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BARCODES IN THE BELGIAN POSTAL SERVICE
WITH EMPHASIS ON REGISTRATION LABELS

CHRIS HOWE

BELGIAN PHILATELIC STUDY CIRCLE

2021

Les Belgolâtres

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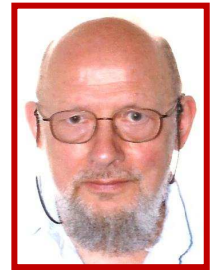
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Il reste encore des places, lancez-vous. Rejoignez-nous.

EDITORIAL

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I

1.   Introduction

Like many schoolboys in the fifties and sixties I collected stamps. Initially those from any country, the number of stamps in the collection being the objective. I then specialised in GB until the England Winners overprint on the 1966 World Cup issue. The plethora of subsequent issues caused me to give up but not before a friend of my father introduced me to "Postal History". He sent me First Day Covers sent on the Travelling Post office from Rugby railway station. This and the re-introduction of one of the two types of diadems on the 2½d Queen Elizabeth Wilding following a tariff change led me to assume "Postal History" involved four headings; the price charged for the service - the rate, the route taken by the item to reach its destination, the markings applied and the means of transport.

I came back to philately in 1991 following a charitable visit to Albania organised by my younger son, his school friend and a teacher. I met and corresponded with an Albanian trainee teacher and was fascinated by the increasing numbers of stamps on her letters. Much like the German inflation period post World War One. This, and the encouragement of a work colleague, a serious philatelist, persuaded me to collect Albania. This was a difficult choice. Gone were the stamp shops, local dealers and approvals of my youth and auctions seemed a bit daunting to a novice. A lion statue seen during a walk in the Upper Barrakka Gardens in Valletta, Malta suggested that "Lions" might be a suitable parallel interest. In those days there were three stamp shops in Malta. The one in Strait Street, nicknamed "the Gut" by English sailors, was run by a retired professional mourner. He provided me with an extensive accumulation of pre-cancelled Belgium definitive stamps. The Gibbons catalogue in the local library was not much use in investigating these and my work colleague suggested the specialist society might help.

The Belgian Study Circle, now known as the Belgian Philatelic Study Circle, proved to be helpful although the initial meetings seemed a little daunting. Classic stamp issues and pre-philatelic mail so more modern lion definitive issues did not seem to fit in. I quickly learned that there was much more to Belgium than just stamps involving lions. There was postal stationery, postage due stamps, vignette d'affranchissement and meter frankings that suggested a modern approach to "Postal History" would provide my own niche.

In late 2008 my attention was drawn to an article by Jean Oth, a Member of the Belgian Academy of Philately, in the journal of the Cercle Hennuyer de Marcophilie et d'Histoire Postale. It referred to printing machines, reportedly produced by Dell, employed in Post Offices to print self-adhesive labels to replace adhesive postage stamps. These labels would not require cancellation as they included the name of the issuing office and the date and time of issue. An early example is illustrated below.
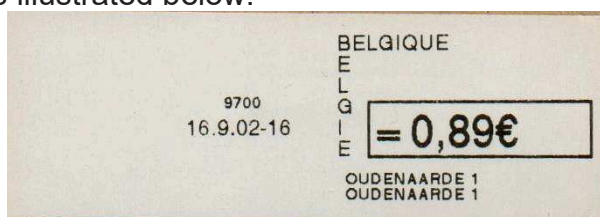
The labels, both on and off cover, were widely available on the Delcampe online auction site. Rather naively I thought this an opportunity for "completeness" by acquiring an example from all the offices in Belgium and what could be better than to do so on cover. I acquired very cheaply a significant accumulation of registered covers franked with these labels, now known as counter strips, loketstroken or bandes de comptoir or more generally "Blasters". What really came as a surprise was the 30-digit number employed on the registration labels and encoded in a barcode. It quickly became apparent that there were numerous types of registration labels employing barcodes. These clearly came under the heading of modern postal history and were worthy of study. The study rapidly expanded as other uses for barcodes in the Belgian postal service were identified. Also the barcode type identified as a Data Matrix were widely employed in franking machine labels or "Meter Marks".

What I have called barcodes up to this point are generally known as linear or one-dimensional barcodes consisting of vertical of lines separated by spaces both of differing

widths. I have seen in excess of 30 different examples of these linear barcode but thankfully only 5 are relevant to Belgian postal use with perhaps 2 more seen occasionally. Data matrices are also known as two-dimensional barcodes and are generally, but not always, rectangular. Some even employ colours. As with linear barcodes, data matrices come in a large number of types but only 2 are relevant for consideration here with perhaps 2 more seen occasionally.

Each barcode recorded in this study has an explanation of the format and means of encoding. Whilst barcodes are the primary focus of the study the documentation associated with the use of barcoded items is addressed where appropriate. Some documentation is also the source of the barcodes especially those involving registration where a receipt is provided. Whilst it would be logical for the usage and documentation to follow on from the explanation of each barcode type this could be confusing where different barcode types are associated with similar items, such as registration labels. Hopefully the contents pages make this separation simple to follow.

This book is intended to be a combination of a textbook or compilation of information, and a catalogue into which the reader may dip as required. The section on "Meter Marks" is the most like a catalogue in format and indeed parallels some of the information in the Belgian section of the online "WIKIBOOKS International Postage Meter Stamp Catalogue".

The normal practice of numbering diagrams or tables and providing a listing has not been employed as such a listing would be lengthy. Some of the sequences of diagrams, particularly those involving mechanical franking with data matrices or registration labels, might normally appear in a series of Appendices at the end of this document. I have chosen not to do this as the diagrams in the sections complement the text that addresses them. The few Appendices employed show the reverse sides of documents mentioned elsewhere. These reverse sides do not include barcodes.

The liberalisation of the Belgian and other European Union postal systems necessitates the inclusion of private postal service providers in the study. Also private postal service items that enter Belgium and are subsequently delivered by the Belgian postal service bpost, or by Belgian private providers. This includes both letter and parcel posts.

Timescale and context are included where these assist understanding. The study covers the period from 1995 to 2021.

2.   Methodology

The study is based on my observation, measurements and deduction rather than on published data. Some technical information was obtained from Wikipedia, the on-line, free encyclopaedia, Delcampe the online auction house, PHILAnews a magazine published by the philatelic arm of the Belgian post office bpost and other on-line data bases.

Images of the barcodes on postal items were produced on a standard, home-use, Epsom printer/scanner at 300 dots per inch (dpi) resolution. Over the years there were some anomalies in measurements involving images produced on three different scanners. These are addressed in relevant sections. The ClearImage Online Barcode Reader/Decoder, now **inlite**, was used throughout to decipher barcodes. This software identifies the code employed, the number of characters in the barcode and its dimensional details on the scanned images. These dimensions being the position of the barcode on the scan and the size, i.e. length and height, of the rectangle formed by the barcode. The software also identifies the width of individual bars, known as the "module". All dimensions recorded by the software are measured in pixels. Three pixels are 10 Mils, a Mil being 0,001 inch at 300 dpi resolution. Three pixels equates to 0,264 millimetres. The base for dimensional information being the top of the y-axis (vertical axis) of the barcode.

The **inlite** system was employed for the barcode on the registration label illustrated above scanned as both the label and as the label on the cover to which the barcode was fixed. The dimensions in millimetres were measured and confirmed using a transparent, plastic rule reading to an accuracy of approximately 0,5 millimetres.

The **inlite** system provided information on the label in isolation as:
> Code 39 Length 13 characters, Rotation none, Module 3,6 pixels,
> Rectangle in pixels X=46, Y=154, Width=783, Height=122.
> Hence rectangle in millimetres X=3,89, Y=13,04, Width=66,29, Height=10,33.

Details of the label taken from a scan of the cover being:
> Code 39 Length 13 characters, Rotation diagonal, Module 3,4 pixels,
> Rectangle in pixels X=178, Y=562, Width=749, Height=466.
> Hence rectangle in millimetres X=15,07, Y=47,58, Width=63.42, Height=39,45.

The text was decoded as RR061007722BE in both cases ignoring the spacing in the human readable element of the registration label printed above the barcode.

Whilst **inlite** recognizes the rotation of the label on the cover it does not record the degree of rotation and provides different dimensions for the barcode rectangle and sometimes a slightly different module. Consequently, scans of barcodes in this study are modified, where necessary, employing the scanner software, such that the barcode image deciphered or illustrated is horizontal.

Catalogue numbers in this study are from the Belgian postage stamp catalogue initially in two language variants "Catalogue Officiel de Timbres-Posts", or COB in French, and Officiële Belgische Postzegelcatalogus, or OBP in Dutch. The catalogue is currently issued bilingually. For convenience, the abbreviation "COB" is used throughout. COB booklets numbers are prefixed "C" for Carnet. The COB catalogue has an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) in the form of an EAN-13 barcode. ISBN barcodes fall outside the scope of this study.

Throughout this document I have attempted to use the Belgian decimal separator, which is a comma, and not the UK decimal point.

From a seller on Delcampe I acquired a considerable quantity of items associated with the "POSTACADEMY". The items are dated around 2007. POSTACADEMY appeared to be an online training system, possibly for employees, or prospective employees of the Belgian post office. I have been unable to locate this organisation online and have taken the material included at face value. Some of the material is actual post office items and the majority of the remainder do link to actual post office material.

3.   <u>Historical Origins of Barcodes</u>

In the third decade of the 21st century, barcodes are ubiquitous and are employed widely in the commercial field. This was not always the case. It had long been recognised that storing and processing large amounts of information was best undertaken mechanically as pen and paper was both slow and often prone to error. The American, Herman Hollerith chose the punched card as the medium to store data and designed an electromagnetic tabulator and sorter to evaluate it. His ideas were first used in the 1890 US census, saving time and millions of dollars. His company was one of the founders of International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) in 1924.

Hollerith's use of punched card was not new. As early as the 18th century the Frenchman Basile Bouchon used punched paper to control a loom to weave silk, and a century later the Russian statistician Semyon Korsakov employed punched cards to store information. Essentially the punched card system was binary, either the presence or the absence of a hole in the card.

The discovery of electromagnetism by the Danish scientist Hans Christian Ørsted in 1820 was rapidly followed by the invention of the electromagnet in 1824 by British scientist

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William Sturgeon. The electromagnet enabled the development of electric telegraphy systems that in the early days were quite complex involving multiple electric wires.

The detection of light and in particular reflected light was employed in the early 1960s in a system to identify railway trucks in America. Each truck was identified using blue and red reflective stripes attached to the sides of the truck. A six-digit number identified the owner and a four-digit number that of the individual truck. A trackside system generated light that was reflected off the stripes and detected by two photomultipliers, filtered for blue or red. The system was eventually abandoned in the 1970s because dirt caused too many errors. The designer of this system went on to involve black and white stripes that coupled with improved methods of reading led to the barcoding systems we see today.

The system most relevant to modern barcodes was that of Samuel Morse who encoded the 26-letter alphabet and 10 numbers as a series of dots and dashes embossed on paper tape and transmitted using a single wire. It was quickly established that a competent human operator could interpret the clicks generated by the system and write them down making the paper tape redundant. The International form of Morse code is essentially a binary system that has many of the features of a barcode. The dots and dashes are produced as the presence or absence of an electrical signal, a system reflected in the dark and light elements of a barcode. The electrical signal is present for a finite time for the dot, the dashes are 3 times the time period of the dot whilst the dots and dashes are separated by the absence of the signal for the same unit of time as the dot. Letters and numbers are separated by 3-time units and words separated by 7 units. The method of transmission can be modified to use sound or light pulses.

The use of a punched paper tape to send telegraph messages was an obvious development as was, the coupling of the tape to a machine capable of casting lead printing type. As with Morse code, information was encoded by the presence or absence of a hole. A common feature of the tape was an offset centre drive or sprocket hole, but the number of information or data coding holes varies according to the encoding system employed.

Three different methods were employed to detect a hole in the tape: air pressure either pneumatic or employing air to cool an electric wire and change its resistance, mechanical probes to make an electrical circuit, or the detection of light.

The different codes and widths employed by the tape users led the American Standards Association to develop a universal code for use on computers known as the American Standard Code for Information Interchange or ASCII. ASCII was based on the English alphabet encoding the 26 alphabetic characters, both upper and lower case, and the digits 0 to 9 along with punctuation marks and mathematical operators. This provides a total of 95 characters all of these being printable. In addition, there are 33 control characters making a total of 128. The printable characters are basically the same as those on a QWERTY keyboard. Because the code was developed as a seven-bit teleprinter code it included the 33 control characters used to control devices such as printers. Most of these control characters are now obsolete as far as computers are concerned, although Line Feed and Carriage Return are still commonly used.

Illustration showing how the word "BARCODES" is coded on a punched tape.

In binary representation, using 1 and 0 to represent the presence or absence of a hole, the code runs from 0000 000 to 1111 111 with a block pof 4 digits and one of 3 digits. The space between the two blocks represents the sprocket or drive hole.

Outwardly punched paper tape has little to do with philately, however such tape was employed temporarily when Estonia became independent due to a shortage of normal postage stamps. These could have ended up in Belgian destinations. These tapes were produced in 3 colours (white, light blue and blue) and sold in the Post Office at Tartu as replacements for stamps and are known as "stripes". They were sold from 19th December 1991 until 15th January 1992 but remained valid until 30th June 1993. An important element of these stripes was a magenta-red TARTU/EESTI, control postmark dated 19.12.1991 with the letter "f" level with the date. A significant quantity of stripes was used on philatelic mail.

4.   Barcode Types

In the early days, barcodes varied the width and spacing of parallel lines to create a code that represented alphabetic characters and numbers. In a barcode, two parallel lines are represented by a dark line or bar, typically black, and a light bar or space, typically white. The thickness and sequence of the dark and light bars codes a letter, number or other symbol. For ease of writing down the code the dark bar is given the symbol "1" and the light bar is given the symbol "0".

This could cause some confusion as at first sight it seems that the code is binary, this is definitely not the case. The first 14 digits of the 30 digits in the number most commonly, employed on Belgian internal registration labels are 01054128850045. The binary equivalent is 1111010101101110111110011100010001111101 that is 40 characters. I have not found an internet converter to convert all 30 digits to binary. By comparison, the barcode type Code 128 for this number is shown below. It is much more compact than the binary equivalent.

01054128850045

As an example of the coding of an alphabetic character the letter "A" in ASCII is coded in binary as 100 0001. This could be interpreted as a dark bar, followed by five light bars, then another dark bar. To enable this to be visualised change light for yellow and the borders of each bar are outlined in red for ease of interpretation. In reality there would be no border to the bars. "S" is coded as 101 0011.

