

BROKERS WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH

Royal Mail: Update on Impact of Extended Strike Action

August 7, 2007

As indicated previously, the Communication Workers Union (“CWU”) has extended the current round of strike action with a continuation of the rolling program of strikes taking place in parts of the country. This is not a National strike, but affects different parts of Royal Mail's business on different days. The strike action is scheduled to continue through Friday, August 17th.

There have been some updates from the Royal Mail regarding the impact of this strike action. For the week beginning August 6th, the impact of the strike action will include the following:

- All Regional Distribution Centres (RDCs) and Royal Mail's Network drivers will be on official strike from 12:00 noon on Tuesday, August 7th through 12:00 noon on Wednesday, August 8th.
- The following Mail Centers will be on official strike from 3:00am on Wednesday, August 8th through 3:00am on Thursday, August 9th: Gatwick, Reading, Crewe, Tyneside, Birmingham, Exeter, Plymouth, Truro, Derby, Portsmouth, Gloucester and Dartford.
- The following Delivery Offices will be on official strike from 3:00am on Wednesday, August 8th through 3:00am on Thursday, August 9th: Crewe, Reading, Truro, Swansea and Dartford. The Royal Mail has reported that there will be limited delivery services in these areas on Wednesday, August 8th.
- The majority of Mail Centres will be on strike from 7:00pm on Thursday, August 9th until 7:00pm on Friday, August 10th.
- The following Mail Centres may be on strike for 2 days, from 3:00pm on Wednesday, August 8th until 3:00pm on Thursday, August 9th, and from 7:00pm on Thursday, August 9th until 7:00pm on Friday, August 10th: Gatwick, Dartford, Crewe, Birmingham, Truro, Derby, Portsmouth, Gloucester and Reading.
- Delivery Offices will be on official strike from 7:00pm on Thursday, August 10th through 7:00pm on Friday, August 11th. As a result, there will be limited deliveries on Friday, August 11th.
- Most of the Royal Mail's special delivery services will remain unaffected for the most part; however, all other mail services will be subject to delay.

According to the Royal Mail, the impact of the strike action from Monday, August 13th will be clarified as soon as possible. As before, the Royal Mail has well-developed contingency plans in place and has indicated that they will continue to do everything possible to minimize the impact of the strike action on their customers.

Unofficial Strike Action

The Royal Mail has indicated that services may also be affected by incidences of unofficial strike action. They will do everything they can in order to minimize disruption to their customers; however, some disruption is inevitable when unofficial action is being taken.

Strike Action at Crown Post Offices

The Royal Mail has reported that the CWU have cancelled the planned industrial action originally scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th, between 11:30am and 2:40pm. However, the previously announced strike action at all Crown Post Offices in the Post Office Network will go ahead as follows:

- Friday, August 10th, from 2:30pm until the normal close of business
- Wednesday, August 15th, from 3:30pm until the normal close of business

Please note, this action does not affect the 14,000 plus sub-post offices nationwide.

Brokers Worldwide Customers

Brokers Worldwide will continue to collect UK-bound mail from our customers. Although the mail will reach the UK in the same amount of time as before, mail services within the UK will be subject to delay. 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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