

IMpb Verification

Intelligent Mail package barcode

The IMpb is the critical bridge between physical packages and the digital information required to enable world class service and tracking for our package products.



IMpb VERIFICATION OVERVIEW

IMpb Barcode, address information, and shipping services file verifications ensure accurate data to support and automate package processing, operational efficiencies, timely postage payment and revenue assurance. They are critical to visibility and positive customer experiences. There are three (3) key IMpb requirements customers must meet to ensure they receive the best experience and value when they ship packages with the Postal Service. Each commercial parcel must:

1. Bear an IMpb barcode.
2. Be accompanied by a version 1.6 (or higher) electronic Shipping Services File (SSF) record populated with required details about the package.
 - Non-eVS customers: IMpb verifications are performed and compliance is measured at the time of mailing or upon receipt of the Shipping Services File. The verification is performed by individual postage statement.
 - eVS customers: IMpb verifications are performed and compliance is measured at the time of the Arrival at Post Office event (07) scan. The verifications are assessed when over threshold for the entire month.
3. Include the full destination delivery address and/or 11-digit Delivery Point Validated ZIP Code™ for each package electronically in the Shipping Services File (SSF) or Shipping Partner Event File.

Timely submission of high-quality manifest files and address information allows the Postal Service to provide rich data via “My USPS” and tracking tools, while aiding efforts to simplify the payment process and avoid manual reconciliation.

Since January 2014, the Postal Service verifies the presence of the barcode, address and manifest, and assesses the pieces that exceed the established threshold with a \$0.20 IMpb noncompliance fee. Non-eVS customers are assessed at the mail class level. For eVS customers, IMpb non-compliance fees are assessed at either the mail class or blended level, depending on whichever has the lowest financial impact. In February 2017, the thresholds were reduced for the IMpb Barcode Provided and Shipping Services File Provided.

Separately, since January 2016, the Postal Service measures the quality of the IMpb barcode, address information and shipping services file, but does not assess these verifications for IMpb non-compliance fees.

CURRENTLY ASSESSED IMpb VERIFICATIONS

Currently, IMpb noncompliance fees are assessed on Priority Mail®, Priority Mail Express®, First-Class Package Services, Parcel Select® and Parcel Select Lightweight® packages for three different categories: IMpb Barcode Provided, Address Provided, Shipping File (v1.6+) Provided. Noncompliant packages are assessed a \$0.20 per piece fee when exceeding the threshold. Effective February 1, 2017, the IMpb Compliance verifications and thresholds are as follows:

- IMpb Barcode Provided—95 %
- Address Provided—98%
- Shipping File (v1.6+) Provided—91%

JULY 2017 IMpb ASSESSED VERIFICATIONS

In July 2017 the Postal Service will simplify IMpb verifications by combining the six (6) compliance categories for IMpb presence and the quality of the address information and the shipping services file into three (3) categories. Pieces that exceed the established thresholds will be assessed.

The Postal Service will use the threshold percentages — currently in place — for the IMpb barcode and shipping services file, and will reduce the threshold for address information quality to 89 percent.