"A" or 100 0001 would be coded:

"AS" or 100 0001110 0111 would be coded:

Actual barcodes are more complex than simply stringing ASCII codes together as there are many possible variations such as the width of the bars, the separation between them, the character set, and whether it is alphabetic or numeric. Some codes employ a check character or digit to detect errors in reading the rest of the characters. A barcode standard needs to be produced to define these technical details. The standard must include information within the barcode so that the reading machine knows where to start reading and where to finish. These are known as start and stop characters or delimiters. There also need to be areas at the beginning and end of the bar code that are kept clear, these are known as Quiet Zones. With so many potential types of codes there is a need for international recognition of individual standards. The Joint Technical Committee of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) have been largely responsible for international standardisation. These standards are known as "Symbologies" and these are discussed later.

There are two groups of barcodes employed in the Belgian postal service. These are 1-dimensional and 2-dimensional barcodes. The 1-dimensional barcodes contain a sequence of vertical black bars and white spaces of equal height that define a set of numbers or letters. These are also known as Linear barcodes. Initially the 2-dimensional barcodes resembled a sequence of 1-dimensional barcodes placed one on top of the other to form a matrix. Data matrices being the usual term for these. There are also more specialised versions of data matrices such as the Quick Response or QR Code, the Aztec Code and the PDF417 barcode.

4.1 Barcode Type known as Code 128

Many different symbologies have been characterised and have specific uses. In the postal system the symbology preferred by the Universal Postal Union (UPU) is Code 128 a general-purpose code widely used throughout the world. It can be used to code both numbers and Latin alphabetic characters. The figure below shows how the text "BELGIUM" would be encoded using Code 128.

BELGIUM Code 128

Start Delimiter   End Delimiter

Quiet Zone   Data   Check Digit   Quiet Zone

B 10001011000 E10001101000 L10001101110 G11010001000 I11000100010 U11011101110 M10111011000
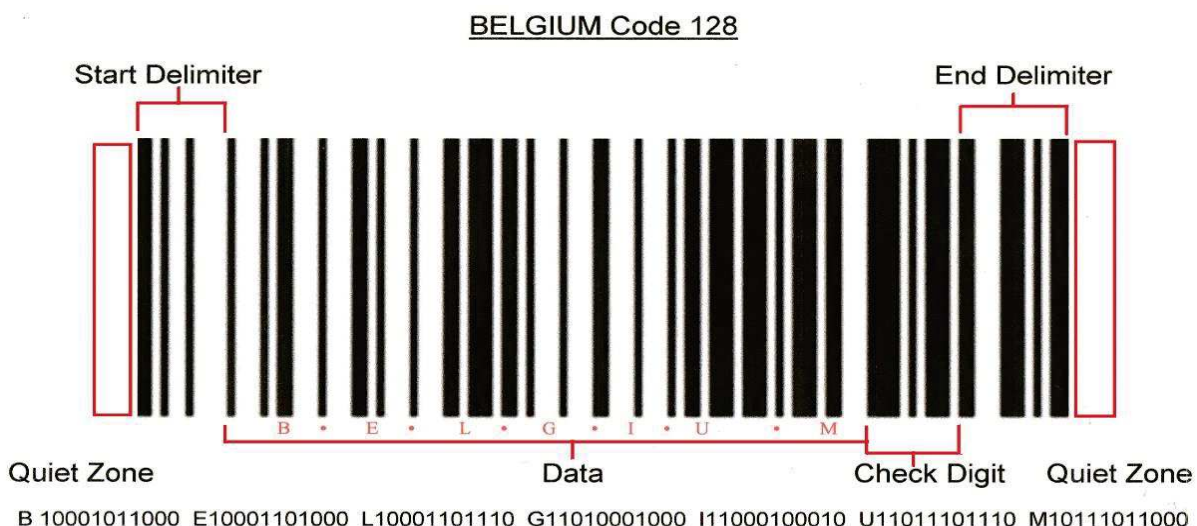
The name Code 128 suggests it would encode all 128 characters of the ASCII code. Within the rules specified below for all characters, only 108 characters can be encoded. Of the 108 characters 103 are data or information characters, 3 are start characters (Delimiters), and 2 are stop characters (Delimiters). The code for each character consists of three dark, usually black, bars and three light bars that usually appear as white spaces. The bars are of varying

widths being multiples of a basic "module". Each bar and space can be from 1 to 4 modules wide, and the total widths of the three black bars and three white bars must be 11 modules. In addition, the total of the black bars must be even, hence 4, 6 or 8 and the total of the white bars must be odd, hence 3, 5 or 7. In the example above "B" is represented by 10001011000 so there are 4 black bars and 7 white bars totalling 11.

The delimiters also enable the barcode to be scanned and read either left to right or right to left. The delimiter pattern also enables the novice to visually identify the barcode as being Code 128 as all three variants have the same stop/delimiters sequence 11000111010 followed by 11. The 11 at the end is also known as the final bar. Code 128 is a high-density linear symbology used for alphanumeric or numeric-only barcodes enabling a large amount of data to be encoded in a relatively small amount of space.

There are three versions of the code identified as 128A, 128B and 128C. This enables the 108 symbols to be expanded to all 128 characters of ASCII. This means that some code sequences represent more than one symbol. Code sets A and B cover all 128 ASCII characters. Code set C is used to encode entirely numerical strings as each eleven bar symbol codes for a pair of numbers. The expansion is achieved by switching from one code set to another within the complete sequence and if necessary, switching back again. This is achieved by using four of the 108 data symbols to change from one code set to another. For our purposes:

Code 128A encodes 0 to 9 and A to Z.	Start delimiter 11010000100
Code 128B encodes 0 to 9, A to Z and a to z.	Start delimiter 11010010000
Code 128C encodes 00 to 99.	Start delimiter 11010011100

Code 128C seems to be the preferred option of bpost. This is not surprising as the registration label numbers involve 30 digits. Codes 128A and 128B would require 330 bars to encode a 30-digit number. The use of Code 128C reduces this to 165.

The ClearImage Online Barcode Reader/Decoder **inlite** does not differentiate between the 3 versions, recording the barcode type as Code 128.

Code128 also allows encoding of four special function codes (FNC1 to FNC4). The FNC codes define instructions for the bar code reader. When and if they are used is unclear although FNC1 seems more commonly used. This complication need not bother the reader as most scanners with built-in decoders do not decode the FNC codes.

The checksum digit is based on a modulo-103 calculation involving the weighted sum of the values of each of the characters in the data encoded, including the start character. The sum is divided by 103 and the remainder is added to the end of the data. The checksum is not printed alongside of the human readable representation of the data encoded.

Section 8. considers in detail the use of Code 128 in registration labels.

Most applications include the printing of a human readable representation of the data encoded an exception being versions of the Belgian post office "auxiliary" labels such as the S03 "reason for late delivery" label. See Section 11.8.

As the symbology preferred by the UPU Code 128 is widely employed in the Belgian post office. Usages of Code 128 are addressed in subsequent sections.

4.1.1 TBC-POST Private Adhesive Postage Stamps

TBC-Post is a private company providing postal services similar to those of bpost for over 35 years. This series of adhesive stamps is the only example seen in Belgium involving the use of a linear barcode as an element of the design of the stamp. In fact, worldwide it is the only example seen of a Code 128 barcode used in this way. Worldwide the incorporation of linear barcodes in the design appears non-existent in stamps produced by national postal administrations worldwide. Examples have been seen in stamps produced by the German private company biberpost but these use the "Interleaved 2 of 5" symbology. See Section 4.3.
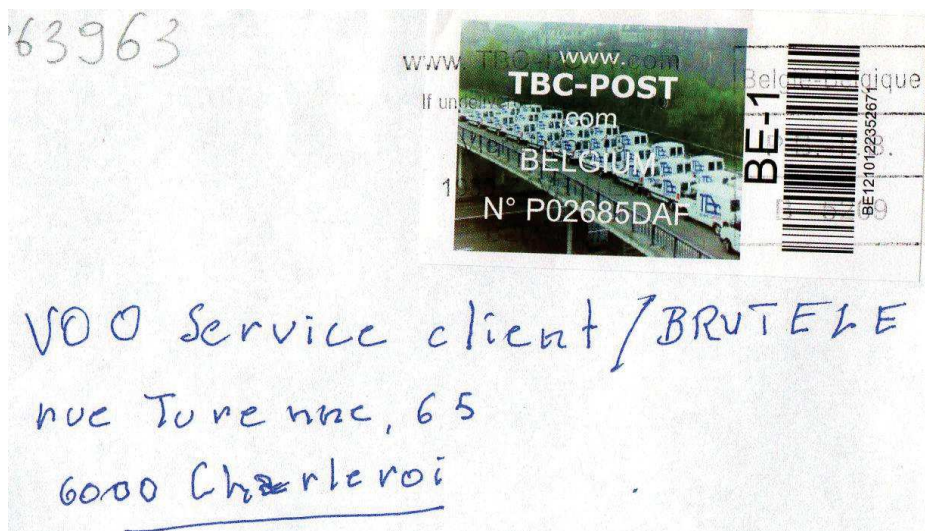
C6 envelope franked with an illustrated label depicting TBC delivery vans on a bridge and incorporating the text www.TBC-POST.com BELGIUM No P02685DAF. The text BE-1 appears at right angles on the right hand-side with a barcode adjacent.

The ClearImage Free Online Barcode Reader/Decoder **inlite** reads the barcode as:
Code 128 Length 15, Module 1,9 pixels, Text BE1210122352671,

Rectangle	X=13 pixels or 1,10 mm.,	Y=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
	Width=275 pixels or 23,28 mm.,	Height=144 pixels or 12,19 mm.

As the start delimiter is 11010010000 the barcode is Code 128B.
Interpreted from other examples of cancellations held the "stamp" is cancelled:
WWW.TBC-POST.COM If undelivered, please return to Vierwinden, 15 1930 Zaventem BELGIUM, with a 3-Line 28 x 22 mm. Box [België-Belgique [P.B.- P.P.][B-5209].

4.2   Barcode Type known as Code 39

Code 39 is a general-purpose code that is widely used by postal administrations throughout the world. However, whilst permitting use of Code 39, the UPU strongly recommends the use of Code 128, as it is more compact, has better read error detection capability, and uses less ink. The figure below shows how the text "BELGIUM" would be encoded using Code 39.

BELGIUM Code 39

Code 39 provides for the 26 uppercase letters (A to Z), the 10 numbers (0 to 9), plus 6 symbols (minus **-**, stop **.**, dollar **$**, forward slash **/**, plus **+**, percentage **%**) and a space, 43 characters in all. The Start and End Delimiters are indicated by an asterisk ★. Each character is composed of five bars and four spaces. Three of the nine bars are wide, and six bars are narrow. Each coded character is separated from adjacent characters by a single narrow space.

The delimiter is different reading left to right compared with right to left enabling the scanner to work out the orientation. Normally there is no check digit.

The UPU S10 standard relates to international, barcoded registration labels and whilst permitting the use of either Code 39 or Code 128 the standard requires a "check digit". Where Code 39 is used by the Belgian post office, the two asterisks are not generally shown as part of the human readable text except with early Taxipost barcodes.

A version of Code 39, known as "Code 39 mod 43" employs a check digit. A value, 1 to 42, is allocated to each character except the delimiter. The values of each character in the stream are added together and the sum divided by 43. The remainder after division, the modulo 43, is the check digit. There is also a full ASCII version in which additional characters are coded by employing two of the original 42 character's codes. For example, lower case letters are encoded by adding the "plus" character code to the uppercase letter code. Neither "Code 39 mod 43" nor the full ASCII version have any obvious relevance to the postal service.

4.3   Barcode Type known as Interleaved 2 of 5

The Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode encodes a numerical stream of almost any length provided there is an even number of characters. These are mainly encountered on incoming, overseas mail, identification numbers on Belgian commercial mail and some privately printed parcel labels that conform to the bpost criteria. More generally it is found on the outside of containers holding a quantity of separate, barcoded items with a different symbology typically EAN-13.

The Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode is denser than Code 39. Typically using half the space needed for a Code 39 equivalent. Characters are encoded with either 5 dark bars or 5 light bars each having 2 wide and 3 narrow bars. The wide bars are usually 2 to 3 times the width of the narrow ones. The numbers are coded in pairs with the first number coded in dark bars and the second in light bars. These two numbers are interleaved. As with other codes a quiet zone, in this case 12 narrow bars, precedes the Start Delimiter and follows the End Delimiter. The Start Delimiter is 4 alternate dark and light narrow bars, the End Delimiter is a wide bar followed by a narrow space and then a narrow bar.

"1947" coded using Interleaved 2 of 5   "1947" coded using Code 39

This Interleaved code should not be confused with a 2 out of 5 code see Section 4.7.1 regarding Postal Mechanisation in Belgium.

The examples shown below are from only a few examples seen on Belgian mail. They appear to be customer identification numbers and as such, have only been seen on Postage Paid items identified by P.B. (PORT BETAALD) – P.P. (PORT PAYÉ). This type of barcode has also been seen on Postage Paid, parcel labels in association with a Code 128 barcode with a 27- character text JJBEA30705003388899383559481. See Section 10. below for details of Code 128 barcodes with texts beginning JJBEA.

4.3.1 Interleaved 2 of 5 on Postage Paid items

Superconfex Rijksweg 376 / 3630 Maasmechelen DL Envelope.

Franked: 3-layer box [België/Belgique P.B./P.P. B-367]
Toelating – gesloten verpakking B/367 Autorisation de fermeture B/367.
Authorization - closed packaging B / 367 Authorization de fermeture B / 367.
Addressed to:
"Barcode 713955043 ANNA LASARACINA SENTIER DU CROQUET 71 7300 BOUSSU
Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode Length 14 characters, Module 3,6 Pixels, Text 71395504300071
Rectangle on envelope:

X=1362 pixels or 115.32 mm.,	Y=625 pixels or 52,92 mm.,
Width=472 pixels or 39,96 mm.,	Height=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.

