

# **BROKERS**

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# **WORLDWIDE**

**International Postal Services**

## **WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH**

### **Worldwide Postage Increases**

**November 18, 2008**

Announcements of 2009 rate increases from worldwide postal administrations are beginning to be made available. The Belgian postal service, La Poste, has announced that it is “being forced” to increase postage prices, effective January 1, 2009, as a result of strong inflation and an increase in the prices of energy. The price of a postage stamp for a standard post in Belgium will increase from 0,54 € to 0,59 €. Australia Post implemented an increase last month (October), raising the basic postage rate from 50c to 55c, and increasing the price of other mail services as well.

As previously communicated, the Canada Post has announced rate increases to take effect on January 12, 2009, with increases in the range of 3 to 8 percent for most services. According to a press release published by the U.S. Postal Service on November 13<sup>th</sup>, rates for USPS shipping will increase as of January 18, 2009.

Although Brokers Worldwide has not yet received information regarding the amount of postage increases in other countries, we are estimating increases in countries such as Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, France and the U.K. to be in the area of 5 to 10 percent. Further information will be communicated as it becomes available.

Regards,  
Brokers Worldwide  
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