

# POSTAL NEWS

No. 65/2008

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

- 1. Get Europe out of our postal service. May 24, 2008.**
- 2. 'Postal': Bad To The Bone, May 23, 2008.**
- 3. Postal Service Reinforces Commitment to Greener Future. May 23, 2008.**

May 24 2008 by Our Correspondent, Western Mail

## **1. Get Europe out of our postal service**

SIR – As a Royal Mail worker, it came as no great surprise to me that the recent interim findings of the Hooper review were that postal liberalisation had benefited no-one except big business.

The universal service obligation, which guarantees small businesses and the public a flat rate for delivery to anywhere in the UK, is clearly unsustainable under current circumstances.

Having a vested interest in the issue, however, on Friday I checked our competition by ringing DHL to see how much they would charge for next-day delivery of a 100g letter from Chester to the Isle of Skye.

They said they could not do a Saturday delivery, but could deliver in three working days for £28.23. Royal Mail, on the other hand, charge 36p for a first-class stamp which will usually result in next-day delivery; and for £4.60 they offer a guaranteed next day (Special Delivery) service.

DHL is part of the Deutsche Post Group, which is the German state postal service. Germany has not yet admitted competition into its own domestic postal market.

I do not believe the partial privatisation of Royal Mail is the solution to problems created by the imposition of liberalisation.

I think what needs to be recognised is that Royal Mail's Universal Service Obligation is a public service, and as such cannot be reconciled with unbridled free market values. Competitors will simply cherry-pick the easy work on behalf of their big business clients, leaving the price to be paid by small business and the public in higher postage costs. This process has already begun.

What we need is a state-run postal service free from European interference. It was good enough for the Victorians so it ought to be good enough for us.

May 23 2008 10:45 AM EDT

## 2. 'Postal': Bad To The Bone,

By Kurt Loder Views 1,492

German director Uwe Boll is customarily described as the world's worst filmmaker. I don't know if this is true — it's a big world, after all. But with the release of "Postal," he stakes a strong claim to being the world's most offensive. I mean that in a good way.

"Postal" is a foul and horrifying movie, a classic of its kind. I laughed pretty much non-stop through the first hour or so (unfortunately, the picture runs nearly two hours), cringing in shame and yet cackling helplessly nevertheless. The opening scene, already notorious, has two Muslim terrorists sitting at the controls of a plane they've just hijacked. They're piloting it toward a New York skyscraper, but seem more concerned about an upsetting story they've heard: It seems that there are now so many martyrs-for-Allah that each can no longer be guaranteed a hundred virgins when he reaches paradise — the number has been cut to 20. One of the terrorists whips out a cell phone and calls Osama Bin Laden, who confirms this. Angrily, the terrorists decide to change course and head for the Bahamas. Unfortunately, at this moment the plane's passengers storm the cockpit, and in the ensuing confusion, the aircraft reaches its original destination and crashes into the tower.

There's nothing funny about 9/11, obviously. But the joke here is about Islamic terrorists, so ... well, let me just say that at the screening I attended, I wasn't the only person laughing.

Amazingly, things get even worse. "Postal" is based on one of the video games of that name ("Postal 2," to be exact), which have been condemned for their mindless violence ever since being introduced in 1997. The plot concerns a luckless hick (Zack Ward) — a trailer-park Travis Bickle — who goes postal in response to the depravity of the modern world. After discovering his enormously fat wife having sex with another hick who lives nearby, this lead character (known only as "The Postal Dude" in the film's credits) goes to visit his Uncle Dave (Dave Foley) in search of support. Dave is a sleazy scammer who operates a hippie commune dedicated to "organic monotheism." The Dude finds Dave in bed with three naked women. There follows a bathroom scene that I will not describe. Dave's commune is deep in debt to the IRS; he needs money. In order to raise some, he wants the Dude to come in with him on a scheme to rip off a shipment of an enormously popular kiddy item called the Krotchy Doll. I will not describe the Krotchy Doll. (Do I need to?)

The story gets even more disgusting. A corrupt cop approaches a car that's holding up traffic and pulls a gun and blows away the woman driver. The Dude shoots a menacingly aggressive homeless guy (accidentally, though — even Boll has limits, apparently). Later, small children are mowed down in the most graphically bloody

way, and a TV news chick arranges their little corpses around her feet to deliver a touching on-the-scene report.

The movie reaches its odious peak at the opening of an amusement park called Little Germany, which is run by Uwe Boll himself, in full Lederhosen drag. A "Hasselhoff Beer Garden" is the only one of the park's loathsome attractions I feel comfortable noting. Also on hand for the opening is a celebrity guest — tiny Verne Troyer. ("You know," Boll tells him, "all those rumors out there that my movies are financed with Nazi gold? It's true!") After much subsequent slaughter (also involving a gang of Islamic terrorists who operate a "Taliban TV" station in the back of a local convenience store), Troyer is raped by a roomful of chimpanzees. The movie ends — why not? — with George W. Bush and his friend Osama Bin Laden skipping off hand in hand through a field beneath a towering mushroom cloud.

