

# POSTAL NEWS

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Formulated by **UNI-Japan Post** in cooperation with **UNI-Apro**,  
**ASPEK Indonesia** and **SPPI**

1. **Combat Support Associates Go Postal in Kuwait. Feb 21, 2008.**
2. **Postal Service Offers New Larger Box With One Flat Price for Shipping. Feb 21, 2008.**
3. **US Postal Service Grants ecoEnvelopes First Ever Approval for Reusable Envelopes. Feb 21, 2008.**
4. **Washington signs the Postal Act: Feb. 20, 1792 . Feb 20, 2008.**
5. **Fatter postal workers welcome. Feb 20, 2008.**
6. **Going postal in the digital world. Feb 20, 2008.**
7. **China Postal Airlines launches flights between Yantai, Seoul. Feb 19, 2008.**
8. **Uganda's postal system is the poorest in world. Feb 19, 2008.**

## 1. **Combat Support Associates Go Postal in Kuwait**

21-Feb-2008 13:55 EST

Related Stories: Americas - USA, Bases & Infrastructure, Contracts - Awards, Contracts - Modifications, Middle East - Other, Other Corporation

Feb 20/08: Combat Support Associates in Orange, CA a \$30.9 million cost-plus-fixed-fee contract for contract modifications for expansion of postal operations support at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Work is expected to be complete by Sept 30/09. This web solicitation was posted on Oct 30/98, and 4 bids were received by the U.S. Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island, IL (DASA02-99-C-1234).

This is actually part of a much larger effort, wherein CSA provides services to U.S. Army troops and Allied Forces at Camps Arifjan, Buehring, Virginia, and Ali Al Salem in Kuwait, under a 10-year effort with a base year and 9 option years that run through September 2009. (Unsurprisingly, the firm is hiring in the Middle East)...

Feb 8/08: Combat Support Associates in Orange, CA received a \$31.4 million cost-plus-award-fee contract for the execution of a contract modification to "definitize, incorporate the terms, conditions and price negotiated and agreed to between personnel assigned to the Army Directorate of Contracting in Kuwait." Work will be performed at Capt Arifjan, Kuwait, and is expected to be complete by Sept 30/09. The U.S. Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, IL solicited 4 bids on Oct 30/98, and 4 bids were received (DASA02-99-C-1234).

Feb 8/08: Combat Support Associates in Orange, A received a \$6.1 million cost-plus-award-fee contract for the execution of a contract modification to "definitize, incorporate the terms, conditions and price negotiated and agreed to between personnel assigned to the Army Directorate of Contracting in Kuwait." Work will be

performed at Capt Arifjan, Kuwait, and is expected to be complete by Sept 30/09. The U.S. Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, IL solicited 4 bids on Oct 30/98, and 4 bids were received (DASA02-99-C-1234).

July 13/99: Combat Support Associates in Orange, CA received \$3 million as part of a \$51.3 million (base year total) cost-plus-award-fee contract, with an estimated cumulative total of \$546.8 million if all options are exercised. The contractor will furnish management and resources to perform base operations and tactical and non-tactical equipment maintenance and related support services at Camp Doha, Kuwait, and work is expected to be complete by Sept 30/08. There was an announcement on the World Wide Web on Oct. 29/98, and 4 bids were received by the Military Traffic Management Command, USA Central Command-Kuwait at Camp Doha, Kuwait (DASA02-99-C-1234).

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## **2. Postal Service Offers New Larger Box With One Flat Price for Shipping**

Order Boxes Now and Prepare to Ship March 3

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Sending a birthday gift cross-country, a care package to a college student, or a reminder of home to a military member overseas? The Postal Service has launched a new box for larger shipments, giving customers three different size and shape options -- all with convenient flat-rate pricing -- to meet their shipping needs. The new box is 50 percent larger than the current flat-rate boxes. If it fits, it ships, for just \$12.95 to any U.S. address beginning March 3.

"Flat-rate shipping is the best value in the marketplace," said Postmaster General John Potter. "Our new, bigger box gives customers even more room to send items across the country, with one flat price, regardless of how much they weigh or how far they're going."

**New Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box** The current flat-rate boxes, introduced in November 2004, give customers a single, predetermined rate regardless of the weight or delivery zone. The new, larger box extends the Postal Service's line of successful flat-rate offerings, providing more choices for small businesses and consumers.

