

CANADIAN METER STAMP NEWSLETTER

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2003

My (Irwin's) previous e-mail address has been wrong for some time. Please note the new one above. Also, if you are on the net, send us a message so we have your address.

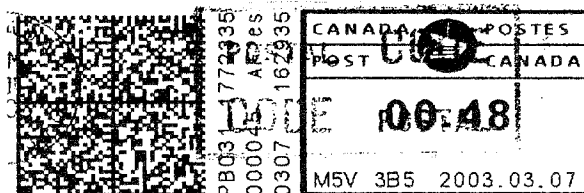
Real sorry for the delay in getting this issue out. More seemingly pressing things have just put it aside. I have no better excuse. This issue is also one with some repetition from previous issues in order to illustrate points. As I mentioned in Newsletter 66 everything is becoming standardized and the scope for meter collecting is declining. The digital computerized software has made operator errors rare.

The highlight of this Newsletter is a large table of data which has not been available to us before and is very helpful in identifying meter models by their serial number, even though the appearance is the same. If anyone can add to this table the hobby could use the information. One needs a company product code book to get them.

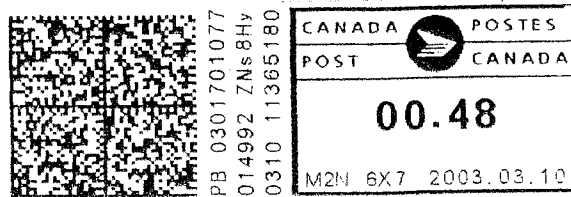
I also analyse recent meter issues. Some are enlarged to show improved detail. It is convenient living close to Staples!

NEW PITNEY BOWES METER?

A new type by Pitney Bowes meter, is not yet identified. Note it is identical to the PB Gem which has the serial number PB 030 1700000. However, this serial number is PB 031 1772335; I also have 1772389 so don't know where the block started. Also, the second set of digits in the third line consist of only six numbers. The indicia seems to be printed with a red ink jet. I thought PB was going to use a single "meter" for all applications. By the way these are not physical meters, just software.



Can we analyse the **Pitney Bowes** code used in their Model IJ, Gem.



Between the four quadrant digital mark and the rate mark are three lines of information. The first line reads - PB 030 1701077. Note there is no space in the numbers. The Pitney Bowes product type code is "030" and the "meter" serial number is seven digits - 1701077, in the 1700000 serial block. The highest number I have seen is 1703569.

The second line consists of two sets of information. The first six digit set is an event counter and ratchets up each time a piece of mail is cancelled. I have noted several instances where this counter has been reset as of January 1. I assume it is part of the business inventory analysis. The second line also has six alpha numeric characters which changes in some random way. I have not solved this mystery.

The third line consists of two sets of numbers. The first set of four numbers is the date of posting as MMDD. Note that this is repeated in the datemark below the rate - but not always. I show below an example where there is a one day unexplainable difference. Is this a variety?

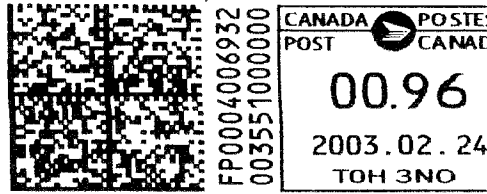


The second set of numbers in the third line has 8 digits. It appears to be similar to the code used with the Pitney Bowes Perfect Office. The first digit is usually "1" but I have seen a "0", and the final digit is "0". Having studied about 100 covers I find in one company which used the same number for a month. Maybe this will sort out.

Conclude there is not much collectable to date in this series.

Franco-typ Postalia marketed the first digital postage meter in Canada. The indicia has the four-quadrant digital block, two rows of numbers and the rate/datemark with the newest Canada Post logo.

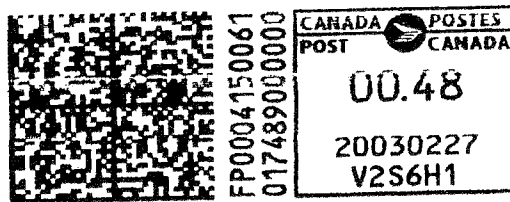
The first line is "FP" and 10 digits. The last seven digits begins with 4000000 which is a series designation. In the example shown the last four digits is the postage meter serial number.