IMpb VERIFICATION EXPLANATIONS

Verifications: Now through June 2017

Verification/Threshold	Explanation	Assessment
IMpb Barcode Provided 95% eVS: manifest results Non-eVS: physical inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each package must bear a unique IMpb barcode and be included in the manifest. eVS verifies compliance based on the Shipping Services File. Non-eVS verifies compliance through physical inspection. 	\$0.20/piece
Address Provided 98% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each package must include the full destination delivery address and/or 11-digit Delivery Point Validation ZIP Code in an electronic file. Address information must be received through either a Shipping Services File (SSF) or a Shipping Partner Event File at the time of mailing for non-eVS customers, and for eVS customers, prior to the package receiving an Arrival at Unit (AAU) Scan (07) event. 	\$0.20/piece
Shipping File v1.6+ Provided 91% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Shipping Services File (SSF) record must be submitted for each package at the time of mailing for non-eVS customers, and prior to the package receiving an Arrival at Unit (AAU) Scan (07) event for eVS customers. eVS customers have until midnight on the day of mailing when address information is provided via a Shipping Partner Event File 	\$0.20/piece
Barcode Quality 95% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IMpb must have a valid MID within the IMpb. IMpb must be unique (120 days). 	No
Address Quality 89% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each package must bear a valid destination delivery address and/or 11-digit Delivery Point Validation ZIP Code <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid secondary address Match between address to ZIP+4 Includes street number Valid primary street number <p><i>Note: eVS customers must provide the address information prior to the Arrival at Unit (AAU) scan, non-eVS at the time of mailing.</i></p>	No
Shipping Services File Quality 91% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry facility must match between scan and manifest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid PO of Account ZIP Code (where account is held for payment). Valid payment account (Permit Number). Valid method of payment (Valid Options: Permit, Federal Agency, PC Postage, Smart Meter, Other Meter, Stamps). <p><i>Note: eVS customers must provide payment information prior to 11:59 PM on the day the mail is presented when address information is provided via Shipping Partner Event file, non-eVS at the time of mailing.</i></p>	No

July 2017 Verifications

Verification/Threshold	Explanation	Assessment
IMpb Barcode Quality 95% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IMpb must have a valid MID within the IMpb. IMpb must be unique (120 days). 	\$0.20/piece
SSF Manifest Quality 91% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry facility must match between scan and manifest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid PO of Account ZIP Code (where account is held for payment). Valid payment account (Permit Number). Valid method of payment (Valid Options: Permit, Federal Agency, PC Postage, Smart Meter, Other Meter, Stamps). <p><i>Note: eVS customers must provide payment information prior to 11:59 PM on the day the mail is presented when address information is provided via Shipping Partner Event file, non-eVS at the time of mailing.</i></p>	\$0.20/piece
Address Quality 89% (manifest results)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each package must include a full, valid destination delivery address and/or 11-digit Delivery Point Validation ZIP Code <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valid secondary address information Match between address to ZIP+4 Code Includes street number Valid primary street number <p><i>Note: eVS customers must provide the address information prior to the Arrival at Unit (AAU) scan, non-eVS at the time of mailing.</i></p>	\$0.20/piece

Currently, IMpb noncompliance fees are assessed on Priority Mail®, Priority Mail Express®, First-Class Package Services, Parcel Select® and Parcel Select Lightweight® packages.

IMpb REPORTS

As of March 26, 2017 the Postal Service is improving the functionality of the IMpb Compliance Report. In addition to making it available internally and externally, mailers will be able to research information at the Mailer ID (MID) or Customer Registration ID (CRID) level. Other enhancements include a new Summary Level Report that will aggregate compliance percentages by MID, provide compliance percentages for each threshold, and allow mailers to drilldown into an error at the MID level. Changes are also being made to the Mid-level Report. The report will aggregate compliance percentages by MID, permit number and transaction number, provide compliance percentages for each threshold and allow mailers to drilldown into an error by transaction number.

Non-eVS Reports

BCG Home Page → Mailing Services → Mailing Reports → IMpb Compliance Report

Mailer ID	Total Pieces	SSF Version 1.6+ provided	Complete Address and/or 11 Digit DPV	IMpb Barcode Quality	SSF Manifest Quality	Address Quality
123456	400	100%	100%	100%	96%	95%
987456	400	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Total	800	100%	100%	100%	98%	98%

July 2017 Assessments

Date	SSF Transaction Number	Label ID	Mailer Name	Mailer ID	Mailer CRID	Payment Method	Permit Number
01/09/2017	201701090001	92001900002579000000063171	Mailer Name A	123456	123456889	PI	0000000136
01/09/2017	201701090001	920019000059420000000771185	Mailer Name A	123456	123456889	PI	0000000136
01/09/2017	201701090001	9200190000778808213319	Mailer Name A	123456	123456889	PI	0000000136
01/09/2017	201701090001	920019010127810000000692341	Mailer Name A	123456	123456889	PI	0000000136

Report Drill down to piece level detail.

eVS Reports

BCG Home Page → Favorite Services → Mailing Reports → eVS Monthly Account & Sampling Summary → Line 2f: Postage Adjustments from IMpb noncompliance → Select Mail Class, Month, & Year as necessary → Show Data

The current IMpb Report section only displays data when there is an assessment, making it difficult for viewers to see all pertinent data in one place, especially for new Barcode Quality (BQ), Manifest Quality (MQ), and Address Quality (AQ) performance, since there is currently no assessment on those.

