



POSTAL NEWS

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SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS SET FOR GLOBAL EXPRESS MAIL **DELIVERY IN EUROPE**

WASHINGTON -- Beginning March 29, Global Express Mail (GEM) customers can look for better service and more detailed and accurate tracking in eight additional European countries. These improvements come as a result of expanded delivery of GEM — from six to 14 countries — by Royal Mail Group's Pan-European parcel delivery company, General Logistics Systems (GLS).

According to James P. Wade, vice president, International Business, the Postal Service entered the agreement with Royal Mail to create a new model for package delivery in Europe — using a single delivery agent to improve delivery service and tracking while maintaining current rates. "Reliable and secure service is at the core of all our service offerings," says Wade. At its inception, the agreement also included Global Airmail Parcel Post delivery in 23 European countries.

"Global Express Mail is a good bargain for businesses and consumers looking for reliable delivery at an affordable price and GLS has demonstrated its ability to scan package information from acceptance through arrival at the foreign country, and from the customs clearance process through delivery to the recipient. This gives GEM incredible service value," says Wade.

"We also have negotiated a reduction of the administrative fee for customs clearance that recipients pay in European Union countries from 17 euros (\$18.39*) to a fee of only 9.50 euros (\$10.28*) for those packages that are assessed customs duties and taxes," says Wade.

International shippers can also take advantage of volume rate discounts when using an Express Mail Corporate Account and additional savings offered through the Global Package Discount Program.

"This European package delivery agreement is part of a continuing plan by the Postal Service to provide reliable and affordable international mail services to meet the rapidly expanding global needs of its customers," says Wade.

The initial countries covered by the GEM agreement are: Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, and Sweden. The eight additional countries joining the network are: Belgium, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, San Marino, Switzerland, and Vatican City.

For more information about these and other international services offered by the Postal Service, go to www.usps.com/global.

* Exchange rate USD to Euros as of February 20, 2003