# Computer $V_{\text {ended }}$ Postage 

By Newt Kulp<br>For Central Florida Stamp Club<br>October, 2019

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\text { Definition } 1
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- Valid Postage Generated by an Electronic Device and Printed on a "Label"
-This definition has issues since many forms of "labels" not considered CVP are included.


# Definition 2 

- Valid Postage Generated by an Electronic Device Housed in an Authorized Postal Facility and Printed on a "Label"
-This definition is the most valid.
- Scott has expanded this definition to include Personal Computer Postage


## Production of a Label

## All Have Tagged Strips Applied to the Label

- Computer Vended Postage Stamps
- Created by Kiosks housed in lobbies of selected Post Offices
- Over 1200 sites currently
- Depending upon the year and/or provider of the software/hardware either blank labels or labels with designs placed in Kiosk
- Customer either manually and/or with the help of the software determined the face value of the label(s)
- Kiosk printed labels and charged credit card inserted by the customer
- Personal Computer Postage
- Various companies authorized to provide labels
- Customer creates an account with the vendor
- Vendor sends labels to customer
- Some come with design and value applied with costs pre-charged to customer account
- Others provide basic label and value/ design added by purchaser via software and Internet connection
- Cost charged to customer's account


## Scott Numbering System

- Computer Vended Postage Stamps
- CVP followed by a number
- Possibly a capitol letter for a minor variation of the design
- Possibly a small letter to designate various classes or services
- Example: CVP84, CVP87A, CVP75c
- Personal Computer Postage
- Number (1, 2 or very recently 3) followed by CVP followed by a number
- Possibly another letter for minor variations of original design
- Example: 1CVP107 or 1CVP107A


## Brief United States Historical Overview

- First available in Martin Luther King Jr Station in Washington, DC (from August 23, 1989) and White Flint Mall in Kensington MD (from September 1, 1989) to May 7, 1990.
- Special machines made available at the $20^{\text {th }}$ Universal Postal Congress in Washington between November 13 to December 14, 1989.
- Developed by Technology Resource Department of the United States Postal Service
- Public comments for the most part were negative due to the design of the hardware and hard to use software


## CVP1 to CVP30 All Similar In Design Each Label was Unique



## Coil Stamps - Same Basic Design - CVP31 to CVP33

## Machines Developed by ECA GARD Postage and Mailing Center

- CVP31 - Type 1
- Dull Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
-     * In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Centered Vertically Between Dollar and Cents



## Coil Stamps - All Had Plate Number - CVP31 to CVP33 Denomination Determined bv Customer

-CVP31a - Type 1

- Shiny Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
-     * In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Centered Vertically Between Dollar and Cents

$\left.\begin{array}{l}\text { Scott Number cvP31a - Type } 1 \\ \text { Prephosphored Paper - SShin Gum }\end{array}\right)$



## Coil Stamps - Same Basic Design - CVP31 to CVP33 Denomination Determined by Customer

- CVP31b - Type II
- Dull Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
-     * In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Positioned Normally Between Dollar and Cents
- Vertical Format


Scott Number CVP31b - Type II
Prephosphored Paper - Dull
Gum
$\square$


## Coil Stamps - Various Designs - CVP31 to CVP33 Denomination Determined by Customer

- CVP31c - Type II
- Shiny Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
-     * In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Positioned Normally Between Dollar and Cents
- Vertical Format



## Coil Stamps - CVP31 to CVP33 This Format Printed by Unisys PMC Machines

- CVP32
- Shiny Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
- \$ In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Positioned Normally Between Dollar and Cents
- Horizontal Format




## Coil Stamps - Various Designs - CVP31 to CVP33 Denomination Determined by Customer

- CVP33
- Shiny Gum
- Prephosphored Paper
- \$ In Front of Dollar Amount
- Decimal Positioned Normally Between Dollar and Cents
- Horizontal Format
- "1996" Below Design



## Coil Stamps - Various Designs - CVP31 to CVP33 Only Labels Pre-Announced Thus FDC



CVP31a

CVP32


## CVP35 - Florida Neopost Labels - May 1999 to Mid 2001 Printed on Machines Developed by NCR




## CVP 37 Neopost - Issue in Central Florida Only These 2 sets - Winter Park and West Palm Beach



CVP 37 Neopost - Issue in Central Florida Only
These 2 sets - Longwood and Kissimmee


## CVP 42 Neopost Hayward Machine Booklet Produced in Panes of 4 Stamps



## CVP 43 to CVP 53 - Neopostage.com Labels



## CVP48a - NEOPOST Booklet of 10 Stamps



CVP54 with CVP54a-d (Class Printed Under Barcode) First Labels Printed on an IBM/Pitney Bowes Machine


## CVP56 to CVP56c - First Large Format Labels



CVP57 to CVP61 - Rate Not Selectable by Customer Determined by Class of Mail Selected


## CVP75 - Various Denominations \& Classes

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& \text { FXPRES }
\end{aligned}
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EXPRFS
EXPRESS MA!



