(4) Principle 4. Access to and exchange of veteran data should be transparent and consistent. Access to and the exchange of veteran data should be transparent and consistent, and in accordance with all applicable standards. For the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), this includes practices described in VHA’s Notice of Privacy Practices. Data should only be shared or accessed for approved and specified purposes; there should be no unspecified use, or re-use of veteran data without VA agreement or approval. The release of veteran data for purposes other than those which were originally approved or specified, such as in an agreement, requires a separate approval and commitment of all parties to follow these principles. Failure to ensure such protections is a breach of veteran trust and confidentiality.

(5) Principle 5. De-identified veteran data should not be reidentified without authorization. Parties who receive de-identified veteran data must not attempt to re-identify the data in any manner without prior VA agreement or approval. VA considers unauthorized re-identification a breach of veterans’ trust and confidentiality.

(6) Principle 6. There is an obligation of reciprocity for gains made using veteran data. A financial or other gain from innovation by non-VA parties that uses veteran data obtained from VA creates a moral and tangible obligation of reciprocity to share this gain with veterans, veterans’ service organizations, and/or veterans’ causes. For example, parties could fulfill this obligation by giving back to the veteran community through support of veteran causes or organizations, by facilitating veteran access to innovations to which veteran data contributed, or, at a minimum, by publicly recognizing veteran contributions to the gain or innovation. Veteran data must not be sold by VA or its partners.

(7) Principle 7. All parties are obligated to ensure data security, quality and integrity of veteran data. All parties who send, receive, or use VA veteran data must ensure data security, quality, and integrity. In other words, that the data remain secure; accurate; complete; and representative of the data quality, meaning, and integrity when it was received or accessed from VA. Access to data by VA and its partners should be limited to the minimum amount needed to accomplish the stated purpose and should be terminated when no longer required. Data that are not necessary to accomplish the purpose for which it was obtained should not be retained longer than legally required. Transparency about breaches in data security, quality or integrity is also essential to promote trust and minimize impacts to veterans.

(8) Principle 8. Veterans should be able to access to their own information. Veterans must have user-friendly access to their own information. Access may be through electronic means such as mobile applications, web portals, or through convenient written or in-person processes.

(9) Principle 9. Veterans have the right to request amendments to their own information. Veterans must be able to request amendments to information in their VA records if they feel it is untimely, inaccurate, incomplete, or not relevant.

As used in this section, de-identified veteran data means information that does not identify an individual and with respect to which there is no reasonable basis to believe that the information is individually identifiable information or can be used by any means to identify an individual. For protected health information (PHI), veteran data is not de-identified unless in compliance with 45 CFR parts 160 and 164.

Postal Service

39 CFR Part 111

Periodicals Requester Records Requirements

AGENCY: Postal Service®

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service is amending Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM®) to revise verification requirements for authorized audit bureaus.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Kennedy at (202) 268–6592.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 24, 2022, the Postal Service published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) (87 FR 16702–16703) to revise verification requirements for authorized audit bureaus. The Postal Service did not receive any comments regarding the NPRM.

The Postal Service is enacting new procedures for auditing compliance with circulation standards for Periodicals requester publications and standardizing existing procedures across Postal Service publications. In addition, the Postal Service is revising the applicable Customer Support Ruling and customer handbooks to reflect this DMM revision.

We will publish an appropriate amendment to 39 CFR part 111 to reflect these changes.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 111

Administrative practice and procedure, Postal Service.

Accordingly, the Postal Service amends Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations as follows (see 39 CFR 111.1):

PART 111—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 111 continues to read as follows:


■ 2. Revise the Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) as follows:

Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM)

* * * * *

200 Commercial Mail Letters, Flats, and Parcels

* * * * *

207 Periodicals

* * * * *

8.0 Record Keeping Standards for Publishers

* * * * *

8.1 Basic Standards

* * * * *

[Replace 8.1.3 to read as follows:]

8.1.3 Retention

The publisher must keep records for each issue of a publication for 3 years from its issue date, except for circulation records for general or requester publications for which USPS verification of circulation is done by an authorized audit bureau. In addition, the publisher must retain records for paid subscribers for 12 months following the issue date. A publisher whose records are verified by an authorized audit bureau is not required to keep source records of requests and subscriptions longer than required by the audit bureau, provided, however, the authorized audit bureau shall be required to retain records related to such requests and
subscriptions for 3 years following each issue date.