VAN ELEWIJCK nv VERZEKERINGSKANTOOR
Steenweg 43 – 1730 Asse☎02 452 63 83 🖷 02 452 23 39 DL window.
Franked: 3-layer box [Belgique - België   P.B.-P.P.   B-3026]
"Barcode" with the human readable text below 3026001110.
"Barcode" Interleaved 2 of 5 Length 10 characters, Module 4,0 pixels, Text 3026001110,
Rectangle on envelope

X=1438 pixels or 121,75 mm.,	Y=144 pixels or 12,19 mm.,
Width=397 pixels or 33,61 mm.,	Height=176 pixels or 14,90 mm.
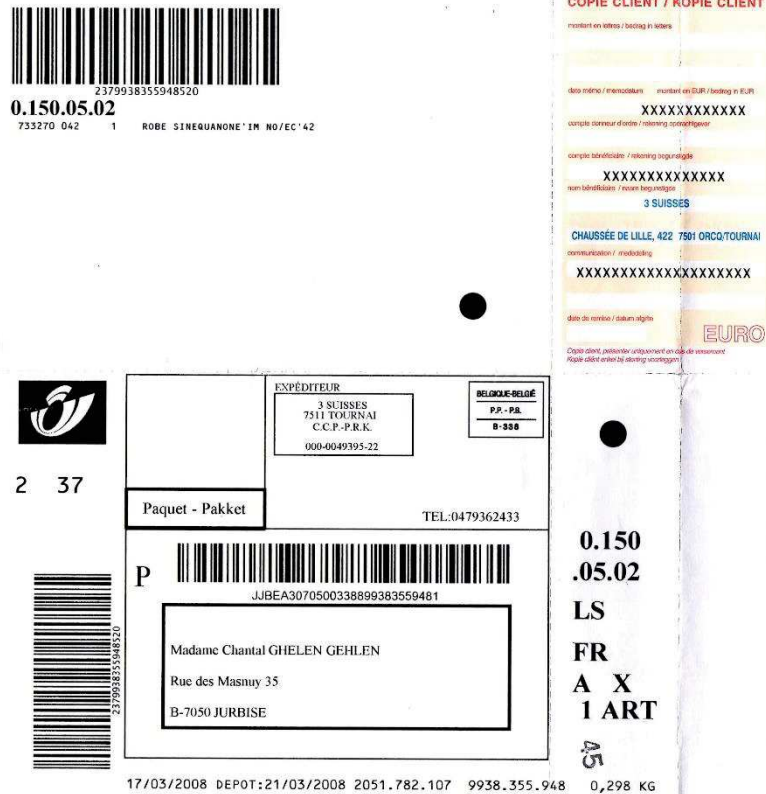
A 204 x 216 mm. combination of a De Post–La Poste parcel label and the client copy of part of a bank payment/bank transfer or deposit (virement ou versement/overschrijving of storting) dated 17/3/2008. Franked with a 3-layer box [BELGIQUE BELGIË P.P.-P.B. B-338].

Top barcode: Interleaved 2 of 5 Length 16 characters, Rotation none, Module 4,6 pixels, Text 2379938355948520

Rectangle	X=39 pixels or 3,30 mm.,	Y=60 pixels or 5,08 mm.,
	Width=657 pixels or 55,63 mm.,	Height=190 pixels or 16,09 mm.

Centre barcode: Code 128 Length 27 characters, Rotation none, Module 3,7 pixels, Text JJBEA3070500338899383559481

Rectangle   X=446 pixels or 37,76 mm.,   Y=1377 pixels or 116,59 mm.,
            Width=817 pixels or 69,17 mm.,   Height=99 pixels or 8,38 mm.

Side barcode: Interleaved 2 of 5 Length 16 characters, Rotation left, Module 3,9 pixels, Text 2379938355948520

Rectangle   X=91 pixels or 7,70 mm.,   Y=1452 pixels or 122,94 mm.,
            Width=192 pixels or 16,26 mm.,   Height=478 pixels or 40,47 mm.

The side barcode is of interest as a copy of a similar parcel label has been seen on a POSTACADEMY exercise with a side barcode of type Codabar.

4.3.2 Interleaved 2 of 5 on miscellaneous items

DL Window franked with a company? Label headed 2800 MECHELEN, including an Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode Length 10 characters, Module 2,9 pixels, Text 0154054285 Rectangle on envelope

Width=298 pixels or 25,23 [25] mm., Height=147 pixels or 12,36 [12] mm.
A slightly angled second company label on the left headed KAARTS NMKN CARTES SNCI, including an Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode of Length 22 characters and Module 3,0 pixels,
Text "0500000090000000748585"
On envelope Width=537 pixels or 45,47 mm.,   Height=78 pixels or 6,60 mm.
On label   Width=534 pixels or 45,21 [45+] mm.,   Height=50 pixels or 4,23 [4] mm.
The difference in height is due to the barcode label being partly rotated on the envelope.
A peculiarity of the **inlite** decryption system.
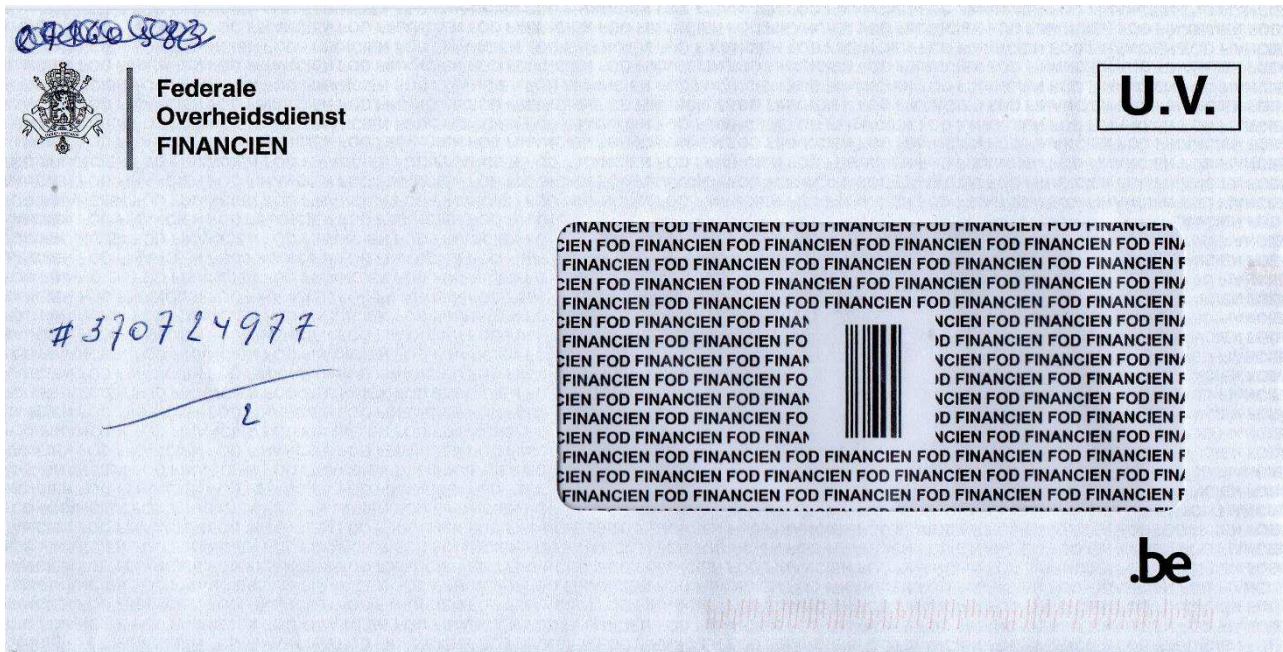
Above an example found on the inside of a Federal Public Service FINANCE DL Window.
Barcode Interleaved 2 of 5 Length 2 characters, Module 4,8 pixels, Text reads "71"
Rectangle X=1744, Y=662, Width=114 pixels or 9,65 mm., Height=235 pixels or 19,9 mm.

4.4.   Barcode Type known as Barcode Type Codabar

Only one example has been seen as mentioned immediately above under Interleaved 2 of 5. Wikipedia states that Codabar is a linear barcode symbology developed in 1972 by Pitney Bowes Corp. Simplistically, each character comprises 7 elements, 4 bars and 3 spaces, and is separated from adjacent characters by an additional narrow space. Each space or bar can be either narrow or wide. There are four possible start and stop delimiters. The basic 12 characters; digits 0 to 9, dash -, and dollar $, are encoded using all possible combinations of one wide bar and one wide space. Four additional characters; colon :, back slash /, stop ., and plus + are encoded using 3 wide bars and no wide spaces.
The example seen:

123456789123456789

This was decoded by **inlite** as Code Codabar Length 18 characters, Rotation Left, Module 5,3 pixels, Text 123456789123456789, Rectangle X=181, Y=811,
Width=216 pixels or 18,29 [18] mm., Height=1087 pixels or 92,03 [92] mm.

By way of interest, Internet barcodes were generated for the first "1" and last "9" digits in the sequence which demonstrates the complexity of the start and finish delimiters.
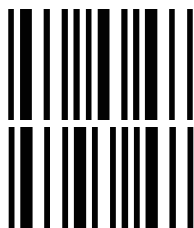
sequence of start delimiter - code "1" - finish delimiter code

sequence of start delimiter - code "9" - finish delimiter code

4.5   Barcode Type known as European Article Number 13 (EAN-13)

EAN-13 barcodes will be familiar to everybody. An example will be found on virtually everything offered for sale in supermarkets and items from most retail outlets.

EAN-13 is a 13 digit, that is 12 data digits plus 1 check digit. It is a 1-dimensional barcode with 4 groups of numbers. A Global Standards 1 (GS1) prefix, this is the first 2 or 3 numbers. The majority, but not all, of these prefixes are the code for a specific country, in the case shown above "541" for Belgium and Luxembourg (540–549 being permitted). The second group is a 4 or 5-number manufacturer code, this could also be the country that sells the item that may not be the same as the manufacturer, in this case "2885". The third group is a 5-number Product Code that should be unique to each product, in this case "00377". Finally, a single Check Digit "2" calculated from the other numbers. The check digit employs a modulo 10 system using the sum of the weighted value of each data digit. Starting with the 1st digit the system employs an alternating weighting value of 1 then 3. The checksum digit is the digit, which must be added to the sum of weighted data digits to get the next number divisible by 10. Hence the complete number is 5 412885 003772.

Number	5	4	1	2	8	8	5	0	0	3	7	7	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	
Product	5	12	1	6	8	24	5	0	0	9	7	21	98

The weighted sum is 98 and the nearest number divisible by 10 is 100. Subtracting 98 from 100 provides 2 which is the check digit indicated by the human readable series of digits below the barcode proper.

As the initial 7 numbers, 5 412885, are all the same for bpost items it makes sense to subsequently quote only the 5-digit Product Code plus the check digit as a 6-digit Product Code number.

The structure of the barcode involves Start, End and Middle markers. These are the three pairs of longer bars. This feature enables the barcode to be easily identified as Code EAN-13. In the context of philately most items sold after late 2000 by De Post-La Poste, known as bpost after 2010, employ an EAN-13 barcode. This includes complete sheets or booklets of stamps, First Day Covers and First Day Sheets. The example shown above relates to the first sheets of stamps printed with a barcode in the selvedge. These sheets were for the 17-franc/0,42€ COB 2963 King Albert II Type Broux/MVTM printed in sheets of 10 stamps from 6 plates, examples of plates 1 to 6 being illustrated below. The same barcode was employed for each of the 6 plates and is located on the bottom of the left side. There is some evidence, such as peripheral selvedge markings as illustrated, that several plates are printed on the same sheet and that sheet is then cut into 10 stamp panes.

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This stamp was not the first to employ a barcode as is suggested by its 5-number Product Code "003772". One might expect that 376 other items would be in existence. In fact, the first barcode I have seen related to a booklet of 10 self-adhesive stamps issued on 1st December 1997 that contained 10 x No Value Indicated NVI (17-franc) stamps catalogued as Booklet COB C29.

There is a barcode in blue on the front cover Product Code 003505. This barcode is not particularly well printed on the examples seen. There are only 27 Product Codes between this and the King Albert II COB 2963 stamp suggesting 349 items were produced prior to 1st December 1997. None have, as yet, been identified.

Interestingly, and contrary to the usual rules, the same Product Code number "003505" is repeated on Booklet COB C29A issued in February 1998 and Booklets COB 32 issued 3rd October 1999 and COB 33 issued 25th March 2000.

Thereafter booklets have different barcodes starting with COB C34 with a Product Code "003673".

Pictorial stamp Booklet C35, 250th Anniversary of the Death of Bach, has no barcode.

Booklet C36 issued on 9th September 2000 has the Product Code "003734".
The subsequent pictorial stamp Booklet C37 Art issued on 11th June 2001 has a dimensionally, significantly different barcode on the front cover Product Code "003741".

This is followed by another pictorial stamp Booklet C38 Stamp Day "Stampilou" issued on 6th October 2001 that also has slightly different, barcode dimensional characteristics.

Booklet C39 reverts to the Product Code "003734" of C36 and booklet C40 to the Product Code "003673" of C34. Probably due to the booklet covers being visually identical and probably printed at the same time or with the same printing machine setting.

The reuse of product codes occurred once more, over a decade later, again these involved booklets of definitive stamps. Booklet 130 depicting the Cabbage White butterfly and Booklet 131 depicting the Swallowtail butterfly both issued on 25th June 2012. The booklets were initially printed by photogravure on self-adhesive, polyvalent, phosphorescent paper on a paper support. Both booklets were reprinted around July 2014 with the same stamp design but a different booklet format but the same barcode number and displaying the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) logo. The second issue was printed by offset instead of photogravure and there were subsequent reprints due to paper problems.

25th June 2012   July 2014

25th June 2012 issue barcode EAN-13, "074376", Module 3,2 pixels,
Rectangle   X=205 pixels or 17,36 [17+] mm.,   Y=105 pixels or 8,89 [9] mm.,
             Width=297 pixels or 25,15 [25] mm.,   Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
July 2014 issue Module 2,6 pixels
Rectangle   X=103 pixels or 8,72 [8,5] mm.,   Y=207 pixels or 17,53 [17+] mm.,
             Width=246 pixels or 20,83 [21] mm.,   Height=61 pixels or 5,16 [5] mm.
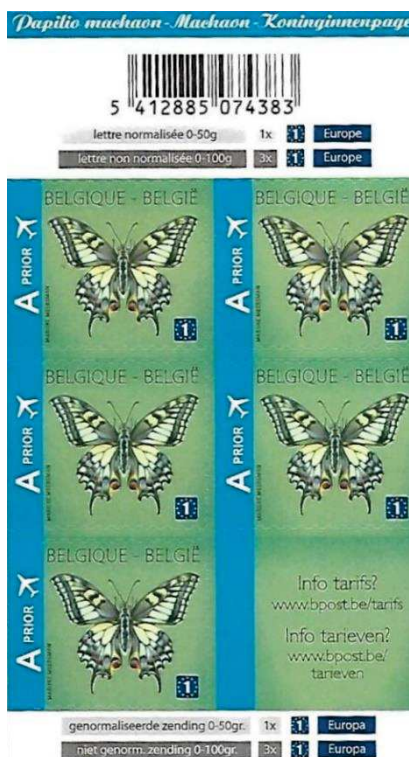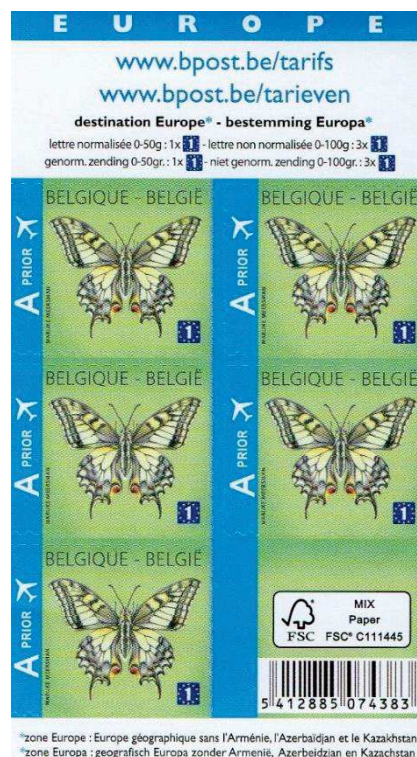
25th June 2012   July 2014
25th June 2012 issue COB Booklet 131, Barcode "074383", Module 3,1 pixels,
Rectangle   X=212 pixels or 17,95 [18] mm.,   Y=82 pixels or 6,94 [7] mm.,
             Width=294 pixels or 24,9 [25] mm.,   Height=75 pixels or 6,35 [6] mm.
July 2014 issue Module 2,6 pixels,
Rectangle   X=438 pixels or 37,08 [37] mm.,   Y=1101 pixels or 93,22 [93] mm.,
             Width=263 pixels or 22,27 [21] mm.,   Height=61 pixels or 5,16 [5] mm.