The second line is a 12 digit number. It is an event counter which begins on the 6th digit. It appears the other zeros is just to balance the design.

Note the date form is YYYY . MM . DD.

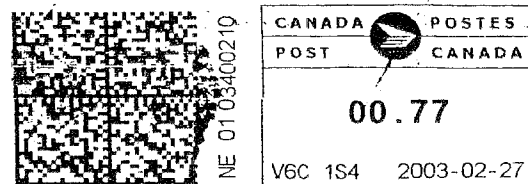
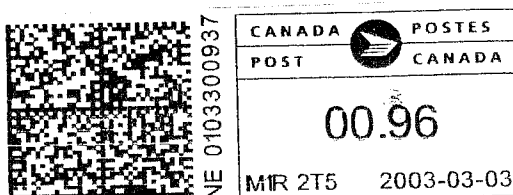
Below is similar to above but the value numerals appear to be slightly different?



Franco-typ Postalia markets a slightly different design indicia. The overall design is similar to the above however, the FP serial number block begins at 4150001. The event counter is similar to the 400 series meter although the font is finer. The datemark is YYYYMMDD with no periods between. The ratemark font is smaller.

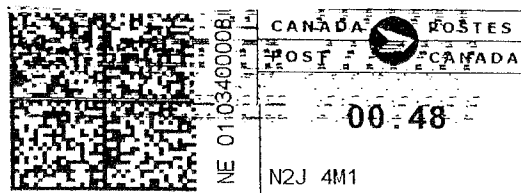
Neopost Digital Postage Meter

Below is the Neopost indicia with the four quadrant digital information. The standardized Canada Post indicia bearing the Canada Post logo, the rate, the postal code and date of posting. Between the digital quadrant and the indicia is a single row of information. The letters "NE" and a 10-digit number. This number is broken into "01", "033" and five digit serial number.

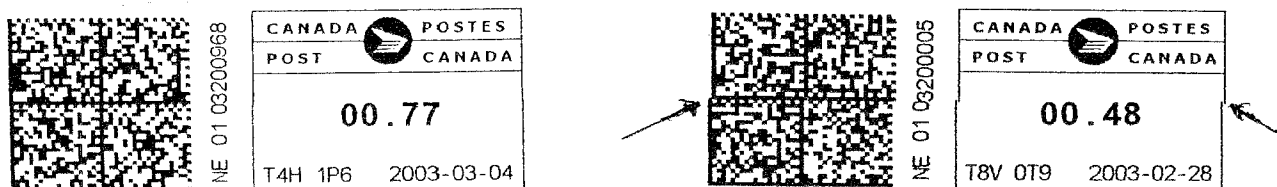


Above is a similar design except the value is smaller. The serial block is "NE", "01", "034" and a five digit serial number.

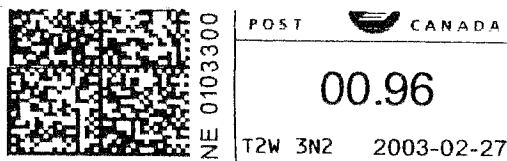
Another, note the datemark did not print.



The third Neopost type is similar to the above but the serial number is broken into parts and the meter type is "032"



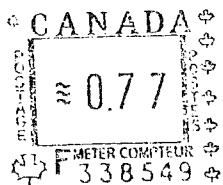
Example of the above but note the minor shift in the indicia caused by a software glitch
Some examples of minor usage. Note the top portion of the indicia including the serial number did not print. In this case it is a software error and was not created by the envelope contents.



A rather unusual postal ad directive "Important document enclosed"



Cover with two Friden impressions to make up 96¢



Last year I donated my postage meter library to the Philatelic Library of the National Archives of Canada. It is now available for anyone to access. For the record I list the items.

INVENTORY OF POSTAGE METER JOURNALS

Meter Club formed in Great Britain by G.H. Kidman in 1938. Became the Meter Study Group, Great Britain in 1950. Published the **Meter Stamp Bulletin** from 1950 to 1981.

