

June 9, 2010

ANTHONY C. WILLIAMS
DISTRICT MANAGER, NORTHLAND DISTRICT

SUBJECT: Audit Report – Color-Coding of Standard Mail® and Mail Condition Reporting in the Northland District (Report Number NO-AR-10-006)

This report presents the results of our audit of color-coding of Standard Mail and mail condition reporting in the Northland District (Project Number 10XG029NO000). The objectives were to determine whether employees properly color-coded the mail as well as accurately counted and reported delayed mail volumes. This is the fourth in a series of self-initiated reviews addressing the color-code policy for Standard Mail. This audit addresses operational risk. See Appendix A for additional information about this audit.



For Standard Mail, the color-coding process involves using a series of color tags to ensure efficient processing in a first-in first-out (FIFO) sequence to meet processing, dispatch, and delivery targets. A color-coded tag represents the day of the week the mail arrives on Postal Service premises and denotes the target clearance date from the facility. Mail condition reports summarize the on-hand and delayed mail volumes of all classes of mail at each mail processing facility.

Conclusion

The Northland District¹ was not properly color-coding or reporting delayed mail. We found that:

- Eighty-three percent of the containers were not properly color-coded.
- The correct color was not always maintained throughout processing.
- Delayed mail was not always properly reported. For example, during our first 2 days of observation, employees counted approximately 264,000 mailpieces but did not report it as delayed.
- The date of the oldest mail on-hand was not always accurately reported.

Once we brought proper color-coding and mail condition reporting procedures to management's attention, they took immediate corrective action to have employees properly tag the mail and accurately report mail conditions.

Color Coding of Standard Mail

Of the 354 staged Standard Mail containers reviewed at both the only 61 (about 17 percent) were properly color-coded and the remaining 293 were not color-coded in accordance with policy. Specifically:

- Tags on 245 containers (69 percent) were missing the time and/or date.
- Color-code tags were missing from 42 containers (12 percent).
- Six containers had the wrong color tags based on the date the mail entered the mail stream.

We also found that when employees processed mail bearing different color-codes together; they did not properly re-color-code some of it. Additionally, employees did not always use the national standardized tag.

These conditions occurred due to:

- Limited color-code training and awareness of the policy.
- Limited oversight by the color-code coordinator.
- Plant personnel failed to tag some containers received at the dock that needed them.

¹ We performed reviews at the Minneapolis and St. Paul Processing and Distribution Centers (P&DC).

Without accurate color-coding, the Postal Service cannot ensure timely processing, dispatch, and delivery of Standard Mail. Without a date and time on the tag, the Postal Service cannot determine whether employees processed Standard Mail using the FIFO method.² Additionally, the Postal Service cannot readily track service standards and accurately report mail conditions in the web-based Mail Condition Reporting System (MCRS). Failure to accurately color-code and date the mail could also confuse delivery units about when the mail needs to be delivered. See Appendix B for our detailed analysis of this topic.

We recommend the Northland district manager:

- 1. Train employees to ensure proper color-coding of Standard Mail according to Postal Service policy.
- 2. Direct the district color-code coordinator to conduct periodic color-code reviews and provide program oversight.

Mail Condition Reporting

underreported delayed mail and did not accurately report the date of the oldest mailpiece in some cases. Bringing these matters to the attention of plant management resulted in proper reporting, effective February 25, 2010.

These conditions occurred because:

- misinterpreted the policy believing they had until the delivery day to process the mail before reporting it as delayed.
- employees did not adequately oversee the employees performing the mail count.

Not properly reporting delayed volumes may prevent management from making effective operational decisions. This could also impact customer service without management's knowledge. See Appendix B for our detailed analysis of this topic.

We recommend the Northland district manager:

3. Provide mail condition reporting training and oversight to employees.

Management's Comments

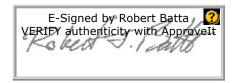
² Mail is staged and processed based on order of receipt.

Management agreed with the findings and recommendations. During the audit, management corrected the deficiencies in the processes. In addition, applicable employees received color-code and mail condition reporting training, and management is conducting periodic reviews of the color-coding process. See Appendix D for management's comments, in their entirety.

Evaluation of Management's Comments

The U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General (OIG) considers management's comments responsive to the recommendations and management's corrective actions should resolve the issues identified in the report.

We appreciate the cooperation and courtesies provided by your staff. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact James L. Ballard, director, Network Processing, or me at 703-248-2100.



Robert J. Batta Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Mission Operations

Attachments

cc: Patrick R. Donahoe Steven J. Forte Jordan M. Small Sylvester Black Susan M. LaChance Erica A Brix Sally K. Haring

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

BACKGROUND

Standard Mail is essential to the growth of the Postal Service and is a major factor in its economic health.³ Standard Mail accounts for approximately 47 percent of all mail volume and 26 percent of the revenue of the U.S. Postal Service per year.⁴ Delivering Standard Mail timely is important for operational efficiency and customer satisfaction.

The Postal Service uses a system of color-coding to facilitate timely movement of Standard Mail. The color-coding process requires employees to assign a color to mailpieces based on the day of the week. This enables easy processing of mail using the FIFO method. Management updated the color-coding policy on June 17, 2008, with an effective date of August 29, 2008. In December 2008, management made an additional update to the policy clarifying reporting requirements. The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 requires delivery standards be established for all classes of mail. While standards have not changed, the policy maintains the integrity of the color-code from processing to delivery. The service standard for Standard Mail is 3-10 calendar days.

Illustration 1:
A color-code chart at the P&DC provides guidance for placing the correct tag on incoming mail.



Policies and procedures for the color-coding system are set forth in Section 458 of the *Postal Operations Manual* (POM). The Postal Service is revising the POM to reflect changes in the new color-coding policy.

In support of the updated policy, management also made changes to the MCRS categories. Categories such as Plan Failure, Delayed Processing, and Delayed

³ Standard Mail weighs less than 16 ounces and includes circulars, pamphlets, catalogs, newsletters, direct mail, and merchandise.

⁴ U.S. Postal Service Annual Report, 2009.

Dispatch are no longer reported for Standard Mail. The term "Delayed Mail Flow for Standard Mail" is a new MCRS definition and occurs when mail is not processed, finalized, or dispatched from a specific operation or facility to ensure delivery by the programmed delivery day.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODOLOGY

Our objectives were to determine whether the mail was properly color-coded as well as whether it was accurately counted and reported.

This is the fourth in a series of audits addressing color-coding and mail reporting at P&DCs nationwide. We selected the Northland District based on historical delayed mail reporting volumes.

To determine whether color-coding procedures conformed to the national color-coding policy, we observed color-coding of Standard Mail at both the P&DCs during the week of February 22, 2010. We observed mail color-coded at other facilities, including the Minneapolis Network Distribution Center (NDC)⁵ and Minneapolis Hub. Additionally, we verified mail counts and reviewed count data reported in MCRS. We interviewed Postal Service officials and employees, photographed operations, and observed conditions.

