

POSTAL NEWS

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- 1. Israel, Palestinians agree to boost postal cooperation**
- 2. Lithuania became a member the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union. Aug 7, 2008.**
- 3. Postal losses top \$1 billion and year isn't over. Aug 7, 2008.**
- 4. In 2011 national postal operator of Azerbaijan can start operating with profit. Aug 6, 2008.**

Israel, Palestinians agree to boost postal cooperation

2 days ago

GENEVA (AFP) — Israel and the Palestinian authorities have agreed to take joint steps to improve the postal services in the Palestinian territories, the Universal Postal Union said Thursday.

The two parties have agreed to start direct mail exchanges between the Palestinian Authority and the 191 member states of the UPU, with mail transiting via Jordan, the organisation's Director General Edouard Dayan said.

Dayan said in a statement that the announcement would help to prepare the ground for work to develop and improve the quality of the Palestinian postal service. He welcomed the "spirit of dialogue and total cooperation" shown by both parties.

The UPU is currently holding its annual congress in Geneva, which runs from July 23 to August 12.

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Lithuania became a member the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union
Danuta Pavilenene, BC, Vilnius, 07.08.2008.

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Lithuania was elected to the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union on 6 August in Geneva (Switzerland) during the 24th congress of the organization, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania announced BC on Thursday.

Representatives of Lithuania will work on drawing the attention of other members of the Union to the interests of small countries with low volume of postal consignments, at the same time promoting the use of information technologies in postal services and the growth of revenue in this sector.

It is expected that participation of Lithuanian representatives in activities of the Council of Administration having rights of a member country will contribute to strengthening of Lithuania's international recognition, closer intergovernmental cooperation, as well as stimulate development of the postal sector.

The Council of Administration is the highest administrative body of the Universal Postal Union. It is elected every four years and consists of 40 member countries, which are elected in conformity with the principle of geographic representation.

Lithuania joined the Universal Postal Union on 10 October, 1992.

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Postal losses top \$1 billion and year isn't over
August 7, 2008 - 12:20pm

Mark Segraves, WTOP Radio

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Postal Service is reporting a \$1.1 billion loss this year, and the fiscal year isn't over yet.

Despite a rate increase in May, and the post office breaking even the first half of 2008, the reasons for the loss can be attributed to high gas prices and fewer people mailing letters.

U.S. Postal Service spokesman David Partenheimer says he doesn't expect rates to go up, but the post office is cutting back on staff. A hiring freeze is in place at headquarters.

"We have reduced our workforce by more than 100,000 employees since the start of the decade and continue to reduce our workforce through voluntary means, including the

"voluntary early retirements we are offer to our employees in some positions," Partenheimer says.

The U.S. Postal Service also reported that on-time delivery is at an all-time high.

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In 2011 national postal operator of Azerbaijan can start operating with profit

Baku, Fineko/abc.az. The Ministry of Communications & Information Technologies of Azerbaijan suggests increase of subsidizing for postal sector.

At a Cabinet Ministers session held yesterday Ali Abbasov, the communications minister, said that for January-June 2008 postal sector earnings grew by 30%.

"Azerbaijan still encounters difficulties that are distinctive for post-Soviet countries. To ensure profitability and high proceeds of postal institutions they should be equipped with modern electronic and transport systems. With this purpose the country has been realizing Financial Service Development Project since 2005 with support of World Bank. The project completion is scheduled for late 2008 and already next year it is planned to launch new services. But switching to profitable use of new services will be carried out for the next two or three years," Abbasov said.

The minister proposes to increase subsidizing for postal sector to ensure its profitability.

For the last two years Azerpocht (national postal operator) is financed state investments of AZN 2-3 million annually. If for the next two years subsidizing for postal sector are increased, then according to our estimates, Azerpocht will start operating with profit since 2011," Abbasov said.

06.08.2008 11:14

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