        Apart from COB 3056 and COB 3057 both issued on 9th February 2002 the use of
barcodes on sheets and sheetlets of stamps and miniature sheets seems to be universal from
2002 onward, although a few issues of sheets of 30 stamps have not yet been seen.

4.5.1   EAN-13 Barcodes on First Day Covers (FDC)

From the early 1950s, Rodan has been a name associated with First Day Covers. The legend "Editions Rodan – Bruxelles" appears initially on the front of the cover in a variety of text types, locations and colours before becoming a feature of the envelope's flap also in a variety of formats. From the 16th September 1957 EUROPA issue, an identification number was applied, in this case P. 44, an odd number to choose, as no numbers appeared previously. Possibly their records indicated that this was their 44th design.

From 1999, what had become Campo-Rodan, was linked with the Belgian post office through the inclusion of the La Poste/De Post logo

Campo-Rodan   became the La Poste/De Post logo
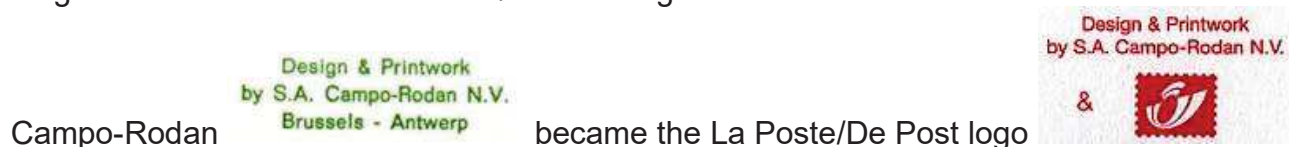
The first FDC to employ this Logo in red was a Buzin Bird, the Fieldfare COB 2792, issued on 14th December 1998. The use of the postal authority logo implies their direct involvement in the production of FDCs. There is evidence that the Fieldfare was the transition issue as FDCs exist both with and without the postal authority logo.

At the end of 2002 reference to Campo-Rodan was removed from the flap details and an EAN-13 barcode added. Where there are two or more FDCs employed for the set, only one cover has the barcode, and the covers have different identification numbers.

In the example above the Product Code "00996" appears on the flap of the FDC. The FDC was for the Buzin Bird definitive depicting a Great Spotted Woodpecker COB 3162. The

sheet of stamps for this issue has a Product Code "00995" the prequal to that of the FDC. Such sequential numbering is not always the case.

On 1st January 2010 La Poste/De Post changed its name and logo to bpost with the new logo appearing on the FDC flap in early 2011. This example shown was employed for the 7th March 2011 "Vegetables from the Past" issue COB 4105-4109.
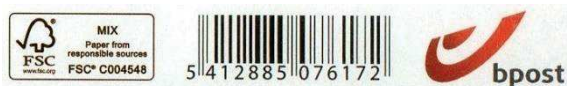
All of the limited number of FDCs seen dated 2011 and 2012 are in this format. At the beginning of 2013 bpost adopted the standards set by the Forest Stewardship Council. This is a charitable organisation that promotes sustainable management of forest products. Conformance with their standards enabled bpost to certify and label their products as being eco-friendly. Those Booklets and First Day Sheets, as well as other products, seen issued after January 2013 carry the FSC logo.

Looking at the bpost magazine "Philanews" it seems that bpost discontinued FDCs at the end of 2014 in favour of First Day Sheets. Modern First Day Sheets do not have an EAN-13 barcode on the front unless it is the one incorporated in the subject matter, for example when it is a miniature sheet. The small number of sheets that I have acquired have a barcode on the reverse and examination of Delcampe lots confirm this eventually became the current norm. Where the miniature sheet includes a barcode, a different barcode is employed on the reverse of the First Day Sheet.

4.5.2 EAN-13 Barcodes on Postal Stationery

The first Postal Stationery Card issued with an EAN-13 barcode on the postal side was one of three illustrated cards issued on 21st April 2002. This card celebrated 50 years of the comic character Guy Lefranc. The other two cards being the comic character, dog "Bessy" and promotion of the "Tour of the 20th Century in 80 stamps". The "Tour" was four miniature sheets, each with 20 different stamp designs issued annually from 1999 to 2002. The imprint stamp was a No Value Indicated version of the Myriam Voz and Thierry Martin (MVTM) effigy of King Albert II. The design predated the introduction of the Prior and Non-prior tariff system introduced in November 2002. The 5 digits of the product codes of the barcodes were sequential "00965" to "00967". The change of address cards introduced on 17th February 2003 also had sequential "product codes" for each of the French, Dutch and German variants, "00942" to "00944". The illustrated cards also have a serial number identifying the year of issue. For the Guy Lefranc issue this was 2002(4).

All subsequent postal stationery, sold individually, until 2009 employed a unique barcode. This included comic character postcards, commemorative postcards and the annual "Then and Now" series of 10 cards, depicting old and new views of different towns and cities of the provinces. The Change of Address cards shown below with 2008 "Tagetes" or 2012 "Butterfly" imprint stamps have the barcode on the non-postal side. They also had sequential "product codes" for each of the French, Dutch and German variants "05122" to "05124" and "00942" to "00944".

On 15th April 2010 a sealed pack of 5 cards with a protective, barcoded card in the "Then and Now" series was issued with views of Antwerp. The cards had no individual barcodes, but the protective card had a barcode "063875" in a larger format than those seen previously on individual cards. Later in the year, on 20th September 2010, the "Then and Now" series now involving 11 cards without barcodes, were also sold in a pack sealed with paper tape with a protective front card, product code, "065206", the barcode Module was 4.3 pixels and the rectangle dimensions Height = 14,5 mm., Width= 34,9 mm.

Further items in this series were issued on 4th April 2011 product code "069297" shown above and also on 21st March 2012 product code "074673" but with a different design of protective card, featuring a grayscale print of card number j-2012 Trois-Ponts - Eglise Saint Jacques.

The 2012 issue set the trend for the remaining two issues on 24th June 2013 featuring Card f-2013 depicting Oud Gemeenthuisand in Maldegem, product code "078008" and finally on 6th October 2014. This featured Card a-2014 depicting Aarschot Grote-Markt, product code "079876" of Height = 6,3 mm. and Width = 25,1 mm, Module 3,1 pixels.

On 16th May 2011 a single barcoded card in the Cartoon character series was issued Card 2011 Les Tuniques Bleues/De Blauwbloezen, product code "070361". The FINAL illustrated card was issued in October 2014 featuring LE PETIT SPIROU•DE KLEINE ROBBE product code "080049" with an effigy of King Philippe as the imprint stamp. Since then, no cards in any format have been issued.
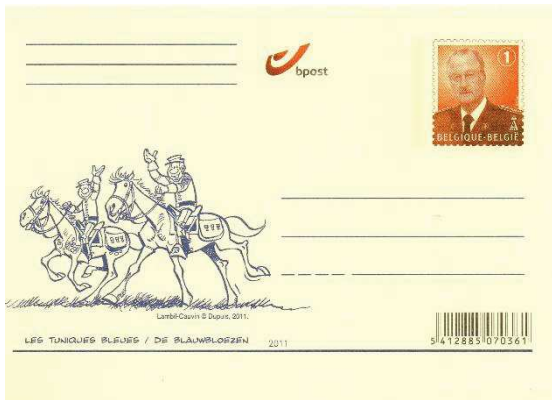
Postcards distributed free, of which there were several issues, do not have barcodes.
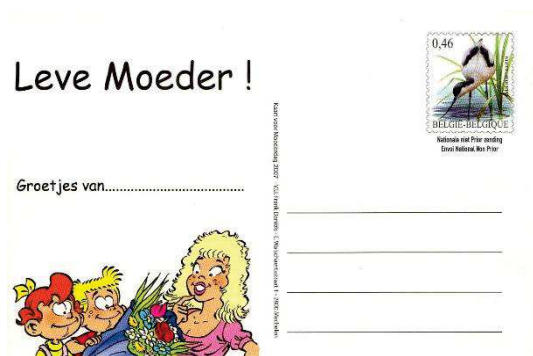
To encourage people, probably children to write more the post office produced one series of free postcards employing smurfs (Les Schtroumpfs or De Smurfen) as the imprint stamp. The series of 10 cards each included a different stamp from the Smurfs Booklet C95 issued on 25th September 2008 COB 3814 to COB 3823.
None of the cards had a barcode.

Some free issues had a 13 Character Barcode starting "JJBEA" as part of the return address. See Section 10.1.

The only other postal stationery item observed has been a barcoded pack of ten 114 x 229 mm envelopes issued circa 2013 with product code "012422".

4.5.3 Personalised Montimbre, Duostamp & Mediastamp items.

Four stamps were issued on 30th May 2003 for use on Personalised Montimbre, Duostamp or Mediastamp items. From items seen on Delcampe it appears that these were initially printed in sheets of 15 stamps and 15 vignettes with printing dates over a year prior to issue of the stamps themselves. The complete sheets involved an illustrated heading that included an EAN-13 style barcode. Within the base selvedge was the date of printing and a sheet number. The first EAN-13 style barcode seen had a human readable text of 0 200000 000059, this clearly does not conform to the specified EAN-13 format.

Applying the usual check digit algorithm for an EAN-13 barcode:

Number	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	
Product	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	21

The weighted sum is 21 and the nearest number divisible by 10 is 30. Subtracting 21 from 30 provides 9 which is same as the check digit indicated by the human readable series of digits below the barcode proper.

The algorithm enabled the series of human readable digits in this type of barcode to be predicted. The first 21 predicted examples are shown in the table below identifying those which have been subsequently observed by the date issued.

| 0 200000 000011 IT'S A BOY! 13. XI. 01	0 200000 000028 IT'S A GIRL! 13. XI. 01	0 200000 000035 Getting Married 13. XI 01
0 200000 000042 Party! 13. XI. 01	0 200000 000059 THANKS 13. XI. 01	0 200000 000066 Tintin 13. XI. 01
0 200000 000073 Tintin 14. XI. 01	0 200000 000080 Tintin 14. XI. 01	0 200000 000097 Tintin 14. XI. 01
0 200000 000103 Tintin 14. XI. 01	0 200000 000110 0 200000 000127 0 200000 000134	0 200000 000141 0 200000 000158 0 200000 000165
0 200000 000172	0 200000 000189 K3 10. IV. 02	0 200000 000196 K3 2003
0 200000 000202 Elvis Presley	0 200000 000219 Genk 10. IV. 02	

Once a sheet was purchased and scanned, **inlite** established that this was in fact Code UPC-A a version of the Universal Product Code. This is a barcode symbology that is used to account for items in stores and not immediately for resale. In fact, the EAN-13 barcode was developed from the UPC-A symbology. Usually a UPU-A barcode would have only 12 digits. Initially I assumed that the **inlite** reading was possibly in error as it ignored the first "0" printed beneath the barcode outside of the longer bars on the left of the human readable element. This was confirmed by reading a second sheet with barcode 0200000000196. The module was the same at 2,5pixels and the dimensions virtually the same at Width=236, Height=71 pixels. Rather than an error of decoding an alternative possibility is that the human readable element was printed separately to the barcode. In this case the addition of the "0" might be a deliberate action by the printer possibly with knowledge of the normal EAN-13 format.

An Internet barcode generator was employed to produce an UPC-A barcode for the 12-digit number 200000000189. The result shown above left can be compared with the 13-digit example shown above right. The sequences of bars and their widths are identical confirming the human readable element was printed separately.

The illustrations above demonstrate a feature of the actual coding of both UPC-A and EAN-13 barcodes. The coding of each of the 5 zeros on the left is different to that of the 3 zeros on the right. The actual coding is beyond the scope of this study, but the observation explains the ability of the scanner to read the barcode both left to right and right to left.

Again, using the Delcampe site it was established that the Duostamp examples were also offered for sale as booklets of 5 stamps and vignettes in a sealed, plastic pocket. The rear of the booklets includes an EAN-13 barcode. Obviously, these booklets were prepared from the sheets.
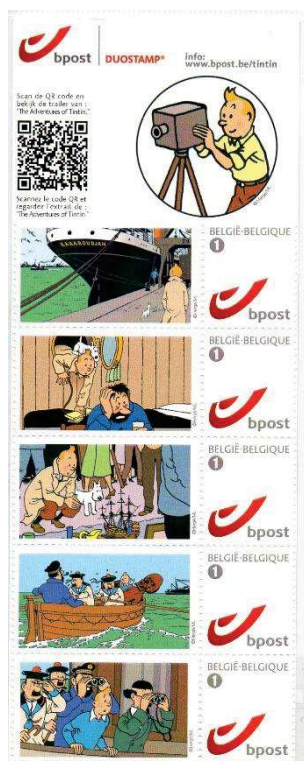
0 200000 000189
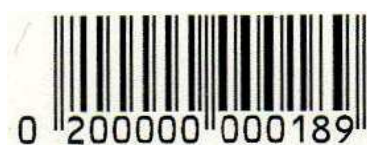
Module 2,5 pixels,
Dimensions
Width=236 pixels or 19,98 mm.,
Height=73 pixels or 6,18 mm.

5 412885 021172

Rear of booklet cover 5 412885 021172
Module 3,1 pixels,
Dimensions
Width=295 pixels or 24,98 mm.,
Height=105 pixels or 8,89 mm.