We used computer-processed data from the following systems:

- Web Enterprise Information System
- Web Mail Condition Reporting System (webMCRS also referred as simply MCRS)
- Enterprise Data Warehouse

We did not test controls over these systems. However, we checked the reasonableness of results by confirming our analysis and results with Postal Service managers and multiple data sources. We conducted this performance audit from February through June 2010 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards and included such tests of internal controls as we considered necessary under the circumstances. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We discussed our observations and conclusions with management officials on February 25, 2010 and included their comments where appropriate.

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⁵ Formerly the Minneapolis Bulk Mail Center (BMC).

PRIOR AUDIT COVERAGE

Report Title	Report Number	Final Report Date Repor	t Results
Color-Coding of Standard Mail and Mail Condition Reporting at the Albany Processing and Distribution Center	NO-AR-10-005	March 31, 2010	Opportunities exist for the Albany P&DC to improve color-coding as well as the counting and reporting of delayed mail. Management agreed with the report recommendations.
Color-Coding of Standard Mail and Mail Condition Reporting at the Santa Clarita Processing and Distribution Center	NO-AR-09-008	August 6, 2009	Opportunities exist for the Santa Clarita P&DC to improve color-coding and reporting of delayed mail to reflect the color-coding and delayed mail reporting requirements as of August 29, 2008. Management agreed with the report recommendations.
Color-Coding of Standard Mail and Mail Condition Reporting at the West Palm Beach Processing and Distribution Center	NO-AR-09-006	June 10, 2009	Opportunities exist for the West Palm Beach P&DC to improve color-coding and reporting of delayed mail to reflect the color-coding and delayed mail reporting requirements as of August 29, 2008. Management agreed with the report recommendations.

APPENDIX B: DETAILED ANALYSIS

Color-Coding of Standard Mail

During the week of February 22, 2010, we reviewed 354 containers of Standard Mail at the for compliance with the national color-coding policy. We found that only 61 (about 17 percent) were properly color-coded and the remaining 293 were not color-coded in accordance with policy. Specifically:

- Two hundred forty-five containers (69 percent) were missing the time and/or date from the tag.
- Forty-two containers (12 percent) were missing color-code tags.
- Six containers had the wrong color tags based on the date the mail entered the mail stream.

See Appendix C for our observations.

Illustration 2:
A color-code tag observed at the on Wednesday,
February 24, 2010 was missing the time and date.



We also found when mail bearing different color-codes was processed together, some of the mail was not properly re-color-coded. Additionally, the always use the national standardized tag. See Illustration 3.

Illustration 3:
The small violet piece of paper stuck in the frame of this all-purpose container is intended to act as a color code-tag.



Causes

These conditions occurred due to:

- Limited supervision and oversight by the color code coordinator.
- First-Class Mail® processing taking precedence over the Standard Mail processing.
- Plant personnel did not tag some containers received at the dock even though they needed tags.
- Limited awareness of the policy because some employees were not trained.

A review of training records indicated not all Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DC employees involved in these operations had received the national color-code training provided through the Postal Employee Development Center. Specifically:

- 31 of the 42 Minneapolis P&DC managers and supervisors (about 74 percent) had received documented color-code training.
- 27 of the 33 St. Paul P&DC managers and supervisors (about 82 percent) had received documented color-code training.

Criteria

According to the national color-coding policy for Standard Mail, color-coding procedures provide a guide to help maintain service goals for Standard Mail. All Standard Mail will be color-coded and Standard Mail without color-coded tags will be coded the same color as the oldest mail in the unit at the time of its discovery. Additionally, all color-code tags will comply with a standardized national format which will require employees to enter the date and time of mail entry on each tag. The delivery color-code is based on the original entry date and time of the mail, not the processing date or time. Additionally,

the P&DC must develop local procedures to ensure they maintain the correct color-code for all mail based on its arrival, even when such mail is entered into mechanized or automated sorting systems.

Effect

Without accurate color-coding, the Postal Service cannot ensure timely processing, dispatch, and delivery of Standard Mail. Without a date and time on the tag, the Postal Service cannot determine whether employees processed Standard Mail using the FIFO method. Additionally, the Postal Service cannot readily track service standards and accurately report mail conditions in the web-based MCRS. Failure to accurately color-code and date the mail could confuse delivery units about when the mail needs to be delivered.

Mail Condition Reporting

During our observations the week of February 22, 2010, Northland District employees were not accurately recording and reporting delayed mail.

- On February 23, 2010, the Minneapolis P&DC's count sheet showed delayed Standard Mail volume of 52,291 pieces, while the actual count showed 201,501 pieces. This resulted in the underreporting of 149,210 pieces of delayed Standard Mail.
- Also, on February 23, 2010, the St. Paul P&DC reported 391 pieces of delayed Standard Mail, while the actual count showed 5,041 pieces. This resulted in the underreporting of 4,650 pieces of delayed Standard Mail.
- Additionally, when recording the "oldest mail" date in webMCRS, the employee who entered the data did not always accurately record the date from the color-code tag.

We could not verify the accuracy of prior reports at the Minneapolis P&DC because the count sheets⁶ were destroyed after daily MCRS data input. The St. Paul P&DC did not document the volume of mail on-hand by delivery day; therefore, we were not able to enumerate the underreported volume prior to our observations. Bringing these issues to the attention of plant management resulted in the proper reporting of delayed mail and retention of the count records. See Tables 1 and 2 below.

⁶ There is no requirement to retain the daily count sheets. However, the Postal Service Headquarters is considering requiring count sheets be retained for up to 1 year.

Table 1: Mail Condition Reporting Observations at the Minneapolis P&DC

Date	On-H Stand Ma Repo	dard ail	Reported Delayed	Actual Delayed	Underreported	Oldest Date Reported	Oldest Date Observed
2/23/2010 7	16,48	7	52,291	201,501	149,210	2/22/2010 2	/20/201 0
2/24/2010 5	83,79	6	13,760	89,310	75,550	2/23/2010 2	/21/201 0
2/25/2010 ⁷ 9	60,68	9	78,372	78,372	0	2/23/2010	2/23/2010
Total 2,2	60,97	2	144,423	369,183	224,760		

Table 2: Mail Condition Reporting Observations at the Saint Paul P&DC

Date	On-Ha Standa Mail Report	ard	Reported Delayed	Actual Delayed	Underreported	Oldest Date Reported ⁸	Oldest Date Observed
2/23/2010 4	78,08	7	391	5,041	4,650	2/20/2010 2	/20/201 0
2/24/2010 3	90,70	1	4,455	39,083	34,628	2/22/2010 2	/22/201 0
2/25/2010 ⁹	760,69	9	11,142	11,142	0	2/23/2010	2/23/2010
Total 1,6	29,48	7	15,988	55,266	39,278		

A comparison of the Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DCs delayed mail volumes to similar-sized sites (Group 1 and 2 plants, respectively) showed large variances. For example, in fiscal year (FY) 2009, the Minneapolis P&DC's delayed volume totaled 19.7 million pieces, while the average for Group 1 plants totaled over 56.5 million pieces. We believe it is likely that delayed mail at the Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DC's may have been underreported for several years. See Table 4 for additional information on delayed mail reporting.

⁷ Bringing OIG observations to the attention of plant management resulted in proper MCRS reporting as of February

^{25, 2010.} The Oldest Date Reported and the Oldest Data Observed were the same, so we noted no problems.

