  
Miami: 331, 332  
Mid-Florida: 327  
Orlando: 328, 329, 347  
South Florida: 330  
St. Petersburg: 337  
Tallahassee: 323  
Tampa: 335, 336, 346  
West Palm Beach: 334, 349

#### GEORGIA

Albany: 317  
Athens: 306  
Atlanta: 303, 311  
Augusta: 298, 308, 309  
Columbus: 318, 319  
Macon: 310, 312  
North Metro: 300, 301, 302, 305  
Savannah: 299, 313, 314  
Swainsboro: 304  
Valdosta: 316  
Waycross: 315

#### INDIANA

Bloomington: 474  
Columbus: 472  
Evansville: 424, 476, 477  
Fort Wayne: 467, 468  
Gary: 463, 464  
Indianapolis: 460, 461, 462  
Kokomo: 469  
Lafayette: 479  
Muncie: 473  
South Bend: 465, 466  
Terre Haute: 478  
Washington: 475

#### ILLINOIS

Bloomington: 617  
Carbondale: 629  
Carol Stream: 601, 603  
Centralia: 628  
Chicago: 606, 607, 608  
East St. Louis: 622  
Effingham: 624  
Champaign: 618, 619  
Fox Valley: 605  
Galesburg: 614  
Kankakee: 609  
La Salle: 613  
Palatine: 600, 602

Peoria: 615, 616  
Quincy: 623, 634, 635  
Rockford: 610, 611  
Rock Island: 612  
Springfield: 625, 626, 627  
South Suburban: 604

#### IOWA

Burlington: 526  
Cedar Rapids: 522, 523, 524  
Davenport: 527, 528  
Des Moines: 500, 501, 502, 503, 509  
Dubuque: 520  
Mason City: 504  
Ottumwa: 525  
Sioux City: 510, 511  
Waterloo: 506, 507

#### KANSAS

Fort Scott: 667  
Kansas City: 660, 661, 662  
Hays: 676  
Salina: 674  
Topeka: 664, 665, 666, 668  
Wichita: 672

#### KENTUCKY

Ashland: 411, 412  
Bowling Green: 421, 422  
Campton: 413, 414  
Elizabeth: 427  
Louisville: 400, 401, 402, 471  
Lexington: 403, 404, 405, 406  
Owensboro: 423  
Pikeville: 415, 416

#### LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge: 707, 708  
New Orleans: 700, 701  
Hammond: 704  
Thibodaux: 703

#### MAINE

Bangor: 044, 046, 047  
Portland: 040, 041, 042, 043, 045, 048, 049

#### MARYLAND

Baltimore: 210, 211, 212, 214, 219  
Cumberland: 215, 267  
Easton: 216  
Frederick: 217  
Salisbury: 218  
Southern: 206, 207  
Suburban: 208, 209

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Boston: 021, 022  
Brockton: 020, 023, 024  
Buzzards Bay: 025, 026  
Middlesex-Essex: 018, 019  
Pittsfield: 012  
Springfield: 010, 011, 013  
Worcester: 014, 015, 016, 017

#### MICHIGAN

Detroit: 481, 482  
Flint: 484, 485  
Gaylord: 497  
Grand Rapids: 493, 494, 495  
Jackson: 492  
Kalamazoo: 490, 491

Lansing: 488, 489  
Royal Oak: 480, 483  
Saginaw: 486, 487  
Traverse City: 496

**MINNESOTA**

Detroit Lakes: 565  
Duluth: 558  
Mankato: 560  
Minneapolis: 553, 554  
Rochester: 559  
Saint Cloud: 563  
St. Paul: 550, 551, 540  
Thief River Falls: 567  
Willmar: 562  
Windom: 561

**MISSISSIPPI**

Grenada: 389  
Gulfport: 395  
Hattiesburg: 394  
Jackson: 392  
McComb: 396

**MISSOURI**

Cape Girardeau: 636, 637, 638, 639  
Chillicothe: 646  
Harrisonville: 647  
Kansas City: 640, 641  
Mid-Missouri: 650, 651, 652, 653  
Saint Joseph: 644, 645  
Springfield: 648, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658  
St. Louis: 620, 630, 631, 633