Full sheets have been seen without barcodes but with a date and sheet number.

A particularly noteworthy example of a Duostamp booklet is shown. In addition to the EAN-13 barcode on the rear of the cover, the illustrated top of the sheet of 5 stamps and 5 Tintin/Kuifje vignettes includes a specialised version of the Data Matrix known as a Quick Response or QR Code. The limited use of these types of barcodes is discussed later.

The text around this particular QR, as shown below, indicates it is a link to an extract, or trailer for the Steven Spielberg movie "The adventures of Tintin". This link pasted into Google produced a 2,23-minute trailer for the 3D movie.

The decoder indicated the text is 59 characters in length, has a module of 4,5 pixels and dimensions Width=164 and Height=164 pixels, that is 13,87 mm. square.

The decoded QR reads http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8P6fqKxwMo&feature=youtu.be.

The EAN-13 barcode on the rear of the booklet cover was interpreted as being 13 characters in length, having a module of 1,9 pixels, dimensions of Width=185 pixels or 15,66 mm. and Height=145 pixels or 12,28 mm. with the product code "071085". The dimensions were confirmed using a transparent plastic rule.

4.5.4 Shrijfkit – Set d'écriture Writing Kit

These are a transparent pack probably containing envelopes, paper and 5 duostamps. Only three examples have been seen on Delcampe where the seller displayed the reverse of the pack. Two examples involved the June 2003 COB 3181 stamp with the white horn on red ground and the third the April 2004 COB 3274 stamp with the red horn on white ground with the Post Office Logo & Prior.

The 2003 examples had a label with 2 barcodes on the reverse of the pack.

The **inlite** decoder provided the barcode details:
Code UPC-A Length   12 characters, Module 1,7 pixels, Text 003042030134
Rectangle X=38, Y=409, Width=157 pixels or 13,29 mm., Height=31 pixels or 2,62 mm.
Code UPC-A Length   12 characters, Module 1,7 pixels, Text 001543030516
Rectangle X=38, Y=366, Width=158, Height=28 or Width=13,38, Height=2,37 mm.


Code UPC-A Length   12 characters, Module 1,7 pixels, Text 003042040232
Rectangle X=35, Y=393, Width= 158 pixels or 13,38 mm., Height=32 pixels or 2,71 mm.
Code UPC-A Length   12 characters, Module 1,7 pixels, Text 001543040614
Rectangle X=35, Y=351, Width=157 pixels or 13,29 mm., Height=29 pixels or 2,46 mm.

The 2004 example had a partial EAN-13 number 412885 02278?.

4.5.5 "b.surprised day" post office cards

The Belgian post office is very active in promoting philately and introduced a "b.surprised" day. This involved an individual sending cards and covers to philatelic friends. Those seen for 2014 and 2016 included an issued stamp in the design with a dated, "b.surprised" day MECHELEN title and illustrated 2800 MECHELEN special cancellations. Those seen involve an EAN-13 Barcode.
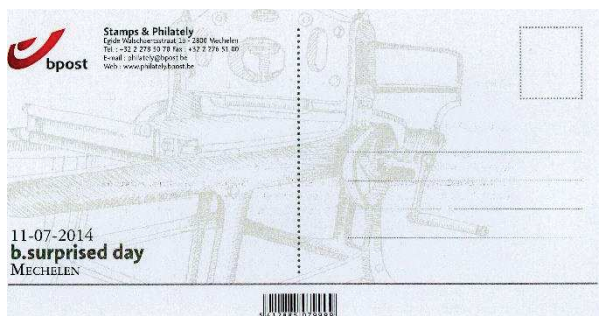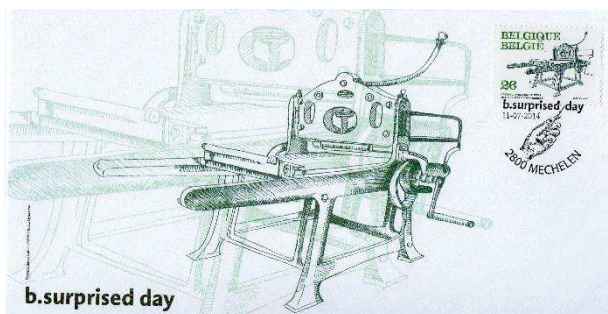
A 21 by 11 cm. card franked with the 26-franc COB 2311 issued on 17th December 1988. This was an issue celebrating Printing and the stamp depicted the Krause Lithographic Press (1796). The barcode has the typical 3,1 pixels module and has a width of 296 pixels and a height of 75 pixels reading 5412885079999. The 9-franc COB 2309 of the same issue was employed on a "b.surprised" day card dated 08-07-2016.

4.5.6   EAN-13 Barcode Layout and Dimensions.

COB 2963 the King Albert II Type Broux/MVTM illustrated above is typical of both the format of the barcode in relation to the human readable element and the dimensions of the rectangle formed by the bars. The dimensions for Plate 1 of this issue being Width 295 pixels or 25 mm., Height 86 pixels 7,3 mm. The dimensions of the rectangle for the 6 plate numbers as measured by **inlite** vary in Height by 2 pixels and in Width by 1 pixel. The module is 3,1 for all COB 2963 plates and remains fairly consistent for subsequent sheets of stamps and postal stationery cards. Font type and size of the human readable element and the positioning of the three groups "5", "412885" and "003772" is mostly consistent for all later barcodes with some minor variation.

The human readable element on sheets of stamps is mainly adjacent to the edge of the selvedge as with COB 2963 but there are exceptions such as COB 3326 shown below.

With miniature sheets, especially where the background design might interfere with the barcode, the barcode is included in a blank area of the sheet. Blocks 201 and 227 being good examples.

Towards the end of the study, the area around the barcode starts to be crowded by information about the issue and there is a tendency not to provide a blank space for the barcode. Good examples being the "Street Art in pictures" of 12th March 2018 and the "City squares of Eupen" of 12th June 2017. A more modest © bpost is also seen.

Duostamp booklets provide a more complex picture of dimensions, juxtaposition of the barcode and the human readable element. One example came to special notice that for "Plop" by www.studio100.be which employs the COB 3700 Post Office Logo ① stamp with the number 541288505984737. In this example, see left below, the outer pairs of longer bars have been increased to three bars. The barcode is still readable and has the same barcode widths as the computer-generated example on the right.

Duostamp booklets and sheets were examined, some examples provide an exception to the generality that items offered by the post office are identified by EAN-13 barcodes. These involved items employing either the stamp with Post Office Logo & Prior design, COB 3274, see barcode 5412885047042 below or the Post Office Logo ① design COB 3700, see 5412885058215 below. These barcodes have the correct EAN-13 number sequence but employ Code 128 barcodes with the human readable text being spread along the width of the barcode. This is unusual

For comparison the number 5412885058215 is compared with a computer-generated Code 128 equivalent below left and an EAN-13 equivalent on the right. The human readable element of Code 128 is centralised and not distributed as with the EAN-13. The format of the computer-generated examples being the norm. This normal format Code 128 format is found on other duostamp barcodes such as 5412885057041 employing the COB 3700 stamp.

Code 128   5412885058215   EAN13   5 412885 058215

normal format Code 128   5412885057041

4.5.7   EAN-13 Varieties

It would have been possible, but too time consuming, to check each of the barcodes I have identified with computer-generated examples of the same number. I have noticed a few examples of error in the human readable element but these are mainly damage caused by perforation. For example with COB 3225, the "Tennis" issue of 15th November 2003, the perforation obliterates the "5" on most sheets seen.

With COB 3502, the "Black-tailed Godwit" André Buzin issue of 18th March 2006 the "5" is missing from the front of the human readable element of the barcode 5 412885 037173 on all sheets and plate numbers seen (Plates 1, 4, 6, 8 and 9).

There are examples where badly perforated sheets have escaped detection and are found with the barcode bisected. An example is COB 3150, the "Helping Heart" issue of 23rd January 2003. This perforation shift error is unusual and not seen on most of the sheets of this stamp seen.
The barcode was readable as: EAN-13, Module 3,1 pixels, Rectangle:
X=102 pixels or 8,64 mm., Y=304 pixels or 25,74 mm., Width=295 pixels or 24,98 mm., Height=88 pixels or 7,45mm.
Text 5 412885 008302

4.5.8   EAN-13 barcodes overprinted "SPECIMEN"

Until 2013, illustrations of sheets and booklets seen in the "Philanews" magazine usually had the text "SPECIMEN" overprinted on the barcode. The pictures in the magazines are generally not clear enough to read the human readable element. Those that could be read generally appeared in one of two numbers, either 5 412885 003734 or 5 412885 005639. Both complying with the EAN-13 format.


As originally scanned **inlite** interpreted 5 412885 003734 as an Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode with human readable text as 784489. An internet generated barcode of this type and text did not visually resemble the specimen barcode. However, **inlite** correctly interpreted the barcode in the 5 412885 005639 example both as code type and human readable text. That overprinted barcodes with either one of these numbers appeared on so many issues of "Philanews" suggests that they were contrived for use as magazine illustrations a practice that seems to have been discontinued in 2012 as most illustrations thereafter have the, as issued, barcode without a specimen overprint.

I noticed a couple of other numbers on specific issues, 5 412885 003037 on Booklet 57 with the number on the issued booklet being 5 412885 024838. Also Block 120 with the specimen on 9 782930 284583 but 5 412885 024135 as issued. There may be other anomalies. The number for Block 120 is particularly odd as the GS1 prefix "978" relates to the International Standard Book Numbering system (ISBN).

It struck me as highly unlikely that any of these specimens would come to the attention of philatelists, but I was wrong. Almost every new issue is recorded in advance in "Philanews" including the date and time of a Voorverkoop/Prévente, that is a presale meeting that predates the issue date. I don't know what happens at these meetings, but I hold two items that appear to relate to them.
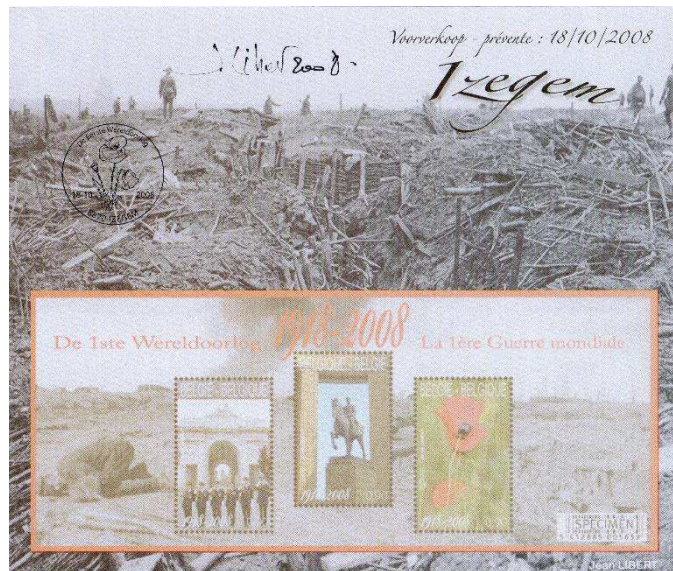
The item on the left appears to be a poor quality, reproduction of the illustrated sheet with an expanded design for COB 3515. This was commemorating the Winne of the GIRO 2006 cycle race that started in Wallonia. This was issued on 22nd April 2006 and designed by Jean Libert. It is signed by the designer and numbered No 0699 on the reverse. The barcode number is 5 412885 005639 and is obliterated by the word "SPECIMEN". This obliterated barcode is employed in the illustration of the issued sheet in "Philanews" dated 02 1 2006. The item on the right, also signed by the designer J Libert, for the 18th October 2008 Joint issue with New Zealand "90 years after World War One", COB Block 162. These items may just be a quirk of this designer.
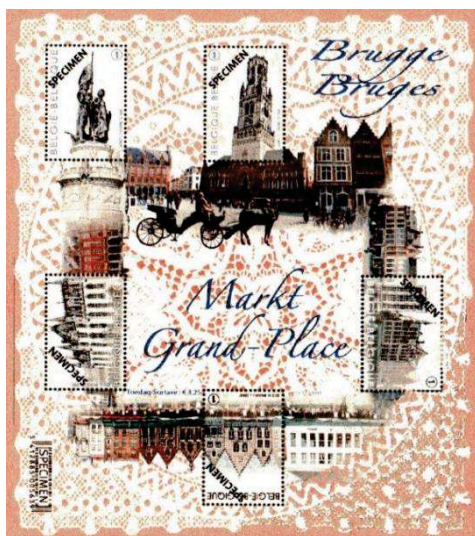
The item illustrated above, Block 203 issued 29th October 2012 "Grande Place Brugge" has both the barcode 5 412885 005639 and the 5 stamps overprinted with "SPECIMEN". The

barcode on the block itself reads 5 412885 071771 the same as on the illustration in Philanews 5-2012. The illustration is on the front of a 140 x 90 mm postcard with the bpost logo on the reverse and a bilingual message that translates as "In preview, and especially for you, a postcard with a stamp issue for 2012!".

Specimen overprints on 21st century stamp issues do not appear to be common and would be simple to contrive for philatelists. The postal service employs a circle overprint on stamps provided for publicity purposes. These are generally known as Persproef or Journalistenproef (Journalists Proof). Sometimes the circle impinges on the barcode.

4.6   Global Trade Item Number (GTIN)

As explained at the beginning of Section 4.5 the first 2 or 3 numbers in an EAN-13 barcode form a GS1 prefix usually a country code. However, prefixes 200 to 299 indicate a Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) in the same way that prefixes 978 and 979 indicate an ISBN book code. The Global Trade Item Number can be used by a company to uniquely identify all of items it sells. Only a single instance of the use of a GTIN has been observed to date in the Belgian postal service. These are till receipts seen in the exercises of the POSTACADEMY. An example is shown below at 90% actual. The receipt number 779300000013 is reproduced as a Code 128 barcode.

This was deciphered by **inlite** as an EAN-13 barcode of the usual 13-character length and a module of 5,0 pixels. The dimensions being a rectangle of Width=474 pixels or 40,13 [40] mm. and Height=124 pixels or 10,50 [10,5] mm.
An EAN-13 barcode with the same number 2960007000008 has been generated for comparison. The barcode is identical but with a slightly different format.


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4.7. Postal Barcodes

4.7.1 Postal Mechanisation in Belgium

Part of Reference 1 examines the introduction of mail sorting machines in Belgium and the application to the envelope of marks identifying either the location of the sorting office or the identity of the operator. Acket calls these K.P.K. (Kodeer Plaats Kenteken) or I.D.K. (Identificatie Kenteken). In the early days these consisted of letters or numbers or a combination of both and are extensively covered in the reference. The K.P.K. or I.D.K were subsequently associated with the addressee's postcode using a simple barcode consisting of 12 narrow vertical bars. Initially the bars were constructed from a column of 7 or 8 dots providing bars either 4 or 7 mm. high. Reference 1 states that the postcode employs a 2 out of 5 code providing 10 possible combinations of two bars. This is technically not a barcode nor the same as an Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode.