- No. 1, Jan 1950 to No. 43 V-10
 - No. 44, Vol VI No 1 Jan 1960 to Vol 73, IX No 1, Mar 1966
 - No. 80, IX-8 Sep 1967 to No 125, XV-6, Dec 1978
 - No 126, XV-7 Mar 1979 to No 131, XVI-4, 1981 (last issue) Issues missing - 71, 74-79
- Total issues - 125**

American Postage Indicia Society founded in Sept. 1935. Some irregular publications issued. The American Metered Postage Society, which published **The Indicia News**, was certified in 1952 as a continuation of American Postage Indicia Society.

- Issue 1, Jan 2, 1941
 - No.1 Mar 21, 1952 to No. 110 Mar 15, 1955
 - No. 111 Mar 30, 1955 - No. 146 July 15, 1956
 - No. 147 Aug 7, 1956 - No 267 Dec 30, 1960
 - No. 268 Jan 10, 1961 - No 335 Dec 31, 1962
 - No. 336 Jan 16, 1963 - No. 46 May 30, 1966
- Missing issues - 89, 92
- Total issues - 458**

The Philometrist .Philometer Society of Chicago (Metered mail)

Vol. 1 No 1 March 1949 to Vol. 1 No 11/12 Jan/Feb 1950
Vol. 2 No 1/2 to Dec 1950/51 To issue 67, May 1961
A few issues missing but hard to tell from their numbering system.

Total issues -39

The PSC News, Vol 1 No 2, 1955

Total issues - 1

Meter Stamp Society (US), organized 1947 + Index

- Bulletin 1, August 1948 to Bulletin 7 February 1949
- Special Bulletin July 1948
- Bulletin 46,47,48,49 of 1952
- Bulletin 14
- Auction and town lists

Meter Stamp Society (US) Quarterly Bulletin

Small format from No. 150, 1974 to No. 214, Winter 1991

Large format from No. 215, Spring 1992 to No 254 Fall, 2001

Total issues - 254

The Meter Collector + Index

Vol 1, No. 1 Apr 1956 to Vol 1, No. 6

Vol. 2, No 1, Jun 1957 to Vol 2, No 4, Mar 1960

Vol 3. No 1, Apr 1960 to Vol 3 No 11, Mar 1961

Vol 4, No. 1 May 1961 to Vol 4 No 2, Jun 1961

Total issues -23

Meter & Collector, org 1961, Moe Luft

Issues 4, 5, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 35, 37 (May 1966)

Total issues .14

Meter Slogan Associates

From Vol. 1 No. 1 (Issue 1) June 1938 to Issue 63, May 1944.

Total issues -63

Canadian Philatelic Society - Official Bulletin The NA Library has all these issues.

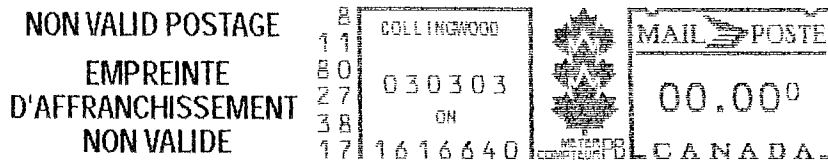
Postage Meter, Risk of Significant Financial Loss - US General Accounting Office, May 1994, GAO/GGD-94-148

BOOKS ON METERED MAIL

AUTHOR – TITLE – YEAR – PAGES

Barfoot-Simon	The Meter Postage Stamp Catalog (of the world) 1953	119
Cahn, William	The Story of Pitney-Bowes - 1981	262
Dewey, A.A.	Introduction to Meter Stamps, UK - 1956	12
Harsh, R.H.	How to Collect Postage Meter Stamps - 1963	92
Harsh, RH.	An Introduction to the Hobby of Collecting the Postage Meter Stamps - 1965	160
Irwin, Ross W	Canadian Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue 1st ed - 1972	28
Irwin, Ross W	Canadian Meter Postage Stamp Catalogue 2nd ed - 1975	68
Irwin, Ross W	Metered Mail (column reprints) - 1986	np
Kelsey, D.A.	Mexico Postage Meter Stamp Catalog - 1994	24
Legris, Yvon	Canada Meter & Permit Postage Stamps Specialized Catalogue(1st) - 1984	96
Mann, John C.	Meter Stamps of Great Britain and Ireland (Eire)2nd ed1972	63
Moser, V.C.	Freistempel - General - Katalog - 1933	58
MSS Pub 3	Classification of United States Postage Meters Prints -1951	20
Peck, Richard C.	History of the Franking Machine in Australia, vol I and II 1975	194
Roberts, S.T.	The History of Pitney Bowes Limited (UK) 1975	144
Simon & Welsh	The United States Postage Meter Catalog.1976	100
Steiger, Win. C.	Postage Meter Catalogue with Addendum 1931	178
Steiger-Pamperien.	A Type Chart of United States Postage Meters(3rd ed)1945	24
Swan, Walter	Catalog of Basic Types of Meter Stamp of the United States (1 st) 1957	16
Swan, Walter	The Basic Type Meter Stamp Catalog (3m) - 1959	79
Swan, Walter	Catalog of Basic Types of Meter Stamp of the United States (4th)1967	38
Thomas, William R.	History and Evolution of Metered Postage (APS) 1962	85
Whiteborough, J.	Philometer Compendium - 1957	211