⁹ Bringing OIG observations to the attention of plant management resulted in proper MCRS reporting as of February 25, 2010.

Table 4: Delayed Mail Reporting

		М	inne	apolis P&DC				
	Priority	FCM		Periodicals	Standard	Packages	Tota	l
FY 2006	0 4	144,99	1	14,596	3,554,969	0	4,014,	556
FY 2007	1,680 2	253,09	4	7,554	836,828	0	1,099,	156
FY 2008	0.7	75,367		0	3,302,279	0	3,377,	646
FY 2009	1,400 2	21,681		2,134	19,687,279	0	19,712,	494
			\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	ogo Group 1				
		<i>P</i>	ver	age Group 1				
	Priority	FCM		Periodicals	Standard	Packages	Tota	1
FY 2006	77,537 4	,328,79	3	9,124,170	64,075,061	86,848	77,674,1	34
FY 2007	36,282	3,415,45	0	7,905,068	58,395,685	84,706	9,825,7	44
FY 2008	24,508	1,617,09	5	3,372,220	37,172,993	16,010 4	12,197,3	77
FY 2009	36,615 ⁻	,680,36	0	3,446,147	51,375,671	23,953 !	6,559,1	68

			St.	Paul P&DC				
	Priority	FCM		Periodicals	Standard	Packages	Tota	ı
FY 2006	567	7,505		120,666	1,874,731	1,114	2,004	,583,
FY 2007	0 4	10,269		5,454	515,918	0	561	,641
FY 2008	0 4	13,722		56,153	1,478,795	0	1,578	,670
FY 2009	2,256	307,18	6	84,279	22,077,873	596	22,472	,190
			ver	age Group 2				
	Priority	FCM		Periodicals	Standard	Packages	Tota	ı
FY 2006	47,705	3,165,87	3	5,928,385	50,560,476	67,267	9,764,1	83
FY 2007	28,141	2,476,73	1	3,459,299	35,553,272	61,921	1,575,7	81
FY 2008	38,876	,736,54	1	2,428,128	29,342,070	53,846	33,593,1	18
FY 2009	38,014	,806,66	7	1,981,172	48,119,910	10,328	1,953,4	74

Cause

These conditions occurred because:

- The employee counting the mail misinterpreted the policy believing they had until the delivery day to process it before reporting it as delayed.
- In-Plant Support employees did not adequately oversee the employees performing the mail count.

Criteria

According to the national color-coding policy and the policy for mail condition reporting, reporting delayed mail flow for Standard Mail is necessary to provide an accurate snapshot of daily facility conditions for Standard Mail. Additionally, employees should report destinating 5-digit non–delivery point sequenced mail ¹⁰ as delayed 1 day before the scheduled delivery day. Finally, the date of the oldest mail for Standard Mail is the date recorded on any color-code tag affixed to a Standard Mail container at the time of the count.

The Postal Service's Network Operations Website, Processing Operations, In-Plant Training, requires Operations support specialists (OSS) to consolidate and review data from operations to ensure the integrity of the information collected. Additionally, the OSS must audit webMCRS by checking volume numbers from the webMCRS report against manual counts (verifying counts with data collectors) and compliance with color-coding policies.

Effect

Not properly reporting delayed mail may prevent management from making effective operational decisions. This could also impact customer service without management's knowledge.

¹⁰ Destinating 5-digit mail requires additional sorting to the carrier route.

APPENDIX C: COLOR-CODING OBSERVATIONS OF STAGED MAIL

Date	Time	Location	Containers	Missing	Incomplete	Wrong	
2/23	0540	Minneapolis P&DC 3-5L	Observed 2	Tags 2	Tags	Color	
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-9AC	2	2			No Tag
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-10AC	1	1			No Tag
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-16AC	2	2			No Tag
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-16A	2		2		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-10B	43		39		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-8AB	8		8		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-5AG	4		4		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-6AC	23		23		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-5C	4		4		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-9A7	2		2		Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-9AM	11	8	3		Minneapolis NDC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-34	1		1		Minneapolis NDC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC Ramp	54	1	40		Minneapolis NDC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-43	11	1	70		Minneapolis NDC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 3-43	8	8			No Tag
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-12	8	0		1	Minneapolis P&DC
2/23		Minneapolis P&DC 2-12	1		1	- 1	Minneapolis P&DC
		Minneapolis P&DC 2-03			- 1		Willineapolis Padc
2/23 15	35	Automation	23		18		Minnea polis P&DC
2/23 15	40	Minneapolis P&DC Automation	14	2	11		Minnea polis P&DC
2/23	1545	Minneapolis P&DC 2-10B	10		7	1	Minneapolis P&DC
2/23	1550	Minneapolis P&DC 2-6C	11		10	1	Minneapolis P&DC
2/24	1600	St. Paul P&DC 4-15	1		1		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1600	St. Paul P&DC 4-35	12	12			No Tag
2/24	1600	St. Paul P&DC 2-15	2		2		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1640	St. Paul P&DC 3-Elevator	25		25		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1640	St. Paul P&DC 3-8C	3		3		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1640	St. Paul P&DC 3-6D	1		1		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1640	St. Paul P&DC 3-8D	1		1		St. Paul P&DC
2/24 16	40	St. Paul P&DC LTCS Staging	7		7		St. Paul P&DC
2/25		St. Paul P&DC Dock	12		12		St. Paul P&DC
2/24	1625	St. Paul P&DC 4-6H	18				Minneapolis NDC
2/24	1627	St. Paul P&DC 4-8G	5	1	2	2	Minneapolis NDC
2/24	1630	St. Paul P&DC 4-8H	4		4		Advanced Flat Sorting Machine Rework
2/24	1637	St. Paul P&DC 3-8F	1			1	Prescott River Falls Post Office
2/25	0700	St. Paul P&DC 4-Flats	7	2	5		St. Paul P&DC
2/25	0710	St. Paul P&DC Auto. Staging	8		8		St. Paul P&DC
2/25	0712	St. Paul P&DC Auto. Staging	2		1		St. Paul P&DC
Totals			354	42	245	6	
		Error Percent		11.9%	69.2%	1.7%	

APPENDIX D: MANAGEMENT'S COMMENTS

Northland District



May 27, 2010

LUCINE M. WILLIS DIRECTOR. AUDIT OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Northland District response to Transmittal of Draft Audit Report - Color-Coding of Standard Mail® and Mail Condition Reporting in the Northland District (Report Number NO-AR-10-DRAFT)

The Northland District agrees with the findings and recommendations identified in the draft audit report, and have taken the following actions to be in full compliance of the policies.

OIG Observations from Draft Report, pg.2 Color Coding of Standard Mail

Of the 354 staged Standard Mail containers reviewed at both the Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DCs, only 61 (about 17 percent) were properly color-coded and the remaining 293 were not color-coded in accordance with policy. Specifically:

- Tags on 245 containers (69 percent) were missing the time and/or date.
- Color code tags were missing from 42 containers (12 percent).
- Six containers had the wrong color tags based on the date the mail entered the mail stream.

We also found when mail bearing different color-codes were processed together; some of the mail was not properly re-color-coded. Additionally, the Minneapolis P&DC did not always use the national standardized tag.