**MONTANA**

Billings: 591

**NEBRASKA**

Lincoln: 683, 684, 685  
Norfolk: 686, 687  
Omaha: 515, 516, 680, 681

**NEVADA**

Las Vegas: 891

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Manchester: 030, 031, 032, 033, 034  
Portsmouth: 038, 039

**NEW JERSEY**

Hackensack: 076  
Kilmer: 088, 089  
Monmouth: 077  
Newark: 070, 071, 072, 073  
Paterson: 074, 075  
South Jersey: 080, 081, 082, 083, 084  
Trenton: 085, 086, 087  
West Jersey: 078, 079

**NEW MEXICO**

Albuquerque: 871

**NEW YORK**

Albany: 120, 121, 122, 123  
Binghamton: 137, 138, 139  
Bronx: 104  
Brooklyn: 112  
Buffalo: 140, 141, 142, 143  
Elmira: 148, 149  
Glen Falls: 128  
Hicksville: 118  
Jamestown: 147  
Long Island: 111  
Mid-Hudson: 124, 125, 126, 127  
Mid Island: 117, 119  
New York: 100, 101, 102  
Plattsburgh: 129

Queens: 110, 113, 114, 116  
Rochester: 144, 145, 146  
Rockland: 109  
Staten Island: 103  
Syracuse: 130, 131, 132  
Utica: 133, 134, 135  
Watertown: 136  
Westchester: 105, 106, 107, 108  
Western Nassau: 115

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Asheville: 287, 288, 289  
Charlotte: 280, 281, 282, 297  
Greensboro: 270, 271, 272, 273, 274  
Hickory: 286  
Raleigh: 275, 276, 277

**NORTH DAKOTA**

Bismarck: 585  
Dickinson: 586  
Devils Lake: 583  
 Fargo: 580, 581  
Grand Forks: 582  
Jamestown: 584  
Minot: 587  
Williston: 588

**OHIO**

Akron: 442, 443  
Athens: 457  
Canton: 446, 447  
Chillicothe: 456  
Cincinnati: 410, 450, 451, 452, 470  
Cleveland: 440, 441  
Columbus: 430, 431, 432, 433  
Dayton: 453, 454, 455  
Lima: 458  
Mansfield: 448, 449  
Steubenville: 439  
Toledo: 434, 435, 436  
Youngstown: 444, 445  
Zanesville: 437, 438

**OKLAHOMA**

Ardmore: 734  
Clinton: 736  
Durant: 747  
Enid: 737  
Lawton: 735  
McAlester: 745  
Muskogee: 744  
Oklahoma City: 730, 731  
Ponca City: 746  
Poteau: 749  
Shawnee: 748  
Tulsa: 740, 741, 743  
Woodard: 738

**OREGON**

Portland: 972

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Altoona: 166, 168  
Bradford: 167  
Dubois: 158  
Erie: 164, 165  
Greensburg: 156  
Harrisburg: 170, 171, 172, 178  
Johnstown: 155, 157, 159  
Lancaster: 173, 174, 175, 176  
Lehigh Valley: 180, 181, 183  
New Castle: 160, 161, 162  
Oil City: 163  
Philadelphia: 190, 191  
Pittsburgh: 150, 151, 152, 153, 154  
Reading: 179, 195, 196  
Scranton: 184, 185, 188

Southeastern: 189, 193, 194  
Wilkes-Barre: 182, 186, 187

**PUERTO RICO/VIRGIN ISLANDS**

San Juan: 006, 007, 008, 009

**RHODE ISLAND**

Providence: 027, 028, 029

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

Charleston: 294  
Columbia: 290, 291, 292  
Florence: 295  
Greenville: 293, 296

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

Aberdeen: 574  
Dakota Central: 572, 573  
Mobridge: 576  
Pierre: 575  
Rapid City: 577  
Sioux Falls: 570, 571