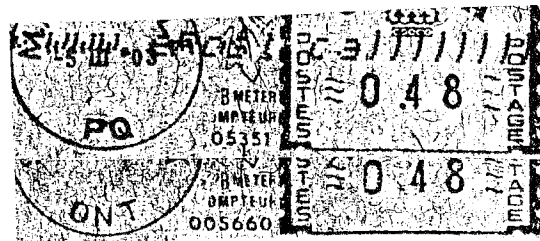
This label came through the mail. No one noticed the slogan? Also, the tape cuts off the town and datemark.



Two types of serial number fonts, round and oval "0"; sorry for the post office cancel.



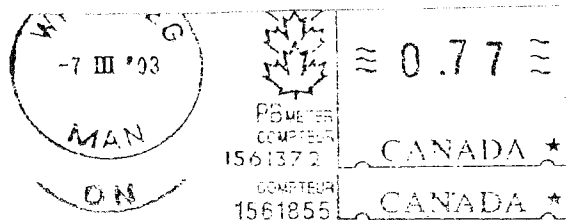
Some have reported serial numbers with a missing first digit. This example is dark but the envelope content has created the problem. Note the "P" in PB did not print as well as the "C" below. I don't class this as a variety.



Postal slogans are not used as much as in the past. Here is one.



Two forms of serial number font. Note the "5" and "6". Same difference in font below.



Some clear strikes that have arrived in the mail.

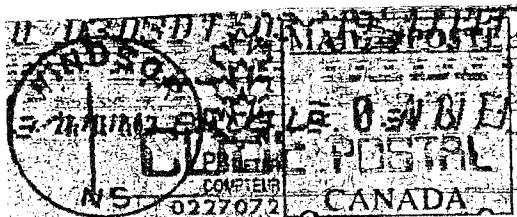


Table of High and Low Serial Block Numbers Assigned to Each Postage Meter Model, with the Maximum Value Set and the Highest Known Serial Number.

CO	Block Low	Block High	High Known	Meter Model	Value	Meter Type
PB	94000	94499	94129	JD	9.99	M
PO	100000	100999	100830	K1501/3	9.99	M
PB	140000	155999		RT	10.00	M
PB	140000	155999		RF	1.00	M
PB	141000	141999		tax		M Tax
PB	142000	142999				M Tax
PB	149000	149999				M Tax
PB	156000	156399	156284	2207	9.99½	M
PB	156400	162999		2282	9.99	M
PB	169000	169000		2289		M
PB	163000	163999	163174	0619		M
PB	164000	168999		2292		M
PB	200001	219999	201445	E111	99.999	EPSS
PB	220000	239999	2333720	A911		EPSS
PB	240000	269999	264245	2915	21	M
FR	300000	300999	300689	PM4C	9.99½	M
FR	320000		323044	9225	9.99	M
FR	330000	334999		9215	9.99	
FR	335000	336783		9245	9.99	
FN	336784	346999	338573	9545	99.99	
FN	340276	341003		9545		
FR	350000		351754	9205	1.00	
FR	355000	355198		9215	9.99	
FN	355199	359999	355625	9515	99.99	
PB	360000		361813	9235	9.99	M
FN	362000	369999		9515		
FR	370000		370028	9259	9.999	
NE	371000	371381	371308	SM26	=0.00=	
FR	380000	384999	390140	9255	9.99	
FR	385000	388999	385878	9265	9.99	
FN	389000	389999		9269	9.999	
FN	390000	399999	391846	9555	99.99	
PO	400000	401999		KF1501/3	9.99	
PO	402200	404999		MS5/3	9.99	
PO	405000	4002500		T1000		
PO	405000	407000		M		
PO	407000	407999	407371	7000/4	99.99	
PO	465000	465999		MS5/4	99.99	
PB	500000	509999	501850	5379	9.99½	M
PB	520000	520999	520398	0649	9.99½	M
PB	540000	599999		5319		M
PB	600000	630000	625426	5384		EPSS
PB	630001	631800	631650	5385	633500	EPSS
PB	631801	632350		5358		EPSS
PB	632351	640000		5385		EPSS