We recommend the Northland district manager:

 Train employees to ensure proper color-coding of Standard Mail according to Postal Service policy.

From pg. 8 - Color-Coding of Standard Mail

A review of training records indicated not all Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DC employees had received the national color-code training provided through the Postal Employee Development Center. Specifically:

- 31 of the 42 Minneapolis P&DC managers and supervisors (about 74 percent) had received documented color-code training.
- 27 of the 33 St. Paul P&DC managers and supervisors (about 82 percent) had received documented color-code training.

100 S 1st St Minneapolis MN 55401

OIG Observations from Draft Report, pg.2 Color Coding of Standard Mail (continued)

Direct the district color-code coordinator to conduct periodic color-code reviews and program oversight.

Northland Actions Taken: Color Coding of Standard Mail

To address observed containers with missing dates and times, missing color code tags, and wrong color code tags, the Senior Plant Manager, Operations, and In-Plant Support initiated the following corrective actions to the above OIG recommendations.

- Training:
 - Northland agrees with the training compliance noted in the report as 74% complete at the Minneapolis P&DC and 82% complete in St. Paul P%DC.
 - Records for Color Code Training, course #5120612, at the Minneapolis P&DC, St. Paul P&DC, Twin Cities Metro Hub (TCMH) and the Minneapolis/St. Paul NDC were reviewed. Remaining training for supervisors and managers who have not completed the training or are new to their position will be completed by 6/11/10, as outlined below.
 - 11 supervisors/managers in the Minneapolis P&DC
 - 2 supervisors/managers in the St. Paul P&DC
 - 4 supervisors/managers in the TCMH
 - 1 supervisor in the Minneapolis/St. Paul NDC
 - Color code coordinator provided on-site color code refresher training to 7 supervisors and managers at the TCMH on 3/1/10.
 - Color code coordinator sent refresher color code information to PDFs on 3/1/10 (attachment 1).
 - Color code coordinator provided refresher training for all Mpls IPS staff on 3/5/10.
- Conduct Periodic Reviews and Program Oversight:
 - IPS added color coding compliance check list items to AM daily walkthrough on 2/25/10 for both Minneapolis P&DC and St. Paul P&DC (attachment 2 & 3)
 - IPS validated color code signage at Minneapolis, St. Paul, TCMH and NDC to ensure it was current and visible to operations, completed 2/27/10 (attachment 4).

- Color code coordinator posted signage at AFSMs to clarify acceptable color code placards. No scraps of paper or color dots are to be used. Completed 3/5/10 (attachment 5).
- Color code coordinator started weekly color code audits for Minneapolis, TCMH, and St. Paul on 3/1/10. Each facility is audited by IPS once a week with results tracked for continued compliance (attachments 6 & 7).
- On IPS daily walkthrough and audit result spreadsheets, IPS replicated the compliance measuring method used by the OIG team. The method includes a total of all containers checked, the number non-compliant containers for each item checked, and the calculated percent to compliance. The information will provide more clarity and identify improvement areas for supervisors and managers. (attachment 7 shows total container section added as of 5/4/10)
- Added color code validation to supervisor's daily checklist on 5/7/10. (attachments 8 & 9)
- NDC replicated the Minneapolis weekly audit plan and tracking process starting 5/10/10.
- Color Code coordinator continues to work daily with MIPS and Sr.
 Management to hold all EAS accountable to the results of the audit and walkthrough results for compliance. All new EAS will be provided training on the National Color Code Policy. (on-going action)
- Sr. Plant manager sent a letter on 5/5/10 to EAS at Minneapolis, St. Paul, TCMH, and NDC facilities regarding their roles and responsibilities to comply with National Color Code Policies. (attachment 10)

Current Compliance Improvement:

- Minneapolis and St. Paul combined have improved color code compliance by 68% from the February OIG audit. The OIG report (pg. 2) identified 61 of 354 containers in compliance (17%). Current compliance for the last four weeks is 2307 containers out of 2714 containers checked for total compliance of 85%.
- Minneapolis daily walkthroughs for the past 4 weeks show 82% compliance.
- St. Paul daily walkthroughs for the past 4 weeks show 87% compliance.
- TCMH audits show 90% compliance.

OIG Observations from Draft Report, pg. 3 Mail Condition Reporting

The Minneapolis and St. Paul P&DCs underreported delayed mail and did not accurately report the date of the oldest mailpiece in some cases. Bringing these matters to the attention of plant management resulted in proper MCRS reporting effective February 25, 2010.

These conditions occurred because:

- The employee counting the mail misinterpreted the policy believing they had until the delivery day to process the mail before reporting it as delayed.
- In-Plant Support employees did not provide adequate oversight to the employees performing the mail count.

Not properly reporting delayed volumes may prevent management from making effective operational decisions. This could also impact customer service without management's knowledge. See Appendix B for our detailed analysis of this topic.

We recommend the Northland district manager:

3. Provide mail condition reporting training and oversight to employees.

Northland Actions Taken: Mail Condition Reporting

To address underreported delayed mail and improper identification of the oldest mail the Senior Plant Manager, Operations, and In-Plant Support initiated the following corrective actions to the above OIG recommendations:

- Provide Mail Condition Reporting training and oversight to appropriate employees.
 - Minneapolis IPS modeled the St. Paul count sheet, as recommended by the OIG team, for Minneapolis and the TCMH, starting with MCRS reported on 2/27/10 (attachment 11). Past practice in Minneapolis used hand written count sheets, verbal or email messages to communicate daily count to supervisor inputting daily MCRS report. Daily count sheets and message documents were not kept on file for future reference.
 - Minneapolis IPS created file system for daily MCRS documents and manual count sheet from operations. Starting with MCRS reported on 2/27/10, daily reports are printed and filed for both Minneapolis and the TCMH daily in the Minneapolis IPS office. (attachment 12)
 - Monthly audits for Minneapolis, St. Paul, TCMH, and NDC facilities are conducted by IPS to validate MCRS reporting procedures and accuracy between reported volume from operations and IPS count. Based on IPS

MCRS audits, accuracy and integrity of reporting is currently compliant. Audits are filed with daily MCRS documents.

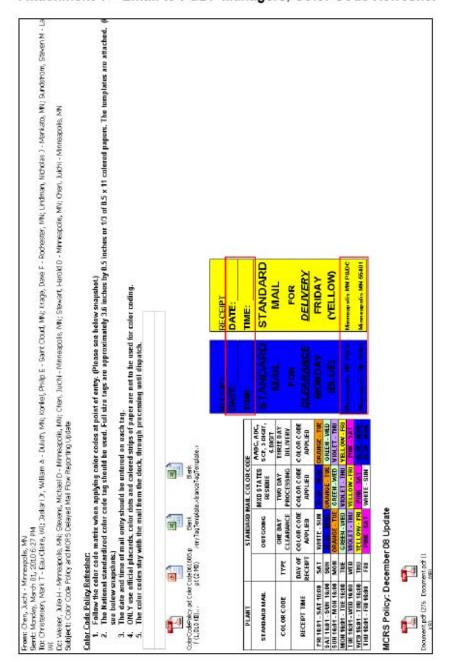
 Color Code coordinator will train supervisors on reporting MCRS as needed due to staffing changes.