The speed of the envelope passing under the printer often made these bars appear curved. Some identity marks were also applied as a barcoded number. The barcodes are in various shades of red or a fluorescent yellow. The post office issued a transparent plastic rule that enabled the barcodes to be deciphered. The name change, in 1992, from Régie des Postes to La Poste/De Post postdates Reference 1.
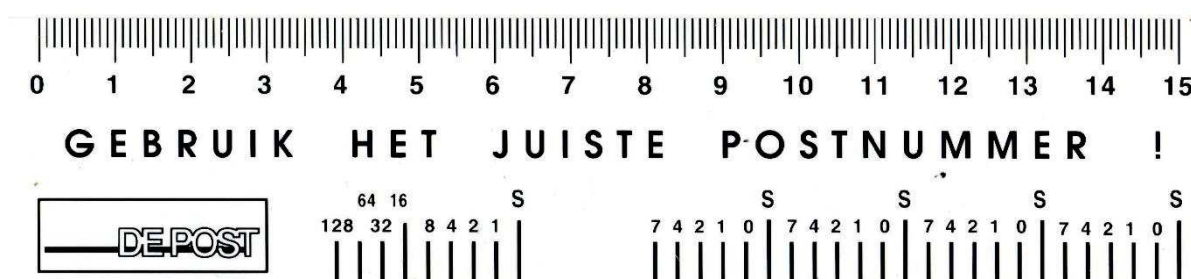
The right element of the rule, 4 blocks of 6 bars headed 7, 4, 2, 1, 0 and "S" is used to decipher the postcode using two bars to indicate one of the 4 numbers in the postcode in accordance with the equivalents indicated below.

1=1&0	2=2&0	3=2&1	4=4&0	5=4&1	6=4&2	7=7&0	8=7&1	9=7&2	0=7&4

The example shown below is from a cover cancelled by a SAMBREVILLE 16.09.93.11H 5060 Machine double-ring to 1000 Bruxelles.
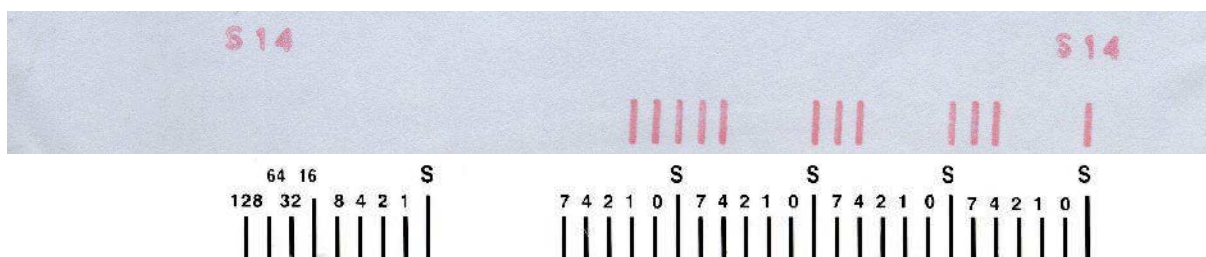

The rule is placed such that the "S" headed bar on the extreme right aligns with the bar on the extreme right of the red barcode on the cover. Coincidentally, in this example only, this is beneath the "S14". This aligns the other three "S" headed bars with red bars on the cover barcode. The bars in the cover barcode indicate two numbered bars to the left of each "S" headed bar on the rule scale. These are 1 & 0 for the first "S" headed bar beneath the cover barcode. The remaining three are all 7 & 4. The equivalents in the table above show 1 & 0 equates to 1 whilst 7 & 4 equates to 0. Post code is 1000 that for Brussels.

As regards the nine head bars on the left of the rule these were not employed at the time of the example above. An example on Page 124 of Reference 1 suggests the bars indicated are summed to provide a number, the example given is ||||||||. The sum of all 8 numbers being 225, the ninth number being the locating mark "S".
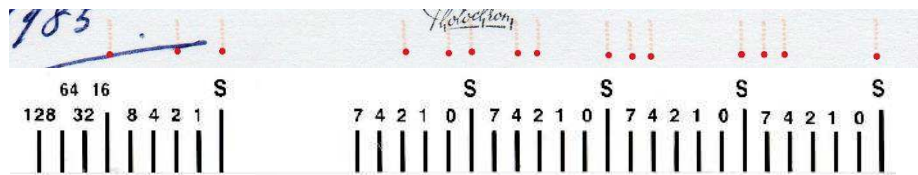

Shown above, I have scanned only one example of a K.P.K./I.D.K. number that is decipherable using the left-hand scale. The left hand numbers are 16 & 2 summed as 18. The postcode barcode reads 2&0=2, 4&2=6, 7&4=0, 7&4=0 or 2600 the postcode for Berchem. The barcode scan has been enhanced by me with red dots to make reading easier. The cancellation is WILRIJK **??.12-84.17** 2610 Single-ring on a post card to Berchem.

Generally, the majority of the marks seen, postdate Reference 1 and for these the K.P.K./I.D.K. number encoding does not line up with the left-hand scale such as that found on the mark shown below. The mark was on a letter sent from Antwerp to Deurne dated 20/12/2005. The postcode barcode is decipherable as 2&0=2, 1&0=1, 7&4=0, 7&4=0 or 2100 the postcode for Deurne.
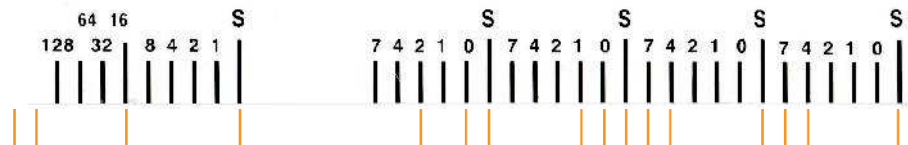
Some of these later marks have a more complex K.P.K./I.D.K. number printed as a dot matrix. The mark 23L 264 as shown below was on a letter sent on 23/01/2006. from Brussels to Koningslo. The postcode barcode is decipherable as 1&0=1, 7&1=8, 7&4=0, 7&4=0 or 1800 the postcode for Vilvoorde. Koningslo is a suburb of Vilvoorde.
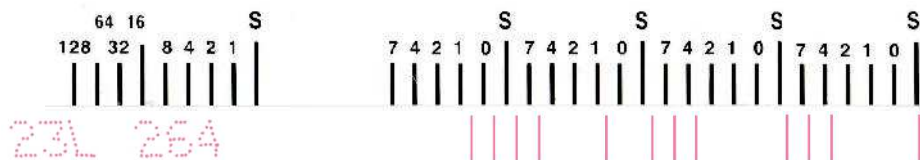

Both of these types of marking were seen until at least mid-2006.
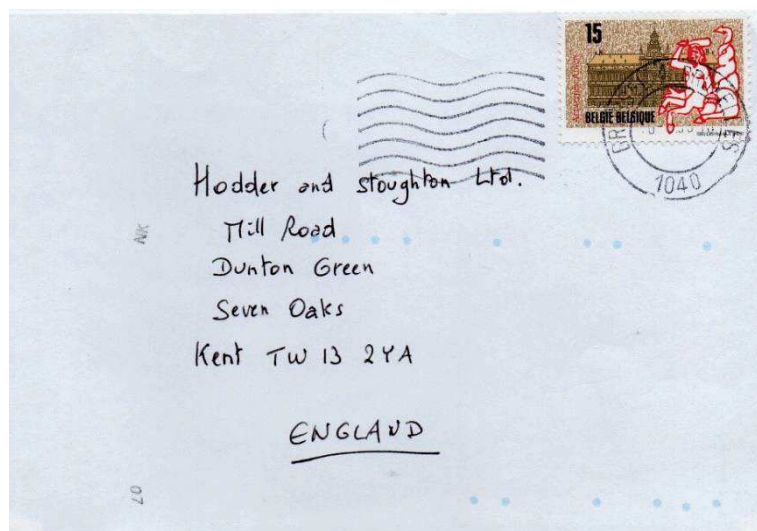
As with the example shown above a significant quantity of items sent to the UK have markings involving a 2-character, numeric or alphabetic, and a series of dots all printed in blue. Two different marks are often seen. These were most likely applied by Royal Mail on receipt.

4.7.2 4-state postal barcodes

Within the 1-dimensional series are 4-state postal barcodes in which characters are defined by 4 types of bars. The only Reader/Decoder for postal barcodes seen on the Internet reads this type of code employed by the United States Postal Service. However, codes for the Royal Mail 4-State Customer Code (RM4SCC) and the Dutch Klant Index (KLX) are available. The code employs 4 bars, one of which extends upward, an Ascender, and one which extends down, a Descender, a central portion known as the tracker and one which is Full Height.

4-State Barcode Bars

1234567895
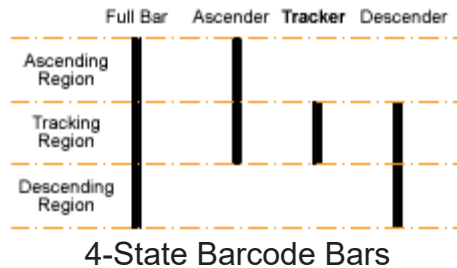
Sample of a British Royal Mail 4-State Barcode

The code used on Belgian mail is the Universal Postal Union Standard 18 an enlargement of an example as would appear on an envelope is shown below with a more legible example on a label fixed to an envelope shown below that. I have not been able to find a decoder.

The UPU Standard S18 for the ID-tagging of letter mail items requires that a 4-State barcode employed to meet this standard must be either 57 or 75 bars in length and always start with a "J". This might explain the inclusion of "J" in Belgian barcodes starting "JJBEA". The UPU standard is referenced in Standard CEN/TS 15844 of the European Committee for Standardization (CEN). This standard defines the information content, structure and possible printed representations of the S18 ID-tag This specification was approved on 1st December 2008 for provisional application and appears to have been finally approved on 1st May 2013.

4.8   Facing Identification Marks (FIM)

The FIM, is a bar code designed to assist in the automatic mail sorting. In its primitive form it was used just to face the mail. The graphite lines on the reverse of British stamps in 1959 probably being the earliest form. This is now superseded worldwide through the use of phosphor, either in bands on the stamp or over the whole face of the stamp. The phosphor fluoresces under ultra-violet light enabling the sorting machine to face the mail. The use of the FIM has expanded to identify the class of mail. The modern FIM is a code consisting of bars and blank spaces that can be represented as a series of ones and zeros. The bars can be vertical or horizontal depending on the postal authority using them. To date none have been employed in Belgium. Many appear to be restricted to internal usage within the country of origin, but some have been seen on mail entering Belgium.

An Italian example sent to Belgium is shown immediately below.
The Data Matrix on the FIM label has a length of 142 characters, a module of 6,0 pixels and dimensions   Width=267 pixels or 22,61 mm., Height=261 pixels or 22,1 mm.
The text reads:
41ITBE30000000000000000000000EL04385310500000E0004001208303853100
0000000000000100707b120122085732RA545586244IT EE
The barcoded "Reason for Late Delivery" S03 label is Code 128, has a length of 3 characters, module 5,1 pixels, dimensions Width=350 pixels or 29,63 mm., Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
The barcode at the top of the S03 label is Code 128, has a length of 13 characters, a module of 4,5 pixels and dimensions Width=703 pixels or 59,52 mm., Height=73 pixels or 6,18 mm. and text RA545586244IT.
The Form S03 is considered in Section 11.8.
The Italian barcoded registration label is confirmed as meeting UPU Standard 10. The barcode is Code 39, length 13 characters, module 3,8 pixels, Text RA545586244IT.
Dimensions Width=782 pixels or 66,21 mm., Height=163 pixels or 13,8 mm.

An Austrian example sent to Belgium is shown immediately below. This C6 window was sent to Belgium from the post office at Vösendorf. This can be determined by the presence of a white registration label headed with the post office name and postcode. Payment has been met by a white "POSTAGE PAID" label rather than adhesive postage stamps.

At the bottom of the envelope is a Universal Postal Union Standard 18, 4-state postal barcode.

80 x 34 mm. registration label **R** 2331 Vösendor f RO 62594485 5 AT "Barcode"
Facing Identification Mark Stack of ten 10 mm. horizontal bars, stack 21 mm. high.
"Barcode" Type 128 Length 13 characters, Rotation None, Module 3,0 pixels,
Text RO 62594485 5 AT complies with Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool.
Rectangle   X=231 pixels or 19,56 mm.,   Y=190 pixels or 16,09 mm.,
                    Width=461 pixels or 39,03 mm. 39 mm. as measured,
                    Height=181 pixels or 15,32 mm., 15 mm. as measured.

80 x 37 mm. franking label **PRIORITY** VÖSENDORF ID. 5 **06MAI20-11 : 16** 2331 Single-ring.
Boxed 4 line [BAR FREIGEMACHT/POSTAGE PAID/ÖSTERREICH/AUSTRIA]
"Barcode" 000495
Barcode Type Interleaved 2 of 5, Length 14 characters, Rotation Left, Module 3,6 pixels,
Text 06406022331831
Rectangle   X=1753 pixels or 148,42 mm.,   Y=59 pixels or 5 mm.,
                    Width=96 pixels or 8,13 mm., 8 mm. as measured.
                    Height=371 pixels or 31,41 mm., 31,5 mm. as measured.

5.   Data Matrices
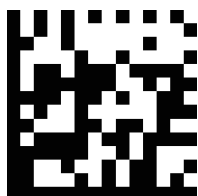
The Data Matrix encoding "BELGIUM".

One could consider a Data Matrix to be series of linear, that is one-dimensional, barcodes stacked one on top of another to form a two-dimensional array. In fact, it is much more complicated than this and details of the coding system is beyond the scope of this study. Typically, the "bars" take the form of dark or light squares or modules and are formed into a rectangular or square pattern. A Quiet Zone with a minimum width of one module is required all around the symbol. The size of the matrix determines the amount of data that can be stored. For numeric data this can be up to 3116 characters and up to 2,335 for alphanumeric characters. The minimum size for a square matrix is 10 x 10 modules and the largest 144 x 144 modules. For a rectangular matrix, the minimum size is 8 x 16 and the largest 16 x 48. The rectangular format is used for Belgian meter marks. Where there are more than 26 modules to a side the matrix is divided into blocks that do not have more than 26 modules per side. This is common with German meter marks.