**TENNESSEE**

Chattanooga: 307, 373, 374  
Columbia: 384  
Cookeville: 385  
Jackson: 383  
Johnson City: 376  
Knoxville: 377, 378, 379  
McKenzie: 382  
Memphis: 380, 381, 386  
Nashville: 370, 371, 372

**TEXAS**

Abilene: 768, 795, 796  
Amarillo: 791  
Austin: 786, 787, 789  
Beaumont: 776, 777  
Bryan: 778  
Corpus Christi: 784  
Dallas: 751, 752, 753  
El Paso: 799  
Fort Worth: 760, 761, 762, 764  
Greenville: 754  
Houston: 770, 772  
Longview: 756  
Lubbock: 794  
Lufkin: 759  
North Houston: 773, 774, 775  
North Texas: 750  
Palestine: 758  
San Angelo: 769  
San Antonio: 780, 781, 782, 788  
Texarkana: 755  
Tyler: 757  
Waco: 765, 766, 767  
Wichita Falls: 763

**UTAH**

Provo: 845, 846, 847  
Salt Lake City: 840, 841, 843, 844

**VERMONT**

Burlington: 054, 056  
White River Junction: 035, 036, 037, 050,  
051, 052, 053, 057, 058, 059

**VIRGINIA**

Charlottesville: 228, 229, 244  
Culpeper: 227  
Farmville: 239  
Northern Virginia: 201, 220, 221, 222, 223  
Norfolk: 233, 234, 235, 236, 237  
Richmond: 224, 225, 230, 231, 232, 238  
Winchester: 226

**WASHINGTON**

Everett: 982  
 Olympia: 985  
 Seattle: 980, 981  
 Tacoma: 983, 984  
 Wenatchee: 988  
 Yakima: 989

**WEST VIRGINIA**

Bluefield: 246, 247, 248  
 Charleston: 250, 251, 252, 253  
 Huntington: 255, 256, 257  
 Martinsburg: 254

Wheeling: 260

**WISCONSIN**

Eau Claire: 547  
 Green Bay: 543  
 La Crosse: 546  
 Madison: 537  
 Milwaukee: 530, 531, 532  
 Oshkosh: 549  
 Racine: 534  
 Spooner: 548

**WYOMING**

Cheyenne: 820

**226.4 Postage**

**226.41 Flat-Rate Envelopes Postage**

Each Global Priority Mail flat-rate envelope is charged at a flat rate. The rate is based on the geographic rate zone regardless of its actual weight. Postage is required for each piece. (See Exhibit 226.41.)

Exhibit 226.41

**FLAT-RATE ENVELOPE POSTAGE RATES**

Destination	Small	Large
Western Europe and Middle East .....	\$3.75	\$6.95
Canada and Mexico .....	3.75	6.95
Pacific Rim and South America .....	4.95	8.95
Weight Limit 4 Lbs.		

**226.42 Variable Weight Option Postage—Single Piece Rates**

Global Priority Mail variable weight rates are calculated in half (or fraction thereof) increments based on the weight of each piece the destination geographic rate zone up to four pounds. (See Exhibit 226.42.)

Exhibit 226.42

**VARIABLE WEIGHT STICKER OPTION—SINGLE PIECE RATES**

Weight level	Western Europe and Middle East	Pacific Rim and South America	Canada and Mexico
½ lb .....	\$7.00	\$8.00	\$5.95
1.0 lb .....	10.50	12.50	10.00
1.5 lbs .....	12.50	16.95	13.50
2.0 lbs .....	15.00	21.00	16.50
2.5 lbs .....	17.50	23.95	18.00
3.0 lbs .....	19.95	27.25	19.50
3.5 lbs .....	22.00	31.50	21.00
4.0 lbs .....	24.75	34.50	22.50
Weight Limit 4 Lbs.			

**226.43 Global Priority Mail Sticker—Volume Rates**

**226.431 Minimum Quantity Requirement**

The mailer must have a minimum of five or more pieces to one or more Global Priority Mail countries. The minimum does not apply to each geographic zone rate. (See Exhibit 226.43.)