In the below example of the report coming in April 2017, the Total Assessment by Individual Mail Class has a higher assessment than the Total Assessment by blended Mail Class. Since the system will charge the lower amount, either by mail class or by blended mail class, the Total Assessment by blended Mail Class would be assessed.

(Note: The \$284,000 is a combination of mail class assessments, of which only Parcel Select is represented.)

Mail Class	Total Volume Requiring IMpb	IMpb Compliance Metrics	Non-compliant Volume	Score	Threshold	Pieces under Threshold	Assessment
Parcel Select	2,000,000	Barcode Format (BF)	5	100.00%	95.00%	0	\$0.00
		Address Presence (DZ)	55,000	97.25%	98.00%	15,000	\$3,000.00
		Shipping File (SF)	800,000	60.00%	91.00%	620,000	\$124,000.00
		Barcode Quality (BQ)	12	100.00%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
		Address Quality (AQ)	65,000	96.75%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
		Manifest Quality (MQ)	850,000	57.50%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
Total Assessment by Individual Mail Class							\$284,000.00
Blended	7,060,000	Barcode Format (BF)	265	100.00%	9.00%	0	\$0.00
		Address Presence (DZ)	955,300	86.47%	98.00%	814,100	\$162,820.00
		Shipping File (SF)	2,002,000	71.64%	91.00%	1,366,600	\$273,320.00
		Barcode Quality (BQ)	912	99.99%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
		Address Quality (AQ)	95,900	98.64%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
		Manifest Quality (MQ)	2,351,000	66.70%	0.00%	0	\$0.00
Total Assessment by blended Mail Class							\$273,320.00

HOW TO MEET THE IMpb REQUIREMENTS

eVS Mailer Option

- Electronically submit a Shipping Services File (SSF) with manifest, tracking, and postage information in one file (through the Electronic Verification System, or eVS):
 - Submission is one file, which includes the Shipping Services File (SSF) (destination delivery address or ZIP+4 and Destination Delivery Point Code information) and postage information.
 - Payment for postage is deducted from a centralized electronic postage payment account (a Centralized Account Processing System (CAPS) account)

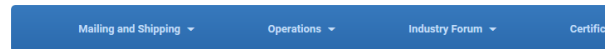
Manifest Mailing Solution

- Electronically submit a Shipping Services File (SSF) with manifest and tracking information, plus a separate Postage Statement (this option is referred to as a Manifest Mailing Solution).
 - Submission requires 2 components:
 - Shipping & Tracking information within the electronic SSF
 - A hardcopy Postage Statement brought to the BMEU or an electronic Postage Statement submitted through the Postal Wizard®
 - Payment for postage is made through a local payment/Trust account, or a CAPS account

TOOLS TO MEET THE IMpb REQUIREMENTS

Become an eVS mailer

Visit the [eVS webpage](#) on the PostalPro website for more information on how to become an eVS mailer.



Home - Shipping - Electronic Verification System (eVS®)

Electronic Verification System (eVS®)

The Electronic Verification System (eVS®) enables parcel mailers to submit documentation and pay postage by transmitting electronic manifest files to the eVS database.

Who is eVS for?



Use a certified vendor software solution

Visit the [eVS webpage](#) on the PostalPro website to find the list of certified vendors software solutions.



Calculate a Business Price

Shipping Consolidators

Use a certified consolidator solution

Visit the [Shipping Consolidators webpage](#) on USPS.com for more information

Click-N-Ship Business Pro™

It's as easy as 1-2-3 to get started.



Register on our Business Customer Gateway website



Create your payment account



Download our free software

Use the USPS Click-N-Ship Business Pro tool

Visit the [Click-N-Ship Business Pro webpage](#) on the Business Customer Gateway for more information