The new Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box (12" x 12" x 5 1/2" or nearly 800 cubic inches) will be available in Post Offices nationwide beginning March 3, but customers can begin ordering them now at [usps.com/supplies](http://usps.com/supplies) or by calling 800-610-8734.

Some of the new boxes are co-branded with the logo of America Supports You, a Department of Defense program that connects citizens offering support to the military and their families.

Mail to APO/FPO addresses receive \$2 discount

Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Boxes shipped to an APO/FPO destination receive a \$2 discount, a postal first for the military; either version of the new larger box can receive the discount. The two existing flat-rate boxes (11 1/2" x 3 1/2" x 13 1/2" and 11" x 8 1/2" x 5 1/2"), which currently retail for \$8.95 for U.S. addresses, are not eligible for the military discount. All flat-rate boxes can be used for shipping to international addresses.

All Postal Service Priority and Express Mail packages and envelopes are environmentally friendly, exceeding the highest standards for recyclability.

Priority Mail Large Flat-Rate Box Prices	
Domestic Shipping	\$12.95
APO/FPO Addresses	\$10.95
International Shipping*	
-- Canada and Mexico	\$29.95
-- Other Countries	\$49.95

\*20-pound weight limit

For more information, please visit [usps.com](http://usps.com).

An independent federal agency, the U.S. Postal Service is the only delivery service that visits every address in the nation - 146 million homes and businesses. It has 37,000 retail locations and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to pay for operating expenses, not tax dollars. The Postal Service has annual revenues of \$75 billion and delivers nearly half the world's mail.

Website: <http://www.usps.com/>

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### **3. US Postal Service Grants ecoEnvelopes First Ever Approval for Reusable Envelopes**

Breakthrough Product Dramatically Reduces Waste and Mailing Costs

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--ecoEnvelopes ([www.ecoEnvelopes.com](http://www.ecoEnvelopes.com)), the developers of innovative reusable envelopes designed to conserve natural resources and reduce costs, have received a key National Customer Ruling from the US Postal Service (USPS). It is the first time USPS has issued such a certification for a line of

reusable envelopes and solidifies ecoEnvelopes' position as a leader in a bold new effort to green the US mail.

The USPS National Customer Ruling is issued after an official testing and approval process. The ruling provides customers with increased confidence that ecoEnvelopes' unique designs meet the most stringent qualifications for use in the US mail. In 2007, USPS worked closely with ecoEnvelopes in changing the Domestic Mail Manual (DMM), paving the way for breakthrough mail solutions of this kind.

By eliminating the need for reply envelopes, ecoEnvelopes helps businesses and organizations meet their social, environmental and marketing objectives. "Using one envelope is simply more efficient and less wasteful than two, and you send the right message with a reusable envelope," said founder and CEO Ann DeLaVergne, a former organic farmer and beekeeper who created the first ecoEnvelopes by hand in her kitchen as a way to reduce waste. More than 80 billion reply envelopes are sent through the US mail each year.

Eliminating return envelopes saves energy, water, and forest resources and reduces the carbon emissions that contribute to climate change. Every one million ecoEnvelopes used saves an estimated 250 million BTUs of energy and 37,000 pounds of greenhouse gasses. All ecoEnvelopes are manufactured on certified papers from managed forests using up to 100% recycled content.

"Beyond the environmental benefits, the value proposition is simple," says DeLaVergne. Bulk mailers such as utilities, credit card companies, and direct marketers can reduce manufacturing, printing, shipping and insertion costs by using one envelope instead of two. ecoEnvelopes are designed for use with existing high-speed insertion and postal processing equipment.

Customers can realize mail savings between 15% to 45% and increased response rates for direct mail of up to 8%. "It's important for us to practice what we preach," stated Ruth Patton, Director of Communications for Fresh Energy, a leading advocate of new, innovative energy solutions. "Using ecoEnvelopes for our mailings helps us maintain our integrity. Our members love that we're producing less waste and using fewer resources. Response rate is at an all-time high," she continued.

"The Postal Service understands our vision and we are grateful for their support," said DeLaVergne. "It's simply an idea whose time has come. With ecoEnvelopes, we are proving that being more efficient, even with something as small as an envelope, can have a measurable impact on the environment," she concluded.