Management Summary of OIG draft audit results

All non-compliant items identified in the OIG draft audit report have been taken seriously by Northland Management and have been abated, as noted in the above response. The Sr. Plant Manager, along with management and support staff at all Northland plant facilities will continue to ensure the National Color Code policies are strictly adhered to for a sustained compliance target of 95% or greater. The results will ensure the Postal Service provides timely processing, dispatch, and delivery of Standard Mail.

Erica A. Brix Senior Plant Manager Northland District

Attachment 1 - Email to P&DF Managers, Color Code Refresher



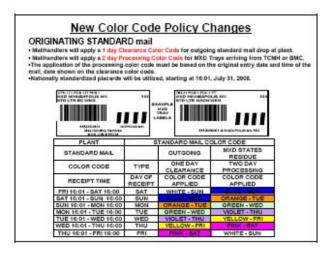
Attachment 2 - AM Walkthrough Check Sheet - Minneapolis P&DC

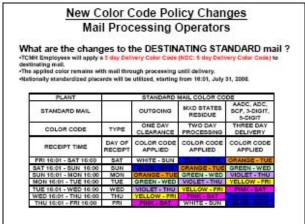
Date:	Office name: MPLS P & D	
Date	Reviewer Name(s):	
ALL questions are Critical	IN-PLANT MORNING WALK THRU MPLS P&DC - FY 2010	Y/N
1	BASEMENT 3PB3(Bin 100), Elevator Staging Area - Are containers properly identified and committed mail cleared? Comments:	
2	BASEMENT Open and Distribute Staging Areas, - Are staging areas clear of committed open and distribute containers Areas to review SPBS West Wall, PMOD pouch on WUC, Open and Distribute dump belt, Sub basement belts and Express Mall Wuce Open and Distribute Tag 81 properly scanned? Report any Improper scans found Comments:	
3	PRIORITY 8UB BASEMENT 654 "High", 664 "Low", dump belts 39A, 42A & 44A, Express WUC, Dump belts C- 2 & C-3 - Are these areas cleared of committed mail? Comments:	
4	Box Section: - is the Box Section mall sorted on time (08:00 A.M.)? Comments:	
5	1st Floor Dook & Dump Beits C-2, C-3; LCT8 Staging - Are containers properly identified and cleared of committee mail? Comments:	
6	2nd Floor DB staging areas (IDF-203 overhead, Elevator 5, Column 2-12AC/2-14AB) - Are containers properly identified and color codes current? Comments:	
7	2nd Floor Cuilling Dump Beits 24,25 - Has all Committed Mail been cleared? Comments:	
8	2nd Floor 030,044 Manual - Has Priority Holdout (Tub) in APC, any staged 38 Benefit checks, nixles, tear-ups 8 postage due all been cleared? Is G-machine clear? If not include number of trays.	
9	Comments: 2nd Floor Loop Mail staging Area - is, if any, Loop mail found, identified and properly segregated for proper processing? Comments:	
10	2nd Floor LAMM staging area - Do containers have dated placeads for LAMM arriving after previous nights CET? Comments:	
11	2nd Floor tear Ups Area - Are the Tear Up containers date ourrent? Report any containers over 2 days old. Comments:	
12	2nd Floor Standard Mall staging Under VFS 8 overhead - Are the Color Coded APC's ourrent? Comments:	
13	2nd Floor West End DBC3 standard mail staging areas(898, 918 (high), 918 (low), 893, 896, 891) - Are the Placards current color code? Comments	
14	2nd Floor Elevator 3 staging area, Postage due, Tear Up, Nixies - Do the containers have current dates? Report volume over 2 days old.	
15	Comments: 2nd Floor PARS Staging; CIOSS 1,2, Between column 2-7D and 2-7E - Do containers have dated Placards?	
16	Report any PARS over 2 days old or containers not identified Comments: Srd Floor Manual Flats - Have all committed flats been cleared from cases in the 080,073, & 074?	
17	Comments: 3rd Floor Standard Flats staging area (Between 3-8A and 3-11C columns, Elevator 6 staging Area - Are containers identified and current color code? Comments	
18	All units throughout the building must use full, correct Color Code Placard. Scraps or Strips of colored paper are not acceptable - Are units using proper Color Code Placards? Comments:	

Attachment 3 - AM Walkthrough Check Sheet - St. Paul P&DC

			MORNING	OMMITTED	MORNING COMMITTED MAIL CHECK			
LOCATION	What to look for	Volume/Comments	# Reviewed	#No Cobr	# Bad CC	No Time/Dake	# Reviewed #No Cobr # Bad CC No Time/Date Name - Manager Notffled	Recovery Made Y/N
Box Section	Verify D-12 Caller service case is deer at 0630 - deity							
X-dock	Chack oder code and tim holds on LCTS for hotmail							
1st Floor - 010	PCM with "no" late arme tags / hot stamp / meter - hampers or tales							
1st Fbor - 010	Verify Rewrap is clear by 0500							
1st Floor - Priority	Check for delayed Priority volume /Prime and secondary							
HOT 1st Phor - 650 Belt	Check for delayed Valessis / Adverted Pum TLEMED a.m. NONE ON THURS!							
1st Foor - 550 Beit	JCP (chack in-home date) PMOD PRIDAYS Fleet Farm THURS FRI OTHER							
2nd Floor - Letter Machines	FCM committed / DB 26 (564) / DB 8 (Pars-891) & PDF staged							
2nd Poor - LCTS	Check holds for hot stamp / meter							
2nd Floor - 030 Manual								
2nd Floor - 030 Loop/ Missent / RTS Staging								
2nd - STDLtss - Color Code	Chack for "OLD" or "NO" or "SAD" copr codes/date & time							
2nd Floor - JC Perney by 271 but pen - North of deviator #18	Chack JC Penney volume and released date							
3rd - Machine (Box Mai)	Verify all committed box mail processed and dispatched							
3rd Floor - Letter Machines	FCM committed / also PARS operation for digits digits							
3rd Floor-LCTS	Check holds for hot stamp / meter							
3rd Floor - PARS	Check for label / lift trays more than one dayold							
3rd - STD Lins - Color Code	Chack for "OLD" or "NO" or "SAD" color colosidate & time							
4th Floor - Flat sorters	Check for hot stamp / meter / news - 8 staged POF							
Check cases (4th Floor - Manual Area stamp / meter	Check cases: 8 containers for hot a stamp / metar							
4th Floor - Flat Loop/ Missent / RTS Staging								
4th - STDFlts - Color Code								
5th Floor - SPBS	Chack for "OLD" or "NO" dates applied to containers							
5th Floor - 3P BS	Check for delayed Priority volume /Prime and secondary							
6th Floor - Taxes	Check for all mail oleaned							
AlLocators	Color Code Compliant							

