

POSTAL NEWS

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1. UPU committed to improving postal network

27 May, 2009 10:00:00 By Nombulelo Matsebula

The Universal Postal Union (UPU) is engaged in projects that will make the postal network an important infrastructure that contributes to countries' social and economic development.

Director of Operations and Technology, UPU International Bureau Sulemani Msofe said quality of service forms part of the UPU mission and has been one of the strategies adopted by past congresses which placed quality of service among the most important objectives.

Meeting

Msofe was addressing a delegation from the Southern Africa Postal Operators Association during their 8th Annual General Meeting held at the Orion Piggs Peak Hotel on Monday.

The event hosted by SwaziPost ends tomorrow.

He made specific mention of the Global Monitoring System project, which is a new affordable UPU quality measurement system for letter mail applicable to all members of the union.

"It is being developed with a primary focus on measurement of the performance of the destination country, and linking this performance to terminal dues payments. It is hoped that the linkage of quality of service performance to terminal dues payment will lead to improved quality of service for letters," Msofe said.

He mentioned that similar efforts to improve quality of service were being implemented in the area of parcels with the UPU also being active in the e-commerce domain. Msofe further stated that other quality of service initiatives were being implemented in the area of postal addressing because a sound postal addressing system is essential for good quality of service and is an important infrastructure for the social and economic development of a country.

Service

"The UPU is working in partnership with other international organisations, such as the World Customs Organisation, the International Organisation for Standardisation, the International Air Transport Organisation and others to ensure that their activities support the UPU's efforts to improve the quality of service."

He stated that the UPU appreciates the efforts that the Southern Africa Postal Operators Association is making to improve the quality of service in the region, noting that if the projects initiated are successfully implemented and sustained, the quality of service should improve over the next five to 10 years.

Noted

Msofe noted that all the necessary conditions for improving quality already exist in the region as there are good organisational systems for the management of quality service as evidenced from the SAPOA members that were awarded with certificates during the 24th UPU Congress in Geneva in 2008 and during the 2009 POC session held in Berne.

“There are people in the region who have already been trained during the quality of service workshops and they could be the nucleus for steering quality improvement in the region.”

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2. UPS Places Kansas Freight in Fast Lane

RICHMOND, May 26, 2009 - UPS Freight, the heavy freight division of UPS (NYSE: UPS), has again enhanced its national network, reducing transit times and offering more direct routing to and from northeast Kansas to more than 70 cities from California to Virginia.

Overall, the company has reduced transit times on some 16,000 lanes over the past two years.

"UPS is on a path to create a combination of reliability, technology and speed that no other competitor can match," said UPS Freight President Jack Holmes. "Reducing transit times, guaranteeing deliveries and using advanced tracking technology all combine to provide maximum value for our customers."

The expedited transit times will mean next-day service from Manhattan, Salina and Marysville to Kansas City, St. Louis, Wichita, Tulsa and Des Moines.

As a result of the direct routing, Houston, Nashville and New Orleans all fall into an expanded two-day window for the three northeast Kansas locales. In addition, freight earmarked for the area from as far away as Los Angeles and San Diego in the west and Norfolk and Richmond in the east will arrive within three business days.

Specific lane enhancements and updated time-in-transit maps may be viewed on www.ltl.upsfreight.com.

As in previous enhancements, the new transit times are covered by UPS Freight's free, time-definite guaranteed service for all shipments moving under the current 560 Tariff. In addition, freight customers can take advantage of the same capabilities UPS small package customers enjoy to manage, track and process their shipments through UPS Worldship and Quantum View technology.

UPS Freight is one of the largest less-than-truckload (LTL) carriers and a leading truckload (TL) service provider, serving customers throughout North America, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For more information visit www.upsfreight.com.

UPS is the world's largest package delivery company and a global leader in supply chain services, offering an extensive range of options for synchronizing the flow of goods, information and funds. Headquartered in Atlanta, UPS serves more than 200 countries and territories worldwide. UPS stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:UPS) and the company can be found on the Web at www.ups.com.

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