#### About ecoEnvelopes

ecoEnvelopes LLC. ([www.ecoEnvelopes.com](http://www.ecoEnvelopes.com)) designs and licenses proprietary reusable envelopes that reduce mail costs and benefit the environment. ecoEnvelopes' patent-pending mail solutions are manufactured exclusively on certified paper from managed forests with up to 100% post consumer recycled content and operate on existing high-speed insertion and postal processing equipment. The company's innovative products meet the growing desire of corporations, organizations and consumers to be more responsible and contribute to environmental stewardship.

#### **4. Washington signs the Postal Act: Feb. 20, 1792**

By: Andrew Glass  
Feb 20, 2008 06:01 AM EST

On this day in 1792, President George Washington signed legislation creating the U.S. Postal Service.

Before the American Revolution, letters were exchanged mainly via private couriers or through the help of friendly travelers. Some colonies set up “post offices” in taverns and shops where carriages or riders could pick up and drop off mail.

In 1707, the British government established the position of postmaster general, although mail still moved largely through the hands of private individuals. In 1737, Benjamin Franklin became postmaster general of the colonies for the Crown at age 31. He carried out his duties in England until he was fired as a subversive colonialist. Franklin then returned to America and created a rival postal system.

The 1792 act reinforced the power of Congress to establish official mail routes. It specified that newspapers should be included in mail deliveries and made it illegal for postal officials to open mail. The cost of sending a letter over some 2,400 miles of postal routes ranged from 6 cents to 12 cents.

In 1829, during the presidency of Andrew Jackson, William Barry of Kentucky became the first postmaster general to join the Cabinet. Although his predecessor, John McLean of Ohio, began referring to the service as the Post Office Department, it was not specifically established as an executive department by Congress until 1872.

Under the Jackson administration, an Office of Instructions and Mail Depredations was also established as the department's investigative branch. The head of that office, P.S. Loughborough, became the first chief postal inspector.

In 1970, at the initiative of President Richard Nixon, Congress agreed to transform the Post Office Department into the U.S. Postal Service as an independent entity within the executive branch.

The service will soon be able to track all business-related mail through the use of 31-digit bar codes.

#### **5. Fatter postal workers welcome**

Published: Wednesday, 20 February, 2008, 06:47 AM Doha Time

SYDNEY: Australia's postal service has increased the maximum weight for mailmen and women by 15kg in an attempt to attract more "posties", local media reported yesterday.

Australia Post had a weight limit of 90kg for "posties" because its 110cc motorcycles had a safe working limit of 130kg " that's 40kg for letters and up to 90kg for mailmen and women fully clothed.

But after talks with motorcycle manufacturer Honda it was agreed the bikes could safely carry a "postie" weighing 105kg, said Sydney's the Daily Telegraph newspaper.

But the "posties" will only carry 25kg of mail.

The union representing mailmen and women said the 90kg limit had caused recruitment headaches for Australia Post, but the company denied it had staffing problems.

"Testing found a rise in rider weight up to a maximum of 105kg would not have any significant effect on the stability, handling or safety of their 110cc motorcycle," an Australia Post spokesman told the newspaper.

"By raising it from 90 to 105kg means there will be other people that can now apply," he said. " Reuters

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## 6. Going postal in the digital world

By: Juliette Funes

Issue date: 2/20/08

Most mail - bills, birthday cards and letters - goes out electronically for a majority of people in the United States today.

With computers in our offices and in our homes, it's much easier, more convenient, faster and, best of all, free to send and receive our e-mail.

According to an Associated Press article, there has been a 7 percent drop in traditional mail since 2001.

That's about 1.3 billion letters the U.S. post office doesn't get on a yearly basis.

Because of that, we may not need traditional mail services anymore. No more waiting for the mail or complaining to the post office when it gets lost.

Since we're a developed nation, it's assumed that most people in the United States have computers, e-mail and Internet service.

But what about those who don't have access to a computer?

What about those who can't afford to buy a computer or have the ability to use one?

Although more of us are not using traditional mailing methods as much and it's become a trend to replace those methods with electronic ones, I don't think we're at a point where we can just rely on digital options.