# CVP 75 - Pitney Bowes Varieties From 1ל to \$16.50 

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##  <br> 

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|  |  |
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## CVP79 - IBM Schaumburg IL Convertible Booklet Pane of 10



# Machines Manufactured by IBM/Pitney Bowes Allowed Printing Designs, Added the Code APC, Added Color and Multiple Types of Labels in One Machine 




Single Labls Prited by gle Labels Printed by the APC (Automated Postal Centers) Machin
These Machines Were Manufactured by IBM Pitney Bowes


United States Computer
Vended Postage Stamps
Double Width Labels That Could Be Folded Over to Seal Envelope


Odd Label with Void Right Label


# New Pitney Bowes Machine Allowed Preprinted Indicia and Individual Labels - 2012 





Newer Machines Also Provided the Ability to Print Individual Wide Format Labels - 2014


## Identification Lettering on Label



From November 1, 2004 to November 14, 2014 the letters APC appeared on many labels. They stand for Automated Postal Centers


On November 14, 2014 the software was changed on all active machines to print SSK for Self Service Kiosks


On some labels dispensed by the machines the Post Office Department allowed the manufacturer to print their name somewhere on the label. Examples exist with Pitney Bowes (left), IBM, simplypostage.com, neopostage.com and others.

## Examples Showing the Result of Ordering An Odd Number of Labels



## Labels That Are Not Computer Vended Postage Have One Dimensional Bar Code Instead of Two



Prionity Mail - Next Day Delivery

## Labels That Aren’t Computer Vended Postage



## Not CVP Label - Generated by Private Machine



First Day \$4.05 Priority

## Envelopes with Computer Vended Postage



## Errors Are Numerous Due to Human Intervention

| \#CVP91 Old Machine (Serial number begins with letter) |  | \#CVP102 <br> New Machine (Serial number begins with a number) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \#CVP102 <br> New Machine Eagle ERROR overprint |  | \#CVP102 <br> New Machine Barcode ERROR overprint |  |
| \#CVP108a Old Machine (Serial number begins with letter) |  | \#CVP108 <br> New Machine (Serial number begins with number) |  |
| \#CVP108 <br> New Machine Eagle ERROR overprint |  | \#CVP108 <br> New Machine Barcode ERROR overprint |  |



## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries



## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries



## Current Locations with Self-Service Kiosks Within Greater Orlando Area

- College Park
- Orlo Vista
- Pine Castle
- Altamonte Springs
- Longwood
- South Creek
- Lake Mary
- Deland

Dixie Village<br>Aloma<br>Goldenrod<br>Alafaya Trail<br>Sand Lake<br>Apopka<br>Kissimmee<br>Port Orange<br>Winter Park<br>Maitland<br>Windermere<br>Airport Regional<br>Wekiva Springs<br>Oviedo<br>Saint Cloud<br>Daytona Beach

## Image



Dismestirs

It's easy at the Automated Postal Center.

Do many of the same things at the Automated Postal Center that you do at
the retail counter...quickly and easily.

APC" Services:

- Express Mail
 - Priority Mail'
2.8 day semper
- First-Class Mail ${ }^{-}$

- Parcel Post

- Extra Services Dexirer Cenfimatyenervice - Stamps Solforbesme stee: 1 - ZIP Code Search

The APC accepts most major credit and debit cards for payment.
Now at this Post Office
 "2:cer chiwy


## Kiosks In Deland and National Postal Museum



# Sources of Previous Issued Computer Vended Labels 

- Ebay
- pc_elias
- stampczar
- Buystamps
- Delcampe
- pcelias
- Hipstamp
- cmee12
- mikey1st


## Websites Dedicated to Computer Vended Labels

- Hosted by Peter Elias of Texas
- Arguably the Dean of US CVP related information
- Site also includes links to Exhibits Related to CVP topics
- Includes the ability to purchase samples of CVP labels
- https://photostamps.webs.com
- General information about CVP labels and related items
-https://photostamps.webs.com/apc.htm
- Mostly labels from APC machines
- https://photostamps.webs.com/atm.htm
- Mostly labels from SSK machines


## Computer Vended Postage

Part 2 - Foreign llustrations

By Newt Kulp<br>For Central Florida Stamp Club<br>April 20, 2023

## Universal Postal Union (UPA) Definition

- Postage stamps that are printed by electronic stamp vending machines.
- Became valid postage "stamps" during the UPU Congress in Hamburg held in 1984.
- Commonly called "Frama" labels after the company that pioneered them - Frama AG of Switzerland.
- First label machines used in Switzerland in 1976 which were valid for domestic mail only.
- By late 1980's and early 1990's machines could be found world wide.


