



National Postal Mail Handlers Union

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July 16, 2019

TO: All Local Union Presidents
National/Regional CAD

FROM: Paul V. Hogrogian, National President
Michael J. Hora, National Secretary-Treasurer
Teresa Harmon, Manager, CAD *PH*

RE: Craft Determination on the Enhanced Package Processing
Sorter (EPPS)

Attached to this memorandum is a Postal Service letter, dated July 12, 2019, setting forth its national craft determination for the EPPS or Enhanced Package Processing Sorter. The EPPS is currently installed in 1 postal facility, and given its enormous size, is likely only to be added to at most a handful of locations.

The Postal Service has determined that, with the exception of the so-called supplemental induction stations, the induction and sweeping duties performed on the EPPS are most similar to those on the Automated Package Processing System or APPS. For the supplemental induction stations only, the Postal Service likens the EPPS to the Automated Parcel Bundle Sorter or APBS and the Small Parcel Sorting System or SPSS.

As a result, the Postal Service has made the following jurisdictional determinations:

1. Retrieval and staging of parcel containers Mail Handlers
2. Unload containers onto the Auto Induction and Supplemental Induction stations utilizing powered container unloaders, and cull out NMOs Mail Handlers

National Headquarters: 815 16th Street, NW, Suite 5100, Washington, D.C. 20006
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3. At the Supplemental Induction stations, singulate and orient parcels, cull out nonmachineables (NMO) and induct onto the sorter backbone

Clerks

4. *Sweep full containers, including sacks, stage full containers or sacks for down-flow operations or dispatch

Mail Handlers

*Where necessary, sweeping duties may be performed by Clerk Craft employees for rotational relief purposes.

This determination will be implemented within 90 days, and is subject to appeal in accordance with the MOU Re Update of RI-399 dated June 26, 2018.

Please disseminate this information as you deem appropriate, and please do not hesitate to contact the National Office should you have any questions about any EPPS operation.

cc: National Executive Board



July 12, 2019

Mr. Paul V. Hogrogian
National President
National Postal Mail Handlers' Union
815 16th Street, NW Suite 5100
Washington, DC 20006

Certified Mail Tracking Number:
7018 0360 0001 6256 9497

Dear Paul:

This letter is in regard to the jurisdictional craft determination for operation of the Enhanced Package Processing Sorter (EPPS). A site visit to observe the operation of the EPPS was conducted with the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) and the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) on April 2, at the Portland, Oregon Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC). In attendance for the APWU were Lynn Pallas-Barber, Ron Suslak and local representatives. In attendance for the NPMHU were Kevin Fletcher and local representatives. In attendance for the United States Postal Service (USPS) were Rickey Dean and Shannon Richardson.

The unions had previously been informed of the EPPS system during Technological and Mechanization meetings, in accordance with Article 4 of their respective collective bargaining agreements, in October 2017 and December 2018.

The EPPS processes packages which are inducted on the system through either automatic induction, or supplemental (manual) induction. The EPPS is a stacked cross belt sorter allowing for induction to occur at multiple locations on the system. The sorter can range in outputs from 400 to 800 and can scan and sort packages up to 25 pounds and 15" x 18" x 22". It has the ability to process up to 25,000 packages per hour.

With the exception of the supplemental induction stations, the induction and sweeping duties performed on the EPPS are most similar to those on the Automated Package Processing System (APPS). The duties performed on the supplemental induction stations are integral to the distribution function of the machine, and are most similar to the manual induction duties performed on the Automated Parcel Bundle Sorter (APBS) and the Small Parcel Sorting System (SPSS).

After reviewing the equipment operation, carefully considering the input from the APWU and the NPMHU, and applying the principles of RI-399, the Postal Service has determined the primary craft designation for the performance of duties for operation of the EPPS is as follows:

1. Retrieval and staging of parcel containers Mail Handler Craft
2. Unload containers onto the Auto Induction
and Supplemental Induction stations utilizing
powered container unloaders, and cull out NMOs Mail Handler Craft
3. At the Supplemental Induction stations,
singulate and orient parcels, cull out
non-machineables (NMO) and induct

onto the sorter backbone

Clerk Craft

4. *Sweep full containers, including sacks, stage full containers or sacks for down-flow operations or dispatch

Mail Handler Craft

*Where necessary, sweeping duties may be performed by Clerk Craft employees for rotational relief purposes.

The actual number of employees required to perform the duties associated with the EPPS at any time will be determined based on local configuration and operational needs. Where the EPPS has already been installed and is operational, assignment of the appropriate craft in accordance with this determination will be made as expeditiously as possible but no later than 90 days from the date of this letter.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, *Update of Regional Instruction (RI) 399 Procedures*, dated June 26, 2018, the above stated craft designation will go into effect no sooner than 45 days from the receipt of this notice.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Shannon Richardson at extension 5842.

Sincerely,



su Rickey R. Dean
Manager
Contract Administration (APWU)