PB	650001	699999	699999 5717	9.99	M
PB	700000		700317	25	
N	750000	774999	752186 105	9.99	
N	775000	799999	776129 505	9.99	
PB	800001	850000	868000 5711	9.99	M
PB	850001	890000	885585 5714	99	M
PB	1000000	1049999	1119700 6511	=0.30=	EPSS
PB	1050000	1053809	1053696 6510		M
PB	1053810	1053849	6508		M
PB	1053850	1099999	6510		M
PB	1100000	1114999	1127019 6911	9.999	EPSS
PB	1115000	1149999	6911		EPSS
PB	1450000	1459999	1454440 E710	99.99	EPSS
PB	1460000	1499999	1463865 E717	99.99	EPSS
PB	1500000	1549999	1513529 B711	99.999	EPSS
PB	1550000	1599999	B911	99.99	EPSS
PB	1600000	1609999	1603722 E716	99.99	EPSS
PB	1610000	1649999	1619073 E719	99.99	EPSS
PB	1700101	1719997	IA10	99.99	EPSS
AH	2000000	2002999	143	9.99	M
AH	2000000	2002999	4310	9.99	M
AH	2000000	2002999	6210	9.99	EM
AH	2000000	2002999	9210	9.99	EM
AH	2003000	2004700	5410	99.99	M
AH	2003000	2004700	6310	99.99	EM
AH	2003000	2004700	9310	99.99	EM
AH	2004701	2004999	5463	9.999	M
AH	2004701	2004999	6363	9.999	EM
AH	2004701	2004999	9363	9.999	EM
AH	2004701	2004999	13860	9.999	M
AH	2004701	2004999	13863	9.999	M
AH	2004701	2004999	25863	9.999	M
AH	2004701	2004999	55863	9.999	EM
AH	2004701	2004999	75863	9.999	EM
AH	2005000	2015000	143	9.99	M
AH	2005000	2015000	4310	9.99	M
AH	2005000	2015000	6210	9.99	EM
AH	2005000	2015000	9210	9.99	EM
AH	2015001	2049999	133	9.99	M
AH	2015001	2049999	1135	9.99	M
AH	2050000	2051999	13313	9.99	M
AH	2050000	2051999	13410	99.99	M
AH	2050000	2051999	13413	99.99	M
AH	2050000	2051999	1431	9.99	E
AH	2050000	2051999	1441	99.99	E
AH	2060000	2069999	16410	99.99	E
AH	2060000	2069999	16413	99.99	E
AH	2060000	2069999	17560	99.999	E
AH	2060000	2069999	17563	99.999	E
AH	2062790	2062794	16410	99.99	OMRS
AH	2067000	2067500	67-9 741	99.99	

AH	2069000	2069106	7410	99.99	
AH	2070000	2073052	SMILE	99.99	
PB	2200000	2399999	E911		EPSS
NE	3200000	3299999	3202452 IJ25	99.99	EPSS
NE	3300000	3399999	3300863 C18D	99.99	EPSS
NE	3400000		3400937	99.99	
FP	4000000	4007480	4007909 T1000	99.99	
FP	4050000	4050362	4050333 M1	9.99	
FP	4100000	4105000	4100465 8000	9.99	
FP	4150000	4154999	4150195 J1	99.99	JetMail

Standard

Regular

3

CANADA POSTES	
POST	CANADA
Date 2002.12.10	Postage - Port 5.10
Montreal QC H4W1R0 0.429 kg	
CANADA	
6011117	317886 0264261

N1E



N1E5N6+ 3

ATTENTION

Sender warrants that this shipment does not contain dangerous goods.

