


International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union




Universal Postal Union - Overview

[Click here to add a sub-title](#)

John DOE - Programme manager -> (DIRECTION) © UPU 2006 - All rights reserved


The Universal Postal Union



- Founded in Berne in 1874
 - 1874 » 22 member countries
 - 2008 » 191 member countries
- United Nations specialized agency
 - since 1948

Universal Postal Union Communication Programme © UPU 2006 - All rights reserved

The worldwide postal network



- 431 billion letters
- 6 billion parcels
- 5.5 million employees
- Millions more jobs in related industries
- More than 665,000 post offices
- More than 82.7% of traffic comes from 28 industrialized countries

Universal Postal Union Communication Programme © UPU 2006 - All rights reserved

✉ Merging three networks

- Physical
- Financial
- Electronic

The worldwide postal network offers a natural gateway to the information society

Universal Postal Union Communication Programme © UPU 2006 – All rights reserved

✉ Activities

The UPU plays a role in:

- Regulating worldwide traffic of international mail
- Establishing quality-of-service standards
- Establishing technical standards
- Maintaining a system for compensating countries known as terminal dues

But also in:

- Promoting the development of modern products and services
- Monitoring market trends
- Promoting international cooperation and technical assistance
- Fostering a dialogue among all postal sector players


Universal Postal Union Communication Programme © UPU 2006 – All rights reserved

✉ International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union

Postal Security Group - Overview

[Click here to add a sub-title](#)


John DOE – Programme manager <...> (DIRECTION) © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

Postal Security Group PSG 

MAJOR PRIORITIES

- >The prevention of injuries to people due to dangerous goods in the mail
- >The prevention of the loss or theft of mail entrusted to the posts
- >The prevention of revenue or asset losses to postal administrations
- >The preservation of customer confidence in the post

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved


Postal Security Policy 

MAJOR COMPONENTS

Guarantee the integrity of the postal items, employees, installations, resources, materials and the equipments used in the postal and financial operations

Prevent, detect and investigate unlawful acts both internal and external.

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

Postal Security - Strategy 

Improve the functioning of the Postal Security organs

- Integrate postal security with each phase of the operation
- Make the internal public aware

Coordinate security actions with other institutions

- Police and Interior Ministry
- Customs and Tax Authorities
- Federal Offices of Public Security
- Bank authorities and credit card companies
- Airline companies

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

✉ **Postal Crimes - External** 

- Crimes committed against a postal administration by external (non-employee) criminals
- Most of the external crimes need to be reported to law enforcement, for legal action
- Postal investigators should be thorough with the inter-relationship between criminal and postal law/regulations
- Strong working relationship with law enforcement is useful in the field of prohibited mailings.

✉ **Postal Security Group** 

- The Postal Security Group will meet in November in Bern, Switzerland
- This is the first meeting since Congress concluded in Geneva in August
- Priorities will be outlined for the next four years
- Included in these priorities, is the continuation of the Dangerous Goods Project Group. The focus will be:
 - Training
 - Developing safe responses to suspicious substances
 - Developing proper responses to biological, chemical and radiological events.
- Point of contact – David Bowers – Security Specialist
UPU +41 31 3503578 or david.bowers@upu.int

✉ International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union 

Misuse of mail - Dangerous Goods



Dangerous substances



Definition:

Substances that may be corrosive, flammable, explosive, spontaneously combustible, toxic, oxidizing, or water-reactive.

These goods can be deadly, injure seriously or kill people and damage property and the environment.

Articles or substances capable of posing a risk to health, safety, property or the environment and which are shown in the list of dangerous goods in these Instructions or which are classified according to the Instructions

- ICAO Technical Instructions

Dangerous substances IDENTIFICATION



Other indicators



Dangerous substances IDENTIFICATION



Origin of Mailing

- Laboratories
- Veterinary Clinics
- Chemical and Pesticide plants



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Postal Administration had already screened the parcel and presented it to the airlines



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Discovered by the ground handler at the destination airport



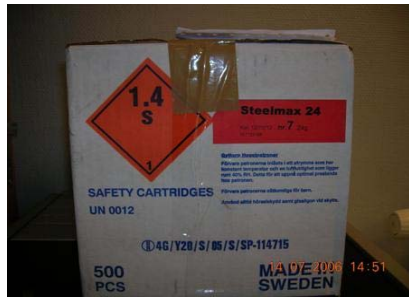
Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Discovered during unloading of the aircraft



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Discovered during unloading of the aircraft



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Leaking parcel containing Phenol



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Damage to mail and luggage



Dangerous substances found in the international mail

Damage to aircraft

Photo 6. View into structure below 1st floor panel, rear wall in top of picture.

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

Emergency procedures and Responses

By Management - Contingency Plan:

- Clear instructions for staff, emergency response Chart, emergency contact numbers, report and review incident

By Supervisors:

- Call for Assistance from Fire Service, Protect Staff, Clear Spillage, Report Including Recommendations

By Staff:

- Inform Supervisor, Isolate The Area, Gather Information

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

Training for Mail handlers

Content:

Very brief reason why these items are prohibited – statement regarding safety and possible legal ramifications and international treaty

Simplistic examples of Classes of Dangerous Goods

- UN symbols and pictorial examples of most common items like fireworks, aerosols matches, gasoline etc.

All acceptance personnel should conduct a thorough visual examination

- Examine customers label
- Ask the mailability questions

Common senders and addressees of dangerous goods such as laboratories, hospitals, chemical companies

International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union © UPU 2008 – All rights reserved

✉ **Training for Mail handlers (-contd)**



All postal personnel handling or processing mail at an Office of Exchange or postal personnel specifically engaged in the processing or handling of parcels/packets at sorting centres

Focus on safety and international requirements

Methods:

- Computer-based training
- Instructor-based training
- Hardcopy Manual

Suggested actions, when dangerous goods are suspected:

- Contact your rates-and-classification office if you have questions on mailability
- Follow your standard spillage/rewrap procedures for handling of leaking or damaged parcels