**226.432 Mailing Statement**

Postage for volume rate mail and permit imprint must be computed on PS

Form 3653, Global Priority Mail Statement of Mailings.

Exhibit 226.43

**VARIABLE WEIGHT STICKER OPTION—VOLUME RATES**

Weight level	Western Europe and Middle East	Pacific Rim and South America	Canada and Mexico
½ lb .....	\$5.95	\$6.95	\$5.00
1.0 lb .....	8.50	10.00	7.50
1.5 lbs .....	10.00	13.50	10.00
2.0 lbs .....	12.00	16.95	12.50
2.5 lbs .....	14.00	19.25	13.50
3.0 lbs .....	16.95	21.95	14.50
3.5 lbs .....	19.95	25.50	15.50
4.0 lbs .....	22.50	27.75	16.50
Weight Limit 4 Lbs.			

**226.5 Payment Methods**

**226.51 Postage Payment Methods**

Nonidentical weight piece mailings must have the applicable postage affixed by adhesive stamps, meter stamps or if presented at a post office, postal validation imprinter (PVI labels). Identical weight piece mailings may be paid by meter stamps, adhesive stamps, PVI labels or permit imprint subject to certain standards. To use permit imprint, the mailing must consist of 200 or more pieces and be of identical weight. The 200-piece criterion for permit imprint applies to both volume rate and flat-rate mail. Mailers may use permit imprint with nonidentical weight items only if authorized by the USPS under a Manifest Mailing System (MMS), in DMM P710.

**226.52 Postal Marking Related to Volume Rate Postage**

When pieces are paid at the volume rate and paid by stamps or meter impression, each piece must be legibly marked with the words "Volume Rate Global Priority Mail." If stamps are used the endorsement must appear on the address side of each piece and must be applied by a printing press, hand stamp or other similar printing device. If meter impression is used the endorsement must be in the ad plate or the slug area. If part of the slug, the abbreviation GPM Vol. Rate may be used. See DMM P030.4.14 for specification of size requirements.

**226.53 Permit Imprint Content and Format**

All permit imprints on Global Priority Mail must show city and state, "Global Priority Mail," U.S. Postage Paid, and permit number. They may show the mailing date, amount of postage paid or the number of ounces for each postage.

**226.54 Meter Stamps Content**

At a minimum, a meter stamp must show the month, day, and year in the postmark, city and state designation of the licensing post office, the number, and the amount of postage. See DMM P030.4.6.

**226.6 Preparation Requirements**

**226.61 Addressing**

All items must bear the complete delivery address of the addressee and the full name (no abbreviations) of the destination country. See 122.

**226.62 Marking**

Global Priority Mail items must be mailed in special envelopes (EP-15A,

EP-15B) or with the Global Priority Mail sticker (DEC-10) provided by the Postal Service. (These supplies may be obtained by calling 800-222-1811.) Unmarked pieces are subject to the applicable LC/AO airmail regular rates and treatment. Pieces paid at the Global Priority Mail sticker rate must have the DEC-10 sticker affixed to the address side of the package.

#### 226.63 Customs

A green customs label must be affixed if the package is 16 ounces or more, regardless of its contents. Only documents and correspondence under 16 ounces do not require a customs form.

#### 226.7 Size and Weight Limits

##### 226.71 Size Limits

##### 226.711 Flat-Rate Envelope Sizes

- a. Small Size—6 x 10 inches.
- b. Large Size—9½ x 12½ inches.

##### 226.712 Package Sizes for Variable Weight Option

- a. Minimum length and height: 5½ x 3½ inches.
- b. Minimum depth (thickness): .007 inches.
- c. Maximum length: 24 inches.
- d. Maximum length, height, depth (thickness) combined: 36 inches.

##### 226.713 Rolls

- a. Minimum length: 4 inches.
- b. Minimum length plus twice the diameter combined: 6¾ inches.
- c. Maximum length: 36 inches.
- d. Maximum length plus twice the diameter combined: 42 inches.

##### 226.72 Weight Limit

Items sent as Global Priority Mail in envelopes and the variable weight option must not exceed 4 pounds.