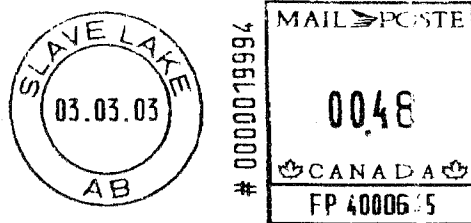
L'expéditeur garantit que cet envoi ne contient pas de matières dangereuses.

Signature Required
Signature Requise

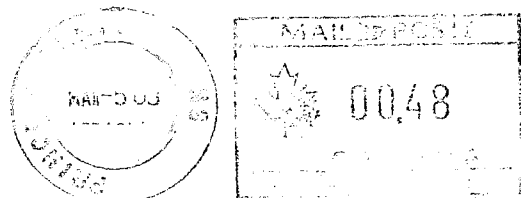


An unusual parcel label. Note the printed Canada Post "Nixdorf" type indicia which is printed on the larger 1000 x 1000 mm label. It is identical to current use. The bar code appears to represent the point of delivery.

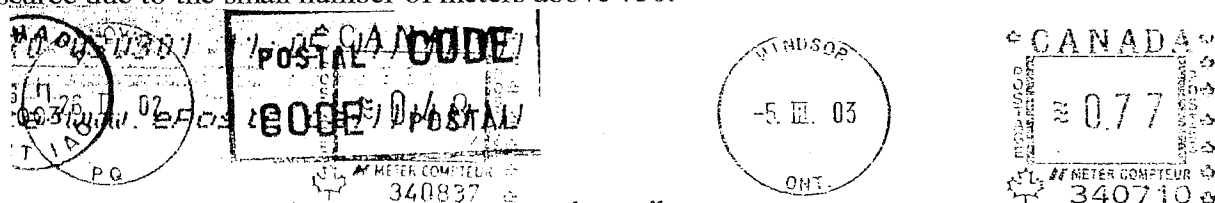
Did you save the unusual date pattern, as below:- 03 - 03 - 03 ??



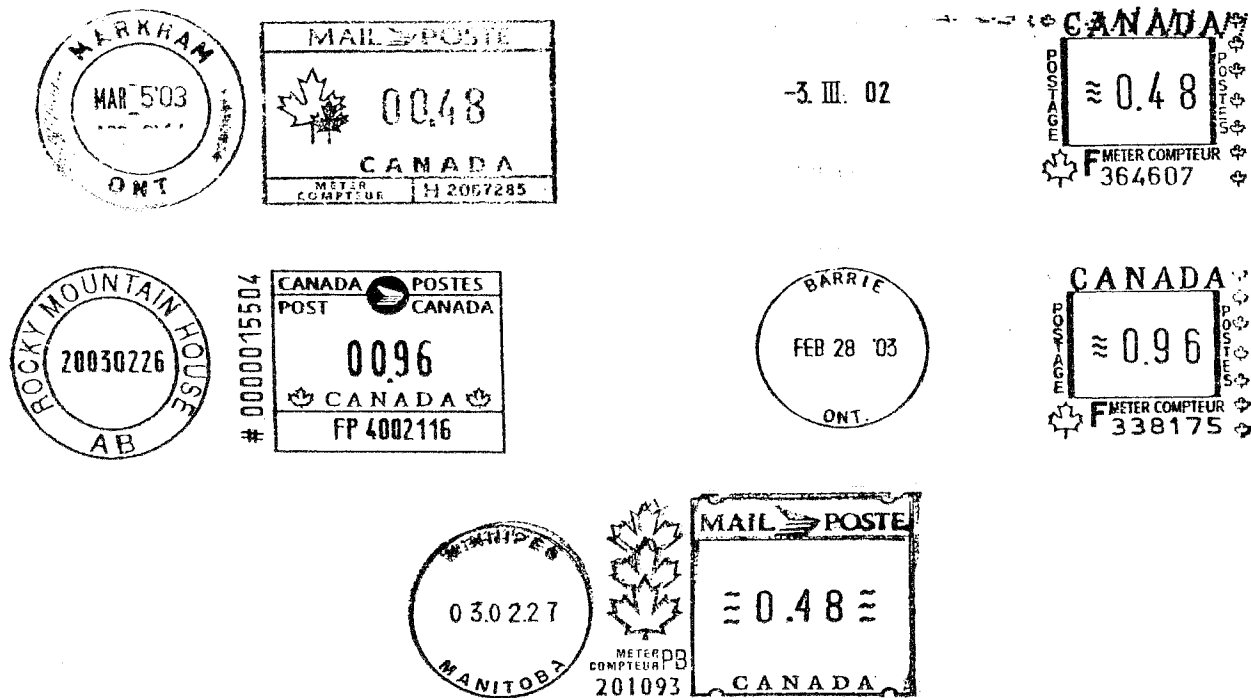
The original is also unreadable. This shows the townmark with PRINCE ALBERT SK at 90 degrees; however, the datemark is correct.