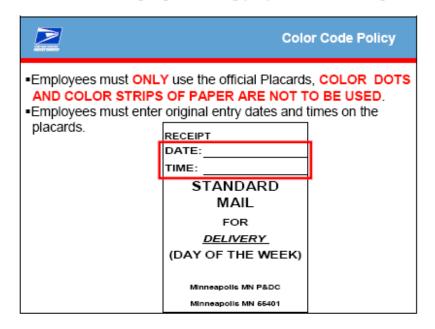
Attachment 4 - Color Code Signage





				С	olor Cod	le Policy
Impact of 3. Employed colored s 4. Follow th entry 5. Processis	etrips of	ONLY use of paper a r code ma	the official re not to be trix when a	placards, used for o pplying co	olor codin	g
PLANT	9		1	AL DEPTH OF BOR		
STANDARD MAL	LINEL	outsome	MOD FOR LANGERS, LANGER GATTOWN	SOIST, CRT	1CF, 1-CHIT	AMDG, ADG
	3	1.5			Second Control of	
COLOR CODE	TIPE	CLEARANCE	PROCEERING	DELIVERY	GELVERY	DELIVERY
COLOR COOR	TIPE DAY OF PROBET	CLEARANCE COLOR COCE APPLIES		COLOR CODE	COLOR CODE APPLIED	COLOR CODE
	DAYOF	COLOR CODE	PROCESSIONS	COLOR CODE	COLOR CODE	COLOR CODE
ALCO THE	DAY OF PROBPT	COLOR CODE	PROCEEDING COLOR CODE APPLED	COLOR CODE	COLOR CODE	COLOR CODE
ABCOPT THE PROPERTY HEAD	DAY OF PROBPT BAT	APPLIED MATERIAL	PROCESSING COLOR CODE APPLIED	AFFURD BLUE HIGH	APPLIED ORGANISE TUR	APPLIED UNDER - WED
ARCHITISM AN (63) - BAT (630 SAT (63) - BAH (630	DAY OF PROBETT BAT BUH	APPLIED MARTE-SUM SELIE-MORE	PROCESSION COLOR COCE APPLED ELIE NON ORANGE TUE	APPLIED BLUE HON OROHOE TUE	OPERM - THE OPERM - WED	APPLIED ORDER - THE
ARCHITING AND REST BAT 1830 SAT 1807 - BAH 1830 BAH 1808 - BON 1830	DAY OF PRICEPT SAT SUR MON	APPLIED WHITE - EUR BLUE - BURN BURN BURN BURN BURN BURN BURN BURN	PROCEEDING COLOR COCE APPLED ELIE MON CRUMOS TUE GREEN WED	APPLIED SON ORDERS - THE ORDERS	OPLING THE SPEEM - WED WOLET - THU	COLOR CODE APPLIED URBEN - WED WIDLET - TNU VELLOW - PRI
ARCHITICAL PRO MOST - BAT TRUE BAT TRUET - BAH MISS BAN MOST - MONTE SE MONTBEET - TUR-18:00	DAY OF PRICEIPT BAT BUM MON TUR	APPLIED METER - SUM SLUE - SUM ORUMNE - TUR ORESN - WED	PROCEEDING COLOR COCE APPLED ELIE MON CRUMOS TUE GREEN WED WOLET THU	APPLIED BLOW HOM ORDING THE ORDIN	APPLIED ORANGE TUE ORANGE THE OPERIN WED WIGHT THE TRELOW PRI	APPLIED WASEN - WED WIGHEST - THU YELLOW - PRO PRIES - EAY

Attachment 5 - Signage on using proper color code tags



Attachment 6 - Color Code Audit Form

DATE:	Reviewer:	Legend TC Total Containers Reviewed, NC Total Non-Compliant Containers, S.NC. S. Non-Compliance, S.C. S. Compliance	TC NC % NC % C Comments	\rightarrow	-		oN s																		157				PLANT STANDARDMOL COLCH COCE	MXD STATES AAAC, ACC,	BRIDGE	COLOR CODE TIME CLEARANCE PROCESSING DELIVERY	COLUR CADE	RESERVI APPLIED APPLIED	SAT WHITE-SUN BLUE-WON	UON ORGHBE-TUE BREEK-)	MON BALL THE BOX THE GREEK-WED VIDLET THE YELLOW-FR	THU YELLOW-THI PINK-39T	10 Link-38
(list		al Containers Reviewed, NC Total Non-C		How many containers are audited? How many are missing the color code tags? (Quantify, %)	How many containers are audited? How many are missing the date and time? (Quantity, %)	How many containers are audited? How many had the wrong color code tags ? (Guantin, 26) TOTAL		antifo	Is mall arriving from BMC with correct designated color code tags? With entry date and time?	3. Is mail arriving from TCMH with correct designated color code tags? With entry date and time?	 Is mail arriving from SLP with correct designated color code tage? With entry date and time? Is color coding of mail conducted in accordance with the next Mahanal Color Code Delicit? 	code?	processing color cade?	no, quantify	color codes)		iginal color code?	Are containers amining from upstream operations with proper color code tags attached?	tee with color code?	ardized color code tags?	fetags?		and with color code?	the Mill Color Color	is all Ergo Cartiforn operation 0.35 tagged with color code based on the original color code tags? With original entir date and time of the mail? (if no, quantity)	olor code tags?	3. Is all standard mail dispatched with correct color code? With origin entry date and time?	de tags?	RECEIPT	DATE:	TIME:	STANDARD	MAIL	FOR	DELIVERY	FRIDAY	(YELLOW)	Minnespolic NN PRDC	Minnespolle MN 66401
mpliance Chec				idited? How many are missing	idited". How many are missing	idited? How many had the wr	loor Stading Area	. Are national standardized color code tags used? (If no, quantify)	1th correct designated color or	with correct designated color	th correct designated color co licted in accordance with the	dwith one day clearance colo	ue) color colded with two days	entry entered on each tag? (If	color code tag? (Not multiple		. Is back-flowed mail sent back from station retaining the original color code?	upstream operations with pr	in FIFO order and in complia	om 893-03 tagged with stand	operation afficed with color co	89103 (processing color code) 89303 (delivery color code)	in FIED order and in FIED	The contract of the second of	is all Ergo Cartiform operation U35 tagged with color code a With original entiry date and time of the mail? (If no, quantifo	is all cluster standard mail distributed with standardized color code tags?	hed with correct color code? V	IS 311 STandard mail bisparched with Standardized color code tags?	RECEIPT	DATE:	TIME:	STANDARD	MAIL	FOR	PROCESSING	SATURDAY	(PINK)		Minnespolle MN 66401
Color Code Compliance Checklist		* If no, please quantify	AREA	How many containers are au	How many containers are au	How many containers are au	PLATFORM/2nd & 3rd Floor Stading Area	1. Are national standardized co	2. Is mall arriving from BMC w	3. Is mail arriving from TCMH.	4. Is Hall arriving from SLP wi	a. Is outdoing mail color code 8 with one day clearance color code?	b. Is NOO (MOD States Residue) color coded with two days processing color code?	c. Is the date and time of mail entry entered on each tag? (If no, quantify	6. Does mail only have single color code tag? (Not multiple color codes)	DBCS	1.1s back-flowed mail sent bac	2. Are containers amining from	3. Is standard mail processed in FIFD order and in compliance with color code?	4. Are containers generated from 893-03 tagged with standardized color code tags?	4. Is Fietter downflow to Flats operation afficed with color code tags?	89103 (arocassing color co	AFSIN 100 1 le standard mail oncessed in FIFD order and in compliante with color code?	1. Is significant Distriction	2. Is all Ergo Cart from operati	3. Is all cluster standard mail	3. Is all standard mail dispate	4. Is all standard mail bispate	RECEIPT	DATE:	TIME:	STANDARD	MAIL	FOR	CLEARANCE	MONDAY	(BLUE)	Minnespolie MN PRDD	Minneapolle MM 66404

