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International Postal Services

WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH

Severe Weather Affecting Mail Delivery Worldwide

January 12, 2011

Severe weather conditions continue to affect mail services throughout the world. Below are some of the recent updates reported by the USPS regarding these disruptions:

USA

Heavy snowstorms and severe weather conditions have severely affected the Southeast, Midwest and parts of the Northeast regions of the United States. Several airports have been closed and hundreds of flights cancelled. At least a foot of snow is forecast to fall by Thursday in cities such as New York, NY, Boston, MA, Providence, RI, and Hartford, CT. Philadelphia, PA, may get up to 6 inches of snow, with smaller amounts forecast for Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD.

In Connecticut, severe weather conditions have resulted in the following Postal facilities suspending operations: Barry Square Station, Hartford 06114; Short Beach Station, Branford 06405; Devon Station, Milford 06460; Baybrook Station, West Haven 06516.

In the Southeast Region, freezing temperatures continue to impede mail delivery service in many parts of the South and Southeast areas. Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and parts of North Carolina continue to experience temperatures below freezing. Power outages have caused delayed Postal facility openings and temporary suspension of mail services.

In Massachusetts, severe weather and hazardous road conditions have curtailed mail deliveries. The USPS has reports of power outages in the 023, 020 ZIP Code areas. Postal facilities affected in these areas include: Bridgewater 02324; West Bridgewater 02379; East Bridgewater 02333; Halifax 02338; Randolph 02368; Scituate 02066; Green Harbor 02041; Hanover 02339; North Abington 02351; Nantucket 02554 (Transportation limited, no mail delivery).

In Rhode Island, the severe winter storm has caused mail service delays and delayed openings of postal facilities. Specific areas affected include: Rehoboth 02769; Seekonk 02771; Woonsocket 02895.

Australia

Australia Post has declared a state of emergency due to rains and flooding that have affected the entire State of Queensland. Evacuations of townships continue and a number of roads and highways have been cut off, leading to delays in deliveries and pick-ups. All road and rail services to and from Brisbane are suspended. There is no indication when conditions will improve.

Ireland

The postal administration of Ireland (An Post) has advised that there will be some delays in the delivery of international mail as a result of heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures. The bad weather, which is causing considerable disruption across the country, is resulting in traffic chaos and also leaving many roads impassable for postal vehicles. In the meantime, An Post will continue to do everything it can to deliver mail items as quickly as possible. Nevertheless, there will be some unavoidable delays to deliveries, for which An Post apologizes.

Pakistan

An estimated 14 million people have been affected by the floods in Pakistan, which began towards the end of last month in the wake of particularly heavy monsoon rains, and which have destroyed homes, farmland and major infrastructure in large parts of the country, especially the north-west province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. According to the information received from Pakistan Post, the country's postal infra-structures have suffered catastrophic damage. This flood is one of the worst natural disasters in Pakistan's history, and more than a thousand post offices have been damaged. Pakistan Post's top priority is to establish mobile post offices in the areas affected.

United Kingdom

The postal administration of the United Kingdom has advised that severe disruption to mail processing and delivery continues throughout the country. Depots located in Scotland, the north east of England and Charlton in London remain the worst affected by the severe weather. Deliveries to most rural and remote areas in the following depots and those in the East and North of the country continue to be badly affected. Delivery Depots badly affected include: Aberdeen, Charlton, Cleveland, Edinburgh,

Gatwick, Glasgow, Inverness, Medway, Mitcham, Newcastle, Belfast, Portadown, Londonderry, Nottingham, Perth, and Rotherham.

For continual updates on this situation, please refer to the Global Hot Spots on Brokers Worldwide's website.

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