8.2 Verification

* * * * *

[Replace 8.2.2 to read as follows:]

8.2.2 Authorized Verification

USPS employees or an authorized audit bureau may conduct verifications of circulation for an application for Periodicals mailing privileges, reentry application, or other required circulation verification of general or requester publications, provided, however, that the Postal Service will have the authority to review audit procedures upon request. In addition, the Postal Service reserves the right to verify each audit bureau’s compliance with such audit procedures. The Postal Service shall have the authority to revoke any audit bureau’s authorization to conduct verifications if it finds such audit bureau has failed to follow approved audit procedures.

Joshua J. Hofer,
Attorney, Ethics & Legal Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2022–14500 Filed 7–6–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

39 CFR Part 3040

[Docket No. RM2020–8]

Update to Product Lists

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission is announcing an update to the Market Dominant and Competitive product lists. This action reflects a publication policy adopted by Commission rules. The referenced policy assumes periodic updates. The updates are identified in the body of this document. The Market Dominant and Competitive product lists, which are re-published in their entirety, include these updates.

DATES: This rule is effective August 22, 2022, without further action, unless adverse comment is received by August 8, 2022. If adverse comment is received, the Commission will publish a timely withdrawal of the rule in the Federal Register.

ADDRESSES: For additional information, this document can be accessed electronically through the Commission’s website at https://www.prc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–780–6800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Introduction

II. Commission Process

III. Authorization

IV. Modifications

V. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642(d)(2) and 39 CFR 3040.103, the Commission provides a Notice of Update to Product Lists by listing all necessary modifications to both the Market Dominant and Competitive product lists between January 1, 2022, and March 31, 2022.

II. Commission Process

Pursuant to 39 CFR part 3040, the Commission maintains a Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) that includes rates, fees, and product descriptions for each Market Dominant and Competitive product, as well as product lists that categorize Postal Service products as either Market Dominant or Competitive. See generally 39 CFR part 3040. The product lists are published in the Code of Federal Regulations as 39 CFR part 3040, appendix A to subpart A, Market Dominant Product List, and appendix B to subpart A, Competitive Product List, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642(d)(2). See 39 U.S.C. 3642(d)(2). Both the MCS and its product lists are updated by the Commission on its website on a quarterly basis.1 In addition, these quarterly updates to the product lists are also published in the Federal Register pursuant to 39 CFR 3040.103. See 39 CFR 3040.103.

III. Authorization

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3040.103(d)(1), this Notice of Update to Product Lists identifies any modifications made to the Market Dominant or Competitive product list, including product additions, removals, and transfers.2 Pursuant to 39 CFR 3040.103(d)(2), the modifications identified in this document result from the Commission’s most recent MCS update posted on the Commission’s website on March 31, 2022, and supersede all previous product lists.

IV. Modifications

The following list of products is being added to 39 CFR part 3040, appendix A to subpart A, Market Dominant Product List:

1. USPS Connect Local Mail

The following list of products is being added to 39 CFR part 3040, appendix B to subpart A, Competitive Product List:

1. First-Class Package Service Contract 119

2. Priority Mail Contract 735

3. Priority Mail Contract 736

4. Priority Mail Contract 737

5. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 213

6. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 214

7. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 215

8. Priority Mail Express & Priority Mail Contract 129

9. Priority Mail Express & Priority Mail Contract 130

10. Priority Mail Express, Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 78


The following list of products is being removed from 39 CFR part 3040, appendix A to subpart A, Market Dominant Product List:

1. Plus One

The following list of products is being removed from 39 CFR part 3040, appendix B to subpart A, Competitive Product List:

1. International Priority Airmail, Commercial ePacket, Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service Contract 8

2. Parcel Return Service Contract 11

3. Priority Mail Contract 457

4. Priority Mail Contract 650

5. Priority Mail Contract 677

6. Priority Mail Contract 681

7. Priority Mail Contract 684

8. Priority Mail Contract 688


10. Priority Mail Contract 696

11. Priority Mail Contract 697

12. Priority Mail Contract 698

13. Priority Mail Contract 703

14. Priority Mail Contract 706

15. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 182

16. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 189

17. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 196

18. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 197

19. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 198

20. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 199

21. Priority Mail & First-Class Package Service Contract 201

22. Priority Mail Express Contract 89