Attachment 7 - Color Code Audit Tracking Form

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		or of the state of	5.80%	1.40%	15,30%	11,20%	5.00	3305	10,60%	5.005		2.85	305.56
		# of containers life sites and time	3.8	18	11		30		22	8		138	40.2
	Confidente	the date and time	31,66%	24,70%	2.8%	2.00%	22,70%	5/8/1	1620%	5/8881		15,66%	50772
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		Total By Date	400	50%	100	16.09	20%	50.09	60%	5.69	5.62	Γ	
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Attachment 8 – SDO daily checklists, letters (3rd floor)

3rd Floor			
DATE:			
Machine walk includes: Machine top	os, Stackers, Rack	s, stray APCs / nuttings, tray line & overflow t	elts
3rd Floor	SDO	Committed mail check	SDO
DBCS II # 32		Staged containers - 2:00	
DBCS II # 33		Staged containers - 4:00	
DBCS II # 34		2nd floor rework break-up - 3:30	
DBCS II # 35		2nd floor rework break-up - 6:30	\perp
DBCS II # 36			
DBCS II # 37			
DBCS II # 38		Final belt checks	SDO
DBCS VI-EC # 65		3rd Floor - 6:30	\perp
DBCS I # 25			
DBCS I # 11			
DBCS I # 12			SDO
DBCS I # 13		STD MAIL PROPERLY COLOR-CODED	

Attachment 8 (continued) - SDO daily checklists, letters (East end)

East End			
DATE:		_:	
Machine walk includes: Machine to	ns Stackers Ra	cks, stray APCs / nuttings, tray line & overfloo	w belts
	po, ottonoro, rta		
OUTGOING	SDO	Outgoing Belt Checks	SDO
DBCS I # 20		OSS side	
DBCS I # 21		OCR side	
DBCS II OSS # 27		Overflow	
DBCS II OSS # 29		Area 51	
DBCS II # 31		Strapper	
DBCS IV OSS # 45			
DBCS III LCOCR # 54			
DIOSS # 56			
DIOSS # 57			
DIOSS-EC # 58			
DIOSS-EC # 59			
DIOSS-EC # 60			
DIOSS-EC # 61			
DIOSS-EC # 62			
Call MDC on radio with "outgoing all of	lear" once all mach	ines, racks, belts have been verified.	
Call MDC on radio with "outgoing all cl	lear" once all mach	ines, racks, belts have been verified.	
Call MDC on radio with "outgoing all of	lear" once all mach	Final Belt Checks	SDO
Call MDC on radio with "outgoing all of			SDO
END TOUR		Final Belt Checks	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20		Final Belt Checks OSS side	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27		Final Belt Checks OSS side OGR side	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper	SDO
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow	
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper Committed mail check	
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54 DIOSS # 56		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper Committed mail check Staged containers - 3:00	
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54 DIOSS # 56 DIOSS # 57 DIOSS-EC # 58		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper Committed mail check Staged containers - 3:00	
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54 DIOSS # 56 DIOSS # 57 DIOSS-EC # 58 DIOSS-EC # 59		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper Committed mail check Staged containers - 3:00	
END TOUR DBCS I # 20 DBCS I # 21 DBCS II OSS # 27 DBCS II OSS # 29 DBCS II # 31 DBCS IV OSS # 45 DBCS III LCOCR # 54 DIOSS # 56 DIOSS # 57 DIOSS-EC # 58		Final Belt Checks OSS side OCR side Overflow Strapper Committed mail check Staged containers - 3:00	SDO

Attachment 8 (continued) - SDO daily checklists, letters (West end)

		SDC
	STD MAIL PROPERLY COLOR-CODED	
s, Stackers, Racks,	Stray APC's / Nuttings, Tray Line & Overflow I	3elts
SDO	Metro Belt Checks	SDC
	Area 51 - 0445	
	Strapper - 0445	
	Committed mail check	SDC
	Staged containers - 0200	193572
	Staged containers - 0400	
	Metro break-up - 0430	
	Metro break-up - 0500	
	Metro break-up - 0600	
	Final Belt Checks	SDC
	Area 51 - 0630	
SDO	Strapper - 0630	
	West End - 0630	
	Committed mail check	SDC
	West belt area - 0600	
	City break-up - 0600	
	Staged containers - 0600	
	West beit area - 0700	
	City break-up - 0700	
	Area 51 End Tour	SDC
	DBCSII # 40	
	DBCSIII # 47	
	DBCSIII # 48	
	DBCSIII # 49	
	DBCSV # 55	
	DBCSVI-EC # 63	
	DBCSVI-EC # 64	
	DBCSII # 39 - CIOSS	
	SDO	SDO Metro Belt Checks Area 51 - 0445 Strapper - 0445 Committed mail check Staged containers - 0200 Staged containers - 0400 Metro break-up - 0430 Metro break-up - 0500 Metro break-up - 0600 Final Belt Checks Area 51 - 0630 SDO Strapper - 0630 West End - 0630 Committed mail check West belt area - 0600 City break-up - 0600 Staged containers - 0600 City break-up - 0700 City break-up - 0700 Area 51 End Tour DBCSII # 40 DBCSII # 47 DBCSII # 48 DBCSIII # 48 DBCSVI-EC # 63 DBCSVI-EC # 64