The examples shown above all exhibit the two characteristics found in all data matrices. There is an "L" shaped line around the border known as the "alignment" or "finder" pattern and an "L" shape of dotted lines, formed by alternate dark and light modules, known as the "clock" or "timing" pattern. The alignment pattern enables the scanner to locate and orient the matrix while the timing pattern provides a count of the number of rows and columns in the matrix. The data is encoded within these two "L" shapes. As with one-dimensional barcodes there is a quiet zone to the left and right of the matrix that is wider than a single module. Modern matrices have an even number of modules on each side. Some older versions have an odd number of modules.

5.1   Franking Machine "Meter Marks" Machine à affranchir or Frankeermachine
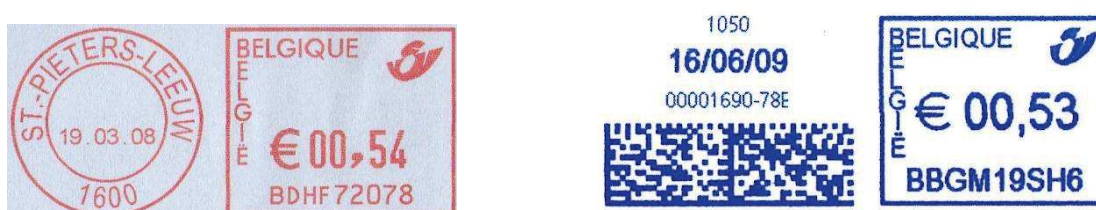
Identification and descriptions of these marks was provided by the online "WIKIBOOKS International Postage Meter Stamp Catalogue Belgium". The catalogue numbers assigned have been modified recently but this is not germane to this study.

The general description is of a rectangular franking box on the right typically 25 x 30 millimetres, but the size varies. The box contains the postal system logo in the upper right corner, the country name in the upper left corner in a bilingual, ⌐ shape, reading BELGIQUE/BELGIE, a € "euro" sign either before or after the central value figures, the meter number at the bottom. The postal system logo remains the same during the period of the study despite La Poste/De Post changing its name and logo on 1st January 2010. The 9- character meter number starts with a 4-alphabetic prefix. The first "B" (for Belgium), the second letter identifies the manufacturer, the third letter the meter model, and the fourth letter the method of payment. This is followed by a 5-character series.

The Wikibook catalogue indicates that the earliest date the rectangular franking box was available for use was 1st October 1999. The catalogue does not provide any information regarding the date at which marks involving the data matrix were introduced. 2007 was the earliest date either, as seen by me, or recorded in the catalogue. The catalogue notes that from the end of 2009 the only method of payment was the Franking On-Line Loading Service (FOLLS), that is payment via the internet.
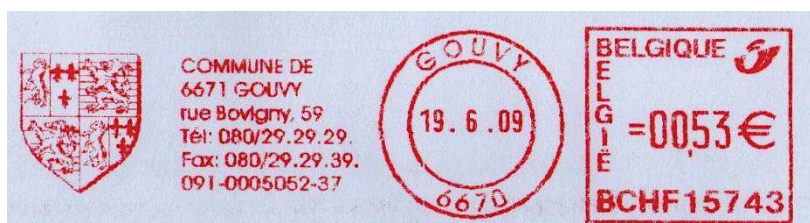
To the left of the franking box there is either a double circle containing the town, date and postcode, as shown above or a data matrix with three lines of text above as shown below. The double-circle types fall outside the scope of this study.

The distance between the double-circle or data matrix may vary. The area to the left of the data matrix may be blank or contain information about the organisation using the meter or the postal class PRIOR, REC etc. In the main, where possible, I chose to illustrate marks with information to the left of the matrix. The usual ink colour for the double circle type is red and for the data matrix type light or dark blue although shades of red are seen, even within the same organization.

One of the Pitney Bowes machines produces an atypical mark with the circle replaced with a box and with two columns of numbers to the left of the box containing the town, date and postcode. These have been seen with the 4-alphabetic prefix "BEDB", now obsolete or "BEDF"

using the FOLLS payment system – see below. These types also fall outside of the scope of this study.

The data matrix is 16 x 48 modules in 2 blocks side by side. Both blocks have the "L" shaped "alignment" line. Above the data matrix are three straight lines of text with the post code on the top line, date in the middle and serial number on the bottom. The payment letter will always be "M" indicating payment via the internet.

The elements of the meter mark illustrated above are shown below and compared with the **inlite** interpretation of the data matrix. The colour highlights employed show where the human readable elements in the franking text correspond with data encoded in the matrix.

The text of the franking reads:
PRIOR 8800 11/02/09 00006787-78D "Data Matrix" €01,18 BBDM49233.
Matrix text as interpreted:
BEA001BBDM4923300003498898800110209999001 18D8310000678700007295478D
Matrix dimensions Length 68 characters, Module 7,9 pixels,
Matrix rectangle and its position on the scan in pixels:
X=97, Y=198, Width=383, Height=126,
Matrix dimensions as calculated in millimetres Width 32,43, Height 10,67.
Actual measurements using a transparent, plastic rule: Width 32+, Height 10+ millimetres.

The **inlite** interpretation provides the position of the matrix rectangle on the scan being entirely dependent on the nature of the item scanned be it envelope or piece and is not always relevant to this study. The interpretation of the actual measurements of the matrix have proven to be problematic having been measured over a period of a decade involving images made by three different scanners. There is a marked difference in the module identified, typically increasing from 6.4 historically to currently 7.9 pixels on the sample tested using the current scanner. The dimensions at module 7.9 closely mirror the actual dimensions using the plastic rule. Measurement using the plastic rule is not particularly accurate but gives an indication that the **inlite** interpretation is consistent.

The data matrix text, as interpreted, consists of 68 characters in all cases. The text starts on the left with "BEA" followed by either "001" or "002". BEA002 is shown in red for ease of identification. These first 6 characters are followed by the 9-character alphanumeric meter number, BDFM14565 in the example above. Next a 10-digit number defined for my assessment purposes as "A" being "0000349889" in the example above. "A" is followed by the 4-digit postcode in this case 8800, followed by the date in 6 digits 110209. The date is followed by a 3 or 4-digit number defined by me as "B" this being 9990 in the example. After "B" there is a 4-character alphanumeric sequence D831 defined as "C". "C" is followed by the first 8-digits number of the number above the data matrix 00006787. This is followed by a 10-digit number 000729584 defined as "D". Finally, the 3 alphanumeric characters of the number above the data matrix 78D. Where appropriate the sequences A, B, and C are assessed below for common features in each type of meter number as defined by the alphabetic element BBDM etc. In all cases the 10-digit number, defined as "A", is in two numeric parts. The first part is unique to each meter number. The second part may be unique or the 5-digit element of the individual meter number thus for example BEA001BDFM1456500011 4565. In all cases the 10-digit number "D" seems to be unique.

The starting text "BEA" may be significant as it forms the second element of "JJBEA". This 5-alphabetic sequence occurs widely across the decoding of both data matrices and linear barcodes employed by bpost. See Section 10. below.

Where the value associated with the € "euro" sign involves 5 digits, the "B" sequences appear as 3-digit numbers. Examination of the "B" sequences for all types of meter suggest that only 4 digits should be ascribed to the value making the "B" sequences fit with the generality. This applies only to all the Pitney Bowes machines see Section 5.1.5 below and later Neopost machines see Sections 5.1.4.9 to 5.1.4.12 below.

The 8 numbers forming the third line of text above the data matrix is probably the serial number of the item being franked. This view is partly confirmed by the two marks illustrated below with the same meter number, date and C sequence 4CD5 with sequential "serial" numbers 00006557 and 00006558. Additional supporting evidence is provided by items held franked on the same day, or close subsequent dates, by the same organisation.
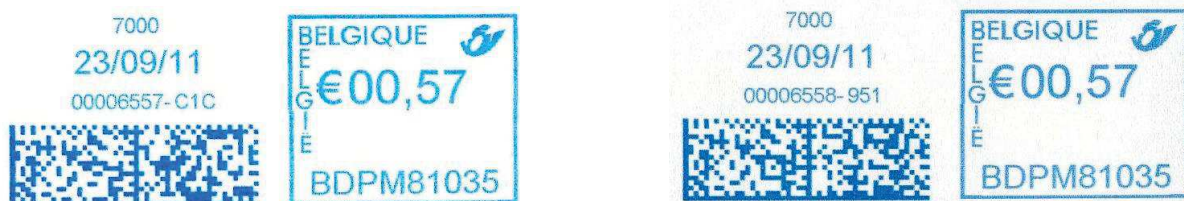
The measured matrix dimensions that follow are calculated from the **inlite** dimensions in pixels. Measured dimensions are shown in square brackets [].

5.1.1 Frama

Founded in 1970 Frama AG is an international company producing mail franking machines and automatic letter openers with its headquarters in Lauperswil, Switzerland.

5.1.1.1 Frama "Sensonic" (digital) "BBDM"

BEA001BBDM74R96000035389792402801099990059BA2B0000131100001232711117

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,68 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. 10 examples have been seen, in the 10 digits forming "A" there are 9 starting 00003 and one starting 00002. Two examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences 0000349889. These similarities and identical sequences are a feature of all Frama machines seen. Sequences of the 4 digits forming "B" are also seen in all Frama machines. In this case 0010 (1), 0070 (2), 0100 (1), 0580 (1) and 0999 (5). The examples from the same machine both having 0999. There are no obvious similarities in the "C" sequence.

5.1.1.2 Frama "Matrix" (digital) "BBGM or "BBHM.

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BEA001BBGM23U4Y000202563239602701090010059C91800000003100000020381BC

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,02 [32,5+] mm. by 10,92 [10,5+] mm. 12 examples have been seen with "A" all starting 000202. Common sequences for "B" are 0010 (3), 0070 (6), and 0580 (3). There are no obvious similarities in the "C" sequence.

BEA001BBHM50K5U00024228971700131213990006DA21001020310007272065747

The matrix dimensions are calculated from pixels 32,34 [32+] mm. by 10,24 [10+] mm. 35 examples have been seen with "A" all starting 000242 in 33 examples. In two cases 3 examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences. In two cases 2 examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (3), 0030 (1), 0070 (16), 0080 (1), 0090 (3), 0130 (1), 0580 (3), 0600 (3), 0650 (1) and 0999 (3). Two examples from meter BBHM78VRE both being franked on 04/06/11 have the same "C" sequence 2F0D.

5.1.2 Francotyp-Postalia

Francotyp-Postalia was formed by the 1983 merger between Francotyp and Postalia. Francotyp was founded in 1923 and Postalia in 1938. Both companies separately provided franking machines for use in the Belgian service prior to the merger. Founded in 2006 the Francotyp-Postalia Holding AG, producing mail franking and inserting machines, is an international company with its headquarters in Berlin Germany.

5.1.2.1 Francotyp-Postalia "MyMail" (digital). "BCKM".

BEA001BCKM378370002141031216023041000700056E5B3000035040000229743103

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,68 [32+] mm. by 11,18 [11] mm. 14 examples have been seen with "A" all starting 000214. In two cases 3 examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences. In one case 2 examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0070 (7), 0080 (2), 0100 (1), and 0999 (2).

5.1.2.2 Francotyp-Postalia "Ultimail" (digital). "BCMM"

BEA001BCMM443HB000314035053801010080070004870B3000046340000286948CF4

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,85 [32+] mm. by 11,35 [11] mm. 26 examples have been seen with "A" all starting 000314. 8 examples from the same machine have identical 10-digit sequences. Within this group there are 2 cases where "C" is the same but with different dates. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0070 (19), 0580 (4) and 0600 (1).

5.1.2.3 Francotyp-Postalia "Centormail" (digital), 25th March 2010. "BCNM".

BEA001BCNM942ZN0005140006173007021100100061C23E000530160003759366E

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,85 [32+] mm. by 11,01 [11] mm. 4 examples have been seen from the same sender all with "A" 0005140006. "C" is FA83 for 2 examples but with different dates and different "B" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (3) and 9990 (1).

5.1.2.4 Francotyp-Postalia "Postbase 30, 45, or 65" (digital), early March 2014. "BCPM".

BEA001BCPM80GHM00061408471130070119300006211F010002321000024222 92E52

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,59 [32+] mm. by 11,18 [11] mm.

BEA001BCPM725DU0006140966600109011800700070 0A4F00005664 0000428798DC6

Only 2 examples have been seen both with "A" starting 0006140. Sequences for "B" are 0070 and 3000.

5.1.2.5 Francotyp-Postalia "Postbase Mini" (digital), March 2016. "BCRM".

** Taken from Wikibook catalogue.

** 9140 12/05/16 00000193-0E9 "Data Matrix" €00,70 BCRM13USN

BEA001BCRM13USN0007510056914012051600700070 7F510000019300000201740E9

3001 23/12/16 00001282-A36 "Data Matrix" €00,70 BCRM952UZ

BEA001BCRM952UZ00075100993001231216007000070DA320000128200 00155704A36

Only 2 examples seen both with "A" starting 00075100. Sequences for "B" are both 0070.

5.1.3 <u>Neopost</u>

Founded in 1924 as a United Kingdom Limited company Neopost is now an international company known as Quadient, producing mail franking and inserting machines based in Bagneux, France. Neopost provided franking machines for use in the Belgian service from the 1930s.

BDFM	BDHM	BDGM		BDJM	BDKM	BDLM	BDMM	BDNM	BDPM
00010	00011	00012	00013	00014	00015	00016	00017	00018	00019
2008	2007	2008		2008	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010
BDRM	BDTM	BDUM	BDVM	BDWM		BDYM	BDZM		BDBM
00020	00021	00022	00023	00024	00025	00026	00027	00028	00029
2010	2010	2011	2013	2012		2014	2014		2020
					BDCM	BDSM	BGAM	BGBM	BGCM
00030	00031	00032	00033	00034	00035	00036	00037	00038	00039
					2018	2018	2019	2018	2019

In all cases the 10-digit number defined as "A" is in two numeric parts. The first part is a 5-digit prefix unique to each meter number. These 5-digit sequences appear to follow a numerical progression from 00010 to 00039. The table above lists the numbers in progression not deciphered. The table also lists the earliest date held. The second part is the 5-digit element of the individual meter number.

The 4-alphabetic, meter number, prefix BDAM is recorded in the catalogue but not seen.

The dates in the second row of text above the data matrix have a wide spacing.