The select group of people who might actually wish to see this movie — which makes the early work of John Waters seem like the family classics of Frank Capra — will have very little chance to do so. Boll is fearlessly releasing it on "Indiana Jones" weekend, in a nationwide total of 10 theaters, according to his latest count. (It was originally scheduled to play in about 1,500, until theater owners got a look at it.) Not to fret, though, fellow trolls — a picture like "Postal" is the reason the midnight-movie circuit was created. And of course it'll be available on DVD, too. Probably next week.

Don't miss Kurt Loder's review of "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," also new in theaters this week.

000

### **3. Postal Service Reinforces Commitment to Greener Future**

WEBWIRE – Friday, May 23, 2008

First vice president of sustainability announced at National Postal Forum  
ANAHEIM, CA — The U.S. Postal Service chose the state with the most progressive environmental record in the nation as the place to announce the creation of a corporate vice president of sustainability.

Postmaster General John Potter today named Sam Pulcrano, a 33-year Postal Service veteran, as the organization's first vice president of sustainability, responsible for coordinating energy and environmental programs across all departments of the Postal Service. One of Pulcrano's first goals will be to complete an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and create an action plan to reduce emissions.

"We continuously strive for sustainability, discovering better ways to deliver long-term value to our customers, employees and to the communities we serve," Potter said. "This new position simply puts a more formal structure in place at an organization that has been environmentally smart and friendly for more than 200 years."

Pulcrano currently serves as director of safety and environmental performance management, overseeing a staff of about 600 responsible for all environmental policies and programs, as well as safety compliance and procedures at more than 38,000 facilities across the country.

Under his direction, the Postal Service has become an industry leader in employee safety. Employee work-related accidents were reduced by 50 percent and the number of Voluntary Protection Program sites, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) highest safety recognition, increased to 150 in less than six years. No federal agency has a better record. The Postal Service also is a leader in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) "Performance Track" program, earning 31 applications for environmental programs and stewardship.

Pulcrano's previous Postal Service positions include safety manager, manager of labor relations, area manager for human resources and manager of contract administration for the American Postal Workers Union and National Postal Mail Handlers Union. Pulcrano, 56, holds a bachelor of science degree in finance and management from the State University of New Paltz, New York. A native of Wichita, KS, he is married with two children and makes his home in Arlington, VA.

Earlier this month, the Postal Service launched an easy, online resource for consumers to make environmentally friendly decisions about their mail. From eco-friendly products and services to recycling ideas and ways to help marketers create greener advertising, [usps.com/green](http://usps.com/green) contains hundreds of facts, suggestions and programs to help improve environmental awareness and make it easier for consumers to go green – including a way to calculate carbon footprint savings by conducting Postal Service business online.

As one of the nation's leading corporate citizens, the U.S. Postal Service is committed to environmental stewardship. USPS empowers consumers to "go green" through a comprehensive approach to mail production, delivery and recycling that enhances sustainability, meeting the needs of the present without compromising the future:

The Postal Service is the only shipping company in the country to achieve Cradle to Cradle certification for the environmental qualities of its Express Mail and Priority Mail boxes and envelopes. Changes made in the production of Express and Priority mail eliminates 15,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases annually.

USPS recycles more than 1 million tons of paper, plastic and other materials annually. The "Mail Back" pilot program provides postage-paid envelopes to recycle small electronics including PDAs, cell phones and inkjet cartridges. More than 1,600 Post Offices are participating in the pilot.

USPS is working with OSRAM SYLVANIA and Veolia Environmental Services to help consumers properly recycle compact fluorescent lamps.

Water-based inks are used to print stamps.

Bio-based oil and alternative fuels such as compressed natural gas, hydrogen or ethanol gas, and re-treaded tires are used on Postal Service vehicles.

Postal buildings are being upgraded to reduce energy use with the goal of reducing energy consumption by 30 percent by 2015.

The Postal Service has received 39 White House Closing the Circle Awards for outstanding environmental stewardship and eight EPA WasteWise Partner of the Year awards, the agency's top honor.

And, the Postal Service delivers the mail in the most energy efficient way possible. A third of all deliveries are made on foot.

000

Collected by Chairul Anwar, Bandung, Indonesia.

E-mail address : [chairulanwar49@operamail.com](mailto:chairulanwar49@operamail.com), [uyungchairul@plasa.com](mailto:uyungchairul@plasa.com).