## Frama Label Machine Characteristics

- Mark One Machines
- Produced until the late 1980's
- Single color background image printed on a continuous roll of security paper
- Denomination printed directly in red ink
- User choose the face value of the label(s)
- Inserted the correct amount of coins or in some countries a pre-paid "credit card"
- Machine dispensed the labels one at a time - a cutter in the machine would cut them from the continuous roll just before dispensing them.
- Mark Two Machines
- Introduced in late 1980's and still in use in some countries today
- Worked like the Mark One Machines but had the capability to use multi-colored labels of varying designs and varying widths
- At One Time Over 150,000 Frama Machines in Over 50 Countries were in Use
- Many have discontinued the Frama manufactured machines
- Many now use machines developed by themselves or in cooperation with other countries or commercial companies.


## United States History

- United States Never Used the Frama Machines - Developed Their Own - Initially Not Very Successfully
- First labels introduced August 23, 1989 at the main post office in Washington DC with additional machines installed Kensington, MD on September 1, 1989 and other locations in Washington - notably at the UPU Congress.
- Saw limited use and were withdrawn from all locations by March 1990.
- In 1992 introduced a new machine that dispensed coil like stamps. These machines were in use until mid 1999.
- Have experimented with various machines, label formats, machine manufacturers and software developers over the years
- If have examples of some of the labels you could sell them and buy a nice set of mint Zeps


## Foreign History

- Many Contracted with Frama initially
- As the labels became more popular, countries started to develop their own machines and corresponding labels
- Later in this presentation I will be illustrating how several countries progressed from the Frama to their own machines/labels
- Unlike the US most countries published the date of introduction of a new design - thus FDC could be prepared.
- Worked with collectors by providing various types of special issue services
- To the best of my knowledge, except for US labels, Scott does not include these labels in their catalogues
- Stanley Gibbons and Michal include them for most of the countries


## Other Names for Computer Labels

- Automatenmarken or ATM
- Computer Vended Postage
- Autopost
- Post and Go
- Frama Labels or Postage Label Vending Labels
- Machine Labels
- Germany
- United States
- Western European Countries
- Great Britain and

Commonwealth Nations

- Most Other Countries
- Stanley Gibbons Catalogues


# Let Us Now Review a Few Labels From Various Foreign Countries 

## Australia

- Used FRAMA machines from Feburary 1984 to June 30, 2003
- Australia Post very friendly to collectors
- Published first day of issue well in advance
- Provided to collectors what is called Capital Labels
- Set of 9 labels with 6 state capitals, 2 territories and generic label cancellations
- So called because instead of machine numbers had Post Code of capital
- Provided to collectors button sets
- Set of 27 labels (as above) with face value of post card, domestic first class and international first class printed on the labels along with the Post Code of the location
- Not sure why called button sets
- Provided official FDC envelopes
- Sold without labels or cancellations
- Also sold with various labels with cancellations
- Provided Machine(s) at major stamp events
- Labels created with overprints of events on current label
- Event covers created with overprinted labels


## Australia

## Example of Capital Set




Example of Some of a Button Set


Postage Labels Post Emu Background
Three Labels Valued at. 40,70 and 1.20 Printed in the Elght


## Australia

## Example of Capital Set FDC

## Example of Cover from Event



## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries



Left - Belgium early Frama labels issued at various philatelic events

Right - Canada pane of labels - one set from the 2010's issued in panes of five labels which are referred to as Kiosk labels


## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries



## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries

 First Day Covers

Mint and Used Samples of Stamps from Various Foreign Countries Netherlands - 1989 - First Issue Day for Vending Machine Postage


## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries



In 2017 France issued a set of 34 "Minions" labels that could be downloaded and printed at home on any medium the purchaser chose. To test that they printed correctly one could choose to print a test set. The test set looked just like the real set except the word "SPECIMEN" appeared as shown.

## From Frama Mark 1 Machines to Today's Machines



## Computer Vended Postage From Foreign Countries Topical Subjects



Four-label panels from multi-year set of 100 Historical Irish Artifacts


## Thought For You To Collect

- Do you collect a specific county?
- Have you in your collection most of the stamps you can afford?
- Not sure as how to proceed and expand that country's collection?
- Why not do some research and see of your country issues computer vended labels (or what ever your country calls them).
- Most labels are cheap to inexpensive.
- Available on eBay, Hipstamp, Delcampe and other computer related sources.
- One eBay search on Frama yielded 3800+ hits, ATM search found 7000+ results.
- Also there are a few dealers that carry them.


## The End

## Any Questions?

