



# POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 11, 2007

Contact: Media Relations  
202-268-2155  
News Release No. 07-004  
[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

## **POSTAL SERVICE POISED FOR CONTINUING BREAKTHROUGHS, ACCORDING TO NEW PROGRESS REPORT**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Postal Service has achieved remarkable results and is better prepared than ever to help ensure a prosperous future for mail, according to a progress report on the organization's transformation efforts. *The 2006 Annual Progress Report* examines progress made on key strategies identified in the *Strategic Transformation Plan, 2006-2010*.

"Transformation helped deliver solid results across the board," said Postmaster General John E. Potter. He noted that the Postal Service achieved seven straight years of productivity growth, and in 2006 had its fourth consecutive year of positive net income, along with high levels of service and customer satisfaction. "But even greater results lie ahead," said Potter. "We are poised for new breakthroughs in service improvement and cost reduction that will recast the future of mail."

The report reflects the Postal Service's commitment to make mail a more powerful and versatile business tool for customers. Highlights include:

- Launch of new barcode and tracking technologies that will ultimately give customers a continuous view of the flow of mail, from production to delivery.
- Innovative services like Click-N-Ship and Free Package Pickup that combine the convenience of online access with the Postal Service's daily delivery link to every home and business.
- Expanded automated mail sorting capability that promises more consistency at a lower cost.
- Streamlined commercial mailing processes that cut documentation, simplify payment procedures and create a host of diagnostic tools to improve service quality and value.

The report identifies improvements in address and mailing list quality as a critical priority for 2007. Each year billions of pieces of mail cannot be delivered because addresses are incomplete, wrong, or out of date.

The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, signed into law by President Bush last month, will not alter the Postal Service's mission or major strategies, the progress report notes. Rather, the new law will enable the organization to continue its transformation efforts and cost-cutting measures.

*The 2006 Annual Progress Report* is available online at <http://www.usps.com/strategicplanning/2006apr/>.

Since 1775, the United States Postal Service and its predecessor, the Post Office Department, have connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. An independent federal agency that visits more than 146 million homes and businesses every day, the Postal Service is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. It receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of \$72 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume—some 213 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year—and serves 10 million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide.

###