##### 226.73 Special Services

Mailers may obtain certificates of mailing (see NO TAG). No other special services such as registry, insurance, restricted delivery, return receipt, or recorded delivery are available.

##### 226.8 Mailer Preparation

##### 226.81 Mailer Requirement

Global Priority Mail claimed at the volume rate must be separated by geographic rate zone (Western Europe, Pacific Rim, and Canada) when presented to the business mail entry unit unless otherwise authorized by the USPS. All pieces in a permit imprint mailing and metered mail must be facing the same direction.

#### 226.82 Deposit of Mail

Global Priority Mail pieces paid by permit imprint and pieces claimed at the Global Priority Mail volume rates must be deposited at a business mail acceptance unit as authorized by the postmaster in the designated Global Priority Mail sites for weighing. Single piece variable weight option may be deposited in the normal manner of deposit for Global Priority Mail. Flat-rate envelopes with postage affixed may be deposited in any Express Mail Street collection box or other such place where Express Mail is accepted. Metered mail must be deposited in locations under the jurisdiction of the licensing post office except as permitted under DMM P030.

#### 226.83 Pickup Service

On call and scheduled pickup service are available for Global Priority Mail from the designated Global Priority Mail acceptance cities. There is a charge of \$4.95 for each pickup stop, regardless of the number of pieces picked up. (See DMM D010 for standards of pickup service.) Pickup is not available for Global Priority Mail pieces if paid by permit imprint or claimed at the volume rate.

**Stanley F. Mires,**

*Chief Counsel, Legislative.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### 46 CFR Part 382

[Docket No. R-158]

RIN 2133-AB19

#### Determination of Fair and Reasonable Guideline Rates for the Carriage of Bulk and Packaged Preference Cargoes on U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The regulations at 46 CFR part 382 prescribe the administrative procedures and methodology for determining fair and reasonable rates for the carriage of dry and liquid bulk and packaged preference cargoes on United States commercial cargo vessels. MARAD is issuing this rule to prescribe cost averaging as the methodology used for determining rates and to implement conforming procedural changes.

MARAD is also reducing information collection under these regulations.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective January 29, 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael P. Ferris, Director, Office of Costs and Rates, Maritime Administration, Washington, DC 20590, Tel. (202) 366-2324.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 901(b)(1) of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936 (the Act), as amended (46 App. U.S.C. 1241(b)), cited as the Cargo Preference Act of 1954, requires that at least 50 percent of any equipment, materials or commodities purchased by the United States or for the account of any foreign nation without provision for reimbursement, or acquired as the result of funds or credits from the United States, shall be transported on privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels, to the extent that such vessels are available at fair and reasonable rates. In 1985, section 901 was amended to exclude certain programs from the application of cargo preference and to raise the U.S.-flag share to 75 percent on certain others. Upon request, MARAD provides fair and reasonable rates (also referred to as guideline rates) to U.S. shipper agencies. Section 901(b)(2) of the Act provides the authority for MARAD (by delegation from the Secretary of Transportation) to issue regulations governing the administration of section 901(b)(1). In 1989, MARAD issued regulations at 46 CFR part 382 ("Rule"), that initially became effective on January 1, 1990.

Under the 1990 Rule, MARAD established fair and reasonable rates, so-called guideline rates, based on each individual vessel's costs which applied to the ocean borne portion of cargo transportation. The guideline rate consisted of four components: (1) Operating costs; (2) capital costs; (3) port and cargo handling costs; and (4) brokerage and overhead. The operating cost component of the guideline rate for each participating vessel reflected actual historical vessel operating costs escalated to the current period by utilizing factors for wage and non-wage costs. All eligible annual operating costs are added together for each vessel and divided by the total number of operating days for that vessel to yield a daily operating cost.

Each vessel's actual reported fuel consumption at sea and in port forms the basis of the guideline rate's fuel cost segment. The actual fuel consumption of each vessel is multiplied by the corresponding projected number of voyage days at sea and in port to calculate total units of fuel consumed.