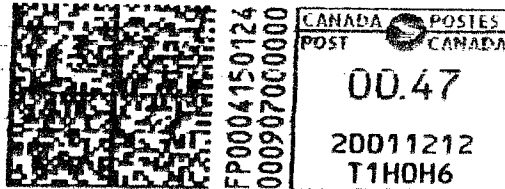
Illustrated is the two fonts used with the Neopost meters in the Friden series. The open "4" type is scarce due to the small number of meters above 750.



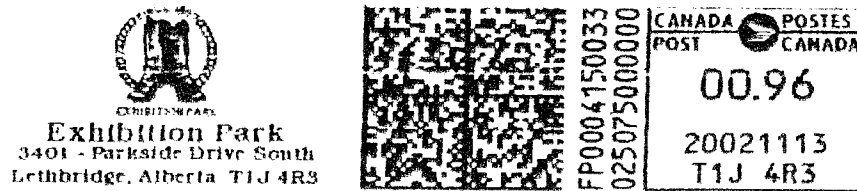
Space fillers below showing some varieties in the mail



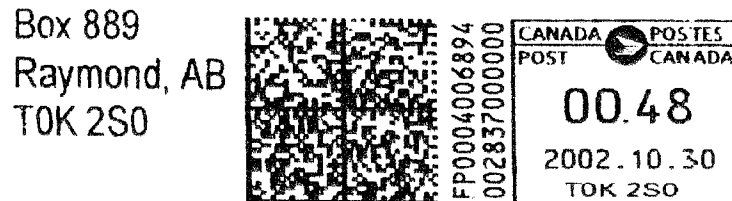
FRIDEN-POSTALIA IMPRINTS



DATE AND POSTAL CODE BOTH RUN TOGETHER



POSTAL CODE SEPARATED



DATE AND POSTAL CODE SEPARATED

Contribution send in by Bob Kitchener

Many years ago I donated a representative collection of postage meters to the National Postal Museum. These are now part of the Philatelic Collection in the National Archives. I also understand this collection has been enlarged through donations from Canada Post. A visit to Ottawa may be well worthwhile to see what they have. In any case BNA Topics, vol 59, Jan. 2002, listed my contribution. It is reprinted below. These fonts are also available on the NAC website.

What's new?— National Archives of Canada Philatelic Collections

Cimon Morin

This column is provided on a regular basis in order to publicize new acquisitions and activities within the philatelic area at the National Archives of Canada (NA). Researchers who wish to use the NA facilities should contact, in writing, the National Archives of Canada, Reference Services, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa ON K1A 0N3 [fax: (613) 995-6274; e-mail: reference@archives.ca; Internet website: <http://www.archives.ca>]

Former acquisitions

Ross W Irwin fonds [1932–1988]. 185 postal covers and other philatelic records. Two centimetres of textual records. Fonds consists of a collection of Canadian metered mail and research material, including correspondence, notes, brochures, leaflets and postal covers relating to the following events: World War II patriotic advertising, Canadian Centennial, Expo '67; sports and olympic games in Canada. The correspondence, 1932–1962, is between Lindsay M McLennan of Hamilton; Tony Keller of Woodstock (ON); and Ross W Irwin of Mississauga, prominent philatelists of the period, collectors of postage meter impressions. Fonds also contains a collection of six Pitney Bowes metered mail covers, four of which are limited to 1000 meter impressions each. All of these covers bear examples of various special commemorative (metered mail) markings prepared by Pitney Bowes to publicize special events and to advertize their products. The events commemorated were: CAPEX '51, 21 September 1951; first day of use for United Nations metered mail, 24 October 1951; the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II; the fifteenth UPUCongress held in Ottawa, 11 September 1957; the opening of Parliament by Queen Elizabeth II, 14 October 1957; the opening of the St Lawrence Seaway by the Queen, 26 June 1959. (R3848)