If conventional mail disappeared, millions of jobs would be lost. Those who can't afford a computer will most likely be unable to get the mail they need. And these aren't the only reasons e-mail hasn't fully taken over.

Many, like me, fear cyber criminals hacking into their accounts and disrupting their lives.

A virus could sneak its way into my computer and crash it, deleting my stored mail. A hacker could creep into my system and steal all of my mail, discover my personal information, find out my passwords and sell my identity.

The advantages wouldn't outweigh the disadvantages.

The Universal Postal Agency is trying to create a new ".post" domain to distribute mail and offer services to personal electronic addresses worldwide, serving as a digital mailroom.

Its services would provide online billing and payments, electronic postmarks and hybrid mail. Hybrid mail is when the post office would be sent your paper mail, they would scan a copy for you and deliver it to you electronically or they'd receive a digital document, print it for you and mail it to you.

That's not really a new phenomenon. We can already get and pay our bills online fairly easily. And if hybrid mail entails other people opening my mail and scanning or printing it, most likely reading it before delivering it to me, I'd rather not use that service.

We can already do most of these things online by ourselves without interference. Why have a third-party agency sift through our private mail when we can communicate directly with the company with whom we are doing our business?

I'm guessing using the .post wouldn't be free. It would likely be an added expense for us without really saving mail carrier jobs - unless the hybrid mail portion is a booming service and we need postal workers to deliver our mail.

Seeing how the .post domain would have to be U.N.-approved, it's most likely that it would be monitored and controlled by the government. Most of us would like to keep our mail private.

I don't think we'll be able to get rid of traditional mail completely and rely solely on digital capabilities - at least not yet.

Maybe in the future when the rest of the world is more developed in terms of technology and literacy and everyone is comfortable with the idea of making every aspect of our lives digital, maybe then it'll work.

## **7. China Postal Airlines launches flights between Yantai, Seoul**

JINAN, Feb. 19 (Xinhua)-- Mail and cargo flights between the Chinese coastal city of Yantai, Shandong Province, and Seoul, Republic of Korea, went into operation on Tuesday, shortening delivery times between the two cities by at least 12 hours.

A Boeing 737 aircraft of China Postal Airlines, specializing in express mail services (EMS) and cargo transport, took off from Yantai International Airport at 11 a.m. and landed in Seoul 70 minutes later, airline sources said.

It is the first cargo flight service between South Korea and Shandong, its largest investment destination in China. South Korea has invested about 20 billion U.S. dollars in the eastern province through 2007, accounting for 27 percent of its China investment.

The new route boosts economic exchange between Shandong and South Korea and gives China Postal a better footing in the international market, according to the China Postal Airlines source.

Currently, there are 18,000 companies that have been directly invested by South Korean businesses in Shandong, half of the total in China.

China Postal Airlines will fly from Yantai to Seoul five times weekly, according to company sources. Express mail from the province can arrive at Seoul, Gyeonggi and Incheon in South Korea the next day and in other cities a day after that.

Shanghai-based China Postal Airlines, a 51/49 percent joint venture between China's State Post Bureau and China Southern Airlines, boasts a fleet of 13 aircraft and operates 30 flights to a dozen domestic cities. The company's delivery network covers more than 300 Chinese cities.

In line with its commitments to the World Trade Organization, China has fully opened its express delivery market. International delivery companies such as DHL, TNT and UPS are now competing in China.

Editor: Gao Ying

## **8. Uganda's postal system is the poorest in world**

Tuesday, 19th February, 2008

By David Muwanga

UGANDA'S postal technology is among the least developed and most static in the world, a report has showed. "Unlike in the telecommunications sub-sector where new technologies have been introduced and followed by drastic changes in the Uganda market, the labour- intensive nature of postal services remains unchanged in Uganda since it was established in the 1970s," explained the report.

The baseline study report on postal services in Uganda was presented by a team of consultants to the stakeholders at a workshop at Hotel Africana, Kampala last week. The study assessed the demand of the postal services and the areas for improvement.

The report said the postal sub-sector had been eroded by the development of internet, electronic mail and cellular telephone technologies.

"While other sectors have evolved to adapt to the changing market environment and to the development of competing services like internet service providers, the mix of the Uganda postal products and services have remained static," the report said.

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