

# **BROKERS**

## **WORLDWIDE**

### **International Postal Services**

#### **WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH**

##### **Effect of Iceland's Volcanic Eruption on Mail Delivery**

*April 19, 2010*

Last Wednesday's volcanic eruption in Iceland resulted in a cloud of ash that has affected air travel all over northern Europe. Many flights have been grounded or diverted as a result of the risk of engine damage from particles of ash from the volcanic cloud. As a result of the airport closures, several postal administrations have reported the inability to receive and dispatch mail. Formal notification from several postal administrations indicates that the impacts will continue throughout the weekend. Consequently, USPS outbound flows have been impacted beginning April 14, 2010 throughout the weekend.

Below is the current update from the USPS summarizing the impact of the Icelandic volcano on European and Canadian airspace:

##### **Austria**

Austrian airspace, including all Austrian airports, reopened at 5 a.m. local time Monday (11 p.m. ET Sunday).

##### **Belgium**

As a result of the volcanic activity in Iceland and the ash cloud over Europe, Belgian airspace remains closed at least until Monday 20:00 LT. This means that all passengers air traffic to and from Brussels Airport remains suspended.

##### **Canada**

Flights into and out of St. John's, Gander and Deer Lake, Newfoundland, may be affected by volcanic activity.

##### **Denmark**

Post Danmark advises the latest report for Copenhagen Airport is that the airport will be closed until 02:00 Tuesday morning, and has been closed all weekend.

##### **Finland**

The volcanic ash plume continues to stay above the south part of Finland which means that the flight restrictions are still valid at Helsinki Airport. There will be no flights in or out of Finnish airports before 6 p.m. (11 a.m. ET) on Monday.

##### **France**

Paris' Charles de Gaulle and Orly airports will remain closed until 8 a.m. (2 a.m. ET) Tuesday.

##### **Germany**

The German civil aviation authority has announced that most airports including Frankfurt Airport will stay closed until at least 8 p.m. local time Monday (2 p.m. ET).

##### **Ireland**

Ireland extended its airspace closure through 1 p.m. (8 a.m. ET) Monday and said restrictions past then were "likely" in light of current weather forecasts.

##### **Italy**

The Italian civil aviation authority has announced that, due to the effects of the volcano eruption, the airports of Rome Fiumicino and Milan Linate and Malpensa will continue to stay closed until tomorrow at least 08:00 a.m. Therefore the Postal Administration of Italy kindly asks all members not to forward mail in the meantime as no international mail can be sent or received on the above mentioned airports.

##### **Norway**

The airspace over Oslo Airport is now open. Traffic to and from the airport began Monday morning and will continue throughout the morning. It is primarily departures to and Norwegian airports, international traffic depends on whether the airspace and airports in the respective countries are open. The situation ahead depends on new forecasts from the Volcanic Ash Advisory Center in London (MET Office). The restricted airspace has also resulted in delays for the parcels and EMS that have been received by Posten Norge since Thursday 15th April. At the

moment, Norwegian airspace is open for domestic traffic, but the situation may change at any time, and it is unknown how long these restrictions will last.

#### **Poland**

About half the airspace in Poland is open.

#### **Russia**

Flights have been delayed and cancelled at 10 Russian international airports.

#### **Slovenia**

Adria Airways flights between Maribor and London/Brussels/Paris were cancelled on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Flights between Maribor and London / Brussels / Amsterdam / Paris / Frankfurt / Vienna were cancelled on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Maribor Airport was closed for all flights on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. All morning flights were cancelled on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Spain**

All 16 airports in Spain were scheduled to reopen at 3:30 p.m. Sunday (9:30 a.m. ET).

#### **Sweden**

Scandinavian airline SAS canceled all flights over north European airspace on Sunday and Monday. A few domestic flights will operate in Norway. Flights departing from the United States on Sunday are not canceled but may be rerouted to Norway.

#### **Switzerland**

Switzerland is not permitting flights before 2 p.m. (8 a.m. ET) Monday.

#### **United Kingdom**

Restrictions across British air space will remain in effect until at least 7 p.m. (2 p.m. ET) Monday. -- British Airways canceled all flights in and out of London on Sunday and Monday.

#### **Other countries**

There are restrictions on civil flights across most of northern and central Europe, including Austria, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Slovakia and Ukraine.

#### **Brokers Worldwide Customers**

Brokers Worldwide will continue to collect all mail bound for the affected countries from our customers; however, delivery delays can be expected as a result of the airport closures mentioned previously.

Brokers Worldwide will continue to monitor this situation, and will provide our customers with updates as they become available.

Regards,  
Brokers Worldwide  
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