Attachment 9 - SDO daily checklist, flats

Total 2 Total 3 Tota	Minneapolis P&DC	c Flats SDO Checklist				Date	
All Tours All Tours All Tours Troin Speak of the Control of Code Indian Speak of the Code and In commissione with color code? See and In commissione with color code Indian Speak of the Code Indian Speak of Code Indian Speak of Indian Speak of Code Indian Speak	SDO Names						
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date and time? Sh Sh Sh Tes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	the effection of the	All Tours All Tours All Tours All Tours	Yes	No Ye	o No	Yes	
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48) Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No		rom operation use lagged with one) code based on the original color code tags? for date and time of the mai? (if no cushiffs)	t	+	Ţ	+	
date and time? Enter Quantities Below %) Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No		ndard mail distributed with standardized color code tags?	t	╀	L	t	
#5) #6) #6) Wes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No		nell dispatched with correct color code? With origin entry date and time?		+	L	H	
#6) 96) Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	6 Isal standard	nell dispatched with standardized color code tags?	t	┞	L	╁	
96) 6) 7es No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No		All Tours	Ent	erom	millies	Below	
\$6) %) Yes No Yes No Lantify) Yes No	7 How many conta	liners were audited?		H	Г		
%) Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	8 How many audit	ed containers are missing the color code tags? (Quantify, %)		Н			
96) Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No Yes No	9 How many audit	ed containers are missing the date and time? (Quantify, %)		Н			
Yes No	10 How many audit	ed containers had the wrong color code tags ? (Quantify, %)		-			
Ves No Yes No Yes No		All Tours	Yes	No Ye	s No	Yes	
Yes No Y	11 Were Special Bi	ns Rerun? Which Machines / Sort plans were validated?	L	H		H	
fed) (a) (if no, quantity) (b) (a) (a) (b) (b) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c	12 Machines / Sort	Plans checked for Methrown Tubs.					
fed) (35)? (if no, quantify) (Quantify) (Quantify) (Quantify) (See No) (See Sed)		Tour 3	Yes	9			Comments
led) 5:35)? (If no, quantify) fy) Cuantify) Yes No pos led)	1 Was all FCM Ma	III MMP processed on Operation 403017		H			
535)? (If no, quantify) y, Quantify) pos fed) fibe?	2 Were all MMP F	lats cleared on AFSM 100 by 19:10? (pcs fed)		H			
2.35/? (if no, quantify) (if no, quantify) (Quantify) Pos (ed) Tes No Tes No	3 Were all rejects	rerun prior to tie out? (If no, Quantify)		Н			
(if no, quantify) (Quantify) (Quantify) (Pes No pos fed)		for CET?		Н			
5:35)? (If no, quantify) A) Quantify) pos fed)	5 If yes, quantify.			-			
fy) Quantify) Yes No Tibe?		P distributed to Flats Operation by CET (18:35)? (If no, quantity)		\dashv			
Yes No Pos fed)		Seared by 19:50? (if no, Quantify @ end)	1	+	١	١	
Cuentify) Yes No Tibe?		0 Mail cleared by 19:10 CT? (if no, Quantify)	1	+			
Yes No	9 Was all SCF 56	3, 564 & 566 Mail cleared by 19:50? (if no, Quantify)	1	┨	١	١	
Where all Metro 406 Flats cleared by 02.307 (pcs fed) White AO clusters did not clear by 02.307 When all SCE 40d Flats cleared AF 80d Mob by 03.457 (pcs fed) Was sall 55.2 second saries dispatched by 03.507 (lino, describe? Was sall FSM CITY Mail processed on Operation 40.5001? Where all CITY 405 Fats cleared by 05.007 (pcs fed) Were all CITY 405 Fats cleared by 05.207 (pcs fed)	10 Was all Hot MM.	P broken down by 19:00? (if no, Quantify)		\dashv			
		Tour 1	Yes	9			Comments
	1 Were all Metro	106 Flats cleared by 02:307 (pcs fed)		H			
		ars did not clear by 02:30?		H			
4 Was all 553 secondaries dispatched by 03507 if no, describe? 5 Was all FCM CITY Mail processed on Operation 405001? 6 Were all CITY 405 Pals cleaned by 05.007 (pos Red) 7 Were all CITY 406 Pals cleaned by 05.007 (pos Red)	3 Were all SCF 40	4 Flats cleared on AFSM 100 by 03:45? (pcs fed)		Н			
5 Was all FCM CITY Abil processed on Operation 405001? 6 Were all CITY 405 Fals cleared by 05.007 (pcs Red) 7 Were all CITY 406 Fals cleared by 05.007 (pcs Red)	4 Was all 553 sec	ondaries dispatched by 03:50? If no, describe?		Н			
6 Where all CITY 405 Fals cleared by 05.007 (pcs Red) 7 [Were all CITY 406 Fals cleared by 05.207 (pcs Red)	5 Was all FCM C	TY Mail processed on Operation 405001?		Н			
7 Where all CITY ADE Fals cleaned by 05:207 (pos Red)	6 Were all CITY 4	05 Fishs cleaned by 05:007 (pos fed)	1	┨	١	١	
	7 Were all CITY 4	06 Fiets cleared by 05:20? (pcs fed)		\dashv			

Attachment 10 - Letter from Sr. Plant Manager to EAS

Northland Processing & Distribution UNITED STATES May 5, 2010 SUBJECT, National Color Code Policy Compliance It is the responsibility of all facility managers, MDOs, SDOs, as well as in Plant Support staff to understand and follow the National Color Code Folicy for Standard Mail and the Policy for Standard Mail Delayed Mail Condition Reporting. Monitoring machanisms have been but into place to validate adherence to these policies and will continue to be reviewed daily along with weekly facility audita to determine facility compliance. IPS has trained appropriate supervisors imanagers, and employees on proper color coding, application of date-time, and MCFS reporting of Standard delayed mail flow and recording of oldest date. The CIG color code sudit in February outlined several areas that needed improvement within metro plant facilities. While significant progress has been made, internal audits show we continue to have issues with incorrect color code lags, inaccurate or missing dates and times, and containers with ro-The National Color Code Policy for Standard Mail was created to ensure the timely processing. dispatch, and dalivery of standard mail within established service standards. Standardized color code tegs are used to identify the facility that applied the color code tag and to establish the date and time standard mail entered the actility. Proper use of the colored tags ensures efficient processing of mail in a first-in first-out sequence. Standard mail must also be properly recorded daily in VICRS. Didayed Mail Flow occurs when Standard Mail is not processed, linealized, or disperched from a specific operation or facility to ensure delivery by the programmed delivery day. Delayed Mail Flow count collected at 2400 will be input with the MCRS morning report by 0700. The oldest date of the mail must also be occurately recorded in MCRS. Proper monitoring is required for upstream facility compliance. Any deviation or non-compliance to the color code policies is a very serious matter and may result in corrective action. Following USPS policies and engaging employees to follow USPS politices is also directly tied to your assigned role and responsibility, and must be followed for affective communication requirements. Please provide your full attention to your areas of responsibility to ensure all containers are properly placarded including date, time, and color code in accordance with National Color Code Policy. Each facility has assigned in Plant Support designated staff to monitor your facility adherence and provide the necessary support to ensure each tour's compliant. If you have any questions, please contact your manager of in Plant Support Julie Weiser, Minneapolis P&DC at 612-349-4450 and or Jane Kelley, St. Paul P&DC at 651-293-3002. uca (Erica A. Bix Serior Flant Manager Northbard District 100 C. for Error of Row 446 MINY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY AND PROPERT

Attachment 11 - MCRS count sheet

LARGE TOWER LHAM SHAM NUTTING LHAM SHAM NUTTING TODAY'S DATE: SIGNATURE Status PINK - SAT due to no Sunday delivery AADC, ADC, INP, SCF, 3-DIGIT GREEN - WED COLOR CODE ORANGE - TUE TELLOW - FRI Please Indicate the NUMBER OF CONTAINERS for Each TOWER VIOLET - THU * PINK - SAT PINK - SAT DELAYED DELIVERY Dest. CET Please Indicate the NUMBER OF CONTAINERS for Each OLDE ST DATE: OLDE ST DATE: CAGE COUNT AT LEVEL WED SUN NO N 王 ΡĀ SAT TUE SEPTEMORS DELAYED STANDARD DELAYED STANDARD BC SCF City ADC SCF ₹

24:00 Delayed Mail Flow (Standard Mail) Report

MPLS P &DC

Attachment 12 - MCRS documents on file in IPS