RIJSWIJK (ZH) NEDERLAND
-8.11.01
00165
Postbus 3306 CENT
2280 GH FR 63045

SUDAN
بريد السودان
31.7.94
POSTAGE
PTS = 120
قشيش
P.B.027

DAKAR FANN
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SENEGAL

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DU SENEGAL
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POSTES
P 10238

BIELSKO-BIALA
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- ZŁ -

منطقة 19 ايتسي
20.3.02
تهران
2002

ایران
RIALS
ریال *2000
POST
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103571

中国大鹿邮城
EQU 421223
HONG KONG
NO. 540
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源 源 源
源 源 源

FLORYAN YESILKOY IST.
17.01
A 1025

TURKIYE CUMHURİYETİ
0675 000
LIRA
H POSTA

VATICAN OBSERVATORY
CITTA' DEL VATICANO
-8.7.85
(SV)

POSTE VATICANE
01820

A-Priority

1200 GENEVE IT
04.03.03
RUE DUSTAND
HELVETIA
P 00450 P
100917

U.S. POSTAGE
\$00.60

ALBANY NY, 12207
FEB 15 2002 00600 035400
FP0594937 JMC01 00317EE6



Hot!
Hot!
Information

BUFFALO
MAR.-4.03
NY

0000045413
U.S. POSTAGE
0160
POSTALIA 331461

Two more examples (See 67-10) of the use of Nixdorf type cancels for XPRESSPOST and Registered mail.

Clarice
 PO BOX 1622 STN WATERLOO
 Waterloo ON
 N2Y 4M8

03/10/00

R Registered Recommen

R
R
R
R
R
R
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RT 645 845 919 CA RT 645 845 919 CA



Signature Required
 Signature requise

Sender warrants that this shipment does not contain dangerous goods.
 L'expéditeur garantit que cet envoi ne contient pas de matières dangereuses.

CANADA POSTES
 POST CANADA
 Date: 2002.11.30 Postage - Port: 4.98
 Orleans ON K1C2S8 0.007 Kg
 CANADA
 6010445 265656 013

XPRESSPOST **1**

CANADA POSTES
 POST CANADA
 Date: 2002.12.05 Postage - Port: 5.10
 Pointe-Aux-OC H1A1R0 0.007 Kg
 CANADA
 6010356 263438 0231312


N2J

N2J4M8+ 1 PK 400 427 625 CA

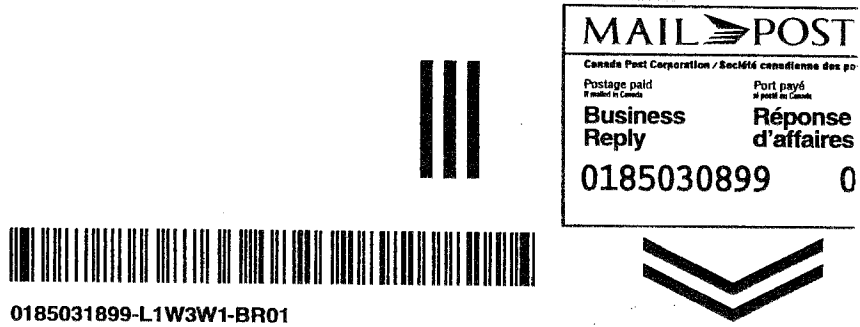
ATTENTION

Sender warrants that this shipment does not contain...
 L'expéditeur garantit que cet envoi ne contient pas de...
 Signature Required
 Signature Requise

ประเทศไทย THAILAND
 10253
 29-11-2001
 111
 9012
 9892
 0006364


 ≈ 28.00 บาท
 BAHT
 POSTAGE

Just to show that Pitney Bowes does not exclusively use their own products.



PITNEY BOWES
1550 BAYLY ST
PICKERING ON L1W 9Z9

An unusual cover, with a parcel post label used to pay the first class postage within the city. Note there is no date of posting printed.