5.1.3.1 <u>Neopost "IJ25" (digital). "BDFM, BDKM, BDUM".</u>

BEA001BDFM1456500010145658860300409990005341DF00007378000035634 2360

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,96 [28+] mm. by 9,74 [9+] mm.
10 examples have been seen with sequences for "B" of 0010 (2), 0070 (1), 0580 (1) and 9990 (6). There is also an interesting group of 3 other examples where the data matrix has been voided. See Section 5.1.8. below.
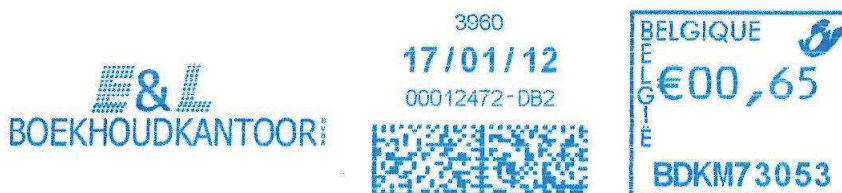
BEA001BDKM7305300015730533960170112001000065 7DCD00012472000112257 8DB2

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,11 [28+] mm. by 9,31 [9+] mm.
15 examples have been seen 7 with meter number BDKM73053 with 3 different "B" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (5), 0070 (4), 0100 (2), 0580 (1) and 9990 (3).

5.1.3.1 Neopost "IJ25" (digital). "BDFM, BDKM, BDUM" Continued

BEA001BDUM404570002240457909014101199900057764C000001490000008208FF2

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,45 [28+] mm. by 9,4 [9+] mm.
5 examples have been seen 2 examples from the same meter. Sequences for "B" are 0190 (1) and 9990 (4).

5.1.3.2 Neopost "IJ60/65/70/75/80/85/90/110" (digital). "BDGM"

BEA001BDGM53888000125388820182511089990005 4245B003013890019519161118

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 29,04 [29] mm. by 9,57 [9+] mm.
45 examples have been seen including a number with more than one example of the same meter number but with no common characteristics. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (5), 0070 (5), 0100 (1), 0440 (1), 0580 (3), 0650 (1) and 9990 (30).

BEA001BDGM10481000121048120002901099990005 9CAF0011597000101286910E67

The data matrix was interpreted correctly using a scan from an earlier scanner, but this scan was assessed as unreadable by several applications.

5.1.3.3 Neopost "IJ35/40/45/50" (digital). "BDHM, BDJM, BDLM, BDTM".

BEA001BDHM9040500011904053960270109999000537 2E2000108850000606507EDF

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 29,04 [28+] mm. by 9,65 [9+] mm.
29 examples have been seen including a number with more than one example of the same meter number but with no common characteristics. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (4), 0030 (1), 0070 (2), 0100 (1), 0580 (1), 9980 (3) and 9990 (17).

5.1.3.3 Neopost "IJ35/40/45/50" (digital). "BDHM, BDJM, BDLM, BDTM" Continued

BEA001BDJM82156000148215600001302099990005**9**FAE00010968000076083**28C**
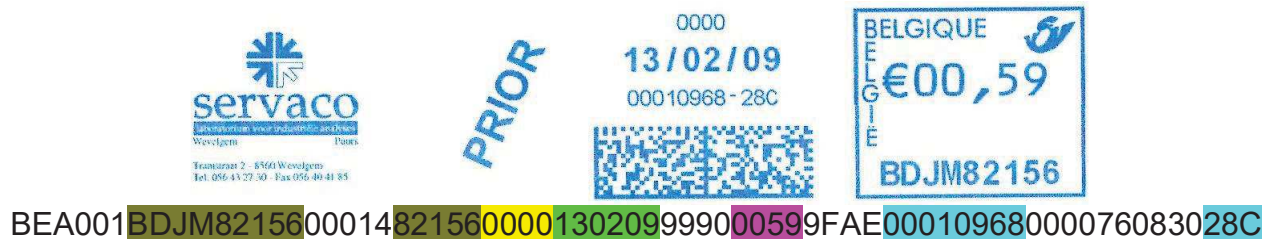
The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,87 [28+] mm. by 9,4 [9+] mm.
18 examples have been seen including a duplicate of the same meter number and the same "C" sequence C3A6. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0070 (3) and 9990 (13).

BEA001BDLM0434400016043441840080709999000532**9E1**000052460000342742**C3F**

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 29,04 [28+] mm. by 9,74 [9+] mm.
18 examples have been seen including 4 with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (1), 0070 (4) 0100 (1), 0580 (1) and 9990 (11).

BEA001BDTM2436000021243601601250711999000**61A0AF**00098503000648595**17CA**

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,87 [28+] mm. by 9,82 [9+] mm.
6 examples have been seen including 3 with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences and 2 with the same meter number with the same "C" sequence FEC9. Sequences for "B" all 9990.

5.1.3.4 Neopost "IS-350" (digital) "BDMM, BDWM and BDBM"

BEA002BDMM972390001797239875008071100700057AA6D0000145100000985757**64**

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,59 [32+] mm. by 10,84 [10+] mm.
5 examples have been seen including 2 with the same meter number but with different dates but the same "C" sequence 8B25. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0070 (2) and 9990 (1).

43

BEA002**BDWM32338**0024**32338****3500****160113**0070**063**A0E9**00000927000007573****43E**

     The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,68 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. 10 examples have been seen including 5 with the same meter number but with different dates but 2 of the group have the same "C" sequence 4EB4. Also, a separate pair with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (4) and 0070 (6).

BEA002**BDBM67169**0029**67169****3040****260620**0070**086**AC79**0003904500034991 83****399**

    Only one example has been seen, sequence for "B" is 0070.

5.1.3.5 Neopost "IS-420" (digital) "BDCM, BDNM and BDZM".

BEA002**BDCM49029**0035**49029****1070****270918**9990**0076**3C6B**000046520000343 11****70A**

    The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,68 [32+] mm. by 11,09 [10+] mm. 3 examples have been seen. Sequences for "B" are 0080 (1), 0310 (1) and 9990 (1).

BEA002**BDNM38498**0018**38498****2070****150514**0070**0066**5F62**000312130002201 116****8E6**

    The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,68 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. 12 examples have been seen including a trio and two separate pairs with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0070 (3), 0130 (1) 0580 (3) and 9990 (3).

5.1.3.5 Neopost "IS-420" continued

BEA002BDZM615470002761547116019091800700076 37BB00016060000178593169C

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,51 [32+] mm. by 10,58 [10+] mm. 13 examples have been seen including 10 with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences except for 2. Sequences for "B" are 0070 (3) and 9990 (10).

BEA002BDZM292350002729235879030091599900585FCAC00017223000269151 4994
BEA002BDZM292350002729235879014091599900585FCAC00016624000258646 9DAE

These two examples have the same "C" sequence. Ten examples from the same meter number employed between 03/11/2014 and 11/12/2017 provided an opportunity to observe any similarity in the 10-digit number defined as "D". There appears to be none.

5.1.3.6 Neopost "IS-440" (digital) "BDPM".

BEA002BDPM436470001943647193027091099900059F7A90000499200005586 2751F

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,59 [32+] mm. by 10,84 [10+] mm. 11 examples have been seen including 3 with the same meter number and "C" sequence 87DA. Two of the 3 have the same date, 30/06/11 and close "serial" numbers 00000153 and 00000189. Another pair in the same group, shown below, have the same date, 23/09/11, "C" sequence 4CD5 and sequential "serial" numbers 00006557 and 00006558. See Section 5.1 above. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (4), 0030 (1), 0070 (4), 0580 (1) and 9990 (1).

BEA002BDPM810350001981035700023091100700057 4CD500006557000046 2078C1C
BEA002BDPM810350001981035700023091100700057 4CD500006558000046 2135951

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,02 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. (00006557) and 32,68 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. (00006558) millimetres.

45

5.1.3.7 Neopost "IS-480" (digital) "BDRM".

BEA002BDRM639160002063916108109121000100059515500036548000441544480E

    The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,68 [32+] mm. by 10,84 [10+] mm. 12 examples have been seen including 6 with the same meter number BDRM63916 with different dates 2 of which have "C" sequence 0B78. Also 2 with the same meter number but with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (3), 0070 (3), 0380 (1) and 9990 (5).

5.1.3.8 Neopost "IS-280" (digital) "BDVM and BDSM"

    BDAM is recorded in the catalogue but not illustrated or seen.

BEA002BDVM190970002319097178026031800080015265540001318400014192 07B5B

    The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,77 [32+] mm. by 11,18 [10+] mm. 3 examples have been seen, the one below being from the Wikibook catalogue. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2) and 0080 (1).

** 9100 24 / 05 / 12 00000019-D69 "Data Matrix" €00,65 BDVM46537

BEA002BDVM46537000234653791002405120010006507410000001900000 01235D69

2900 24/08/18 00001626-BD8 "Data Matrix" €00,80 BDSM09159

BEA002BDSM091590003609159290024081800100080 7B6D0000162600001 75087BD8

5.1.3.9 Neopost "IS-6000" (digital) "BDYM".

BEA002 BDYM76677 00026 76677 1040 040314 999 00066 B2B1 00121876 0017467081 D68

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 30,74 [30] mm. by 11,43 [11] mm.
6 examples have been seen with two having the same meter number. The example shown below being from the Wikibook catalogue **. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2) and 9990 (4).
See Section 5.1 above as regards the "B" sequences compared with the value figures for meters. See Sections. 5.1.4.9 to 5.1.4.12.

Note: General Mail Service is a Belgian collection and processing service for mail, specialising in the collection, sorting, franking and postage of mail from companies.

** 1000 21/12/12 00001731-2F2 "Data Matrix" €001,83 BDYM80758
BEA002 BDYM80758 00026 80758 1000 211212 999 001834 D5F 00001731 0000268821 2F2

5.1.3.10 Neopost "iX-3" (digital) "BGAM".

** 7120 05/07/19 00004944-861 "Data Matrix" €001,23 BGAM93262
BEA002 BGAM93262 00037 93262 7120 050719 019 001238 424 00004944 0001305044 861

1 example from the Wikibook catalogue, sequence for "B" 0190.

5.1.3.11 Neopost "iX-5" (digital) "BGBM".

** 9000 26/06/18 00001001- F3F "Data Matrix" €000,76 BGBM84138
BEA002 BGBM84138 00038 84138 9000 260618 007 000768 3BD 00001001 0000198568 F3F

5.1.3.11 Neopost "iX-5" (digital) "BGBM" Continued

1301 20/12/18 00002447-742 "Data Matrix" €000,76 BGBM27710
BEA002BGBM2771000038277101301201218007 00076F8C30000244700002111 82742

2 examples have been seen sequences for "B" are 0070 (2).

5.1.3.12 Neopost "iX-7" (digital) "BGCM".

** 8510 02/10/18 00001911-749 "Data Matrix" €000,76 BGCM32495
BEA002BGCM3249500039324958510021018007 00076131A0000191100002117 45749
1932 15/07/20 00005223-125 "Data Matrix" €000,86 BGCM63960
BEA002BGCM6396000039639601932150720007 00086442400005223000120831 3125

2 examples have been seen, the one above being from the Wikibook catalogue.
Sequence for "B" is 0070 (2).

5.1.4 Pitney Bowes

Founded as the Pitney Bowes Postage Meter Company on 23rd April 1920 the company is now based in Stamford, Connecticut, United States supplying franking machines and mail sorting equipment. Pitney Bowes provided franking machines for use in the Belgian service from the 1950s.

See Section 5.1 above as regards the "B" sequences compared with the value figures.
Date/Month/Year spacing is variable in the second line above the data matrix.
The 10-digit "A" numbers associated with more than one meter type have some common sequences involving the first 6 digits. See the table below.

	BEFM 000337	BEGM 000337	BEHM 000337	BEJM 000510	BEKM 000510	BELM 000308
Earliest	26/11/07	22/10/07	14/10/08	20/06/08	08/06/09	26/05/09
Latest	29/09/16	02/02/17	05/08/16	20/09/18	13/08/10	28/12/16

5.1.4.1 Pitney Bowes "DM400/500/550" (digital). "BEFM".

BEA001BEFM34DJ50003370335840016061199900057591101503020009639308A81

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,10 [32+] mm. by 11,43 [10+] mm.
19 examples have been seen including 4, and also 2 pairs, each group with different meter numbers, but the same within each group, all with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (5), 0070 (3), 0080 (1), 3100 (1) and 9990 (9).

5.1.4.2 Pitney Bowes "DM800/900" (digital). "BEGM".

BEA001BEGM20NDK00033716191050030609990059FCB200963949013839283514

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,02 [32+] mm. by 11,69 [10+] mm.
There is a blue inked example dated 14/01/08 32,94 by 11,77 millimetres.
24 examples have been seen including 2 groups of 4 employing the same meter number, one group using BEGM570Z3 and one using BEGM68CZ3, plus 2 pairs one using BEGM53858 and one using BEGM20NDK, the "A" is the same in each group or pair, all with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (2), 0020 (1), 0070 (2), 0370 (1), 0580 (3), 0650 (1) and 9990 (14).

5.1.4.2.1   Links to TBC-post

Both groups of four examples, 4 with Meter number BEGM68CZ with "A" sequence 30003371666 and 3 examples of BEGM570Z3 with "A" sequence 0003371655 are associated with the private post company TBC-post. The 4th example of BEGM570Z3, on a Schneider Electric envelope has no obvious link to TBC-post. Although the earliest example seen it probably was associated with their services as several different commercial companies such as fed ergon, idempapers and TUC Rail Belgian use one or other of these meters sometimes with, and sometimes without, one of the TBC-post marks as shown below.

BEA001BEGM68CZ30003371666180027091099900056BDF900771027004770545 B1E

BEA001BEGM570Z300033716551800040209990**0059**E2DD**00254524**0019773661**17A**

BEA001BEGM570Z300033716551800200608990**0048**DD49**00016951**000117512**52A**

5.1.4.3 Pitney Bowes "DM1000" (digital). "BEHM".

BEA001BEHM178S6000337361111202810089900**054**E462**00109473**000965097**50F**

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,94 [32+] mm. by 10,92 [10+] mm. 11 examples have been seen including a trio and 2 pairs with the same meter number with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (5), 0070 (1), 0080 (1), 0100 (1) and 9990 (3).

5.1.4.4 Pitney Bowes "DM100i" (digital). "BEJM".
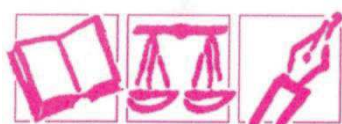
BEA001BEJM824NG0005102854150002101205800**5552**B29**00002376**000066356 3**1EA**

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 30,74 [32+] mm. by 10,33 [10+] mm. 37 examples have been seen including 5 pairs with the same meter number with different dates and "C" sequences. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (6), 0070 (21), 0130 (2), 0580 (3) and 9990 (5).

5.1.4.5 Pitney Bowes "DM50" (digital). "BEKM".

BEA001BEKM04SZ70005120354392013081000100**059**E3D4**00003140**0000313260**EE3**
The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 28,62 [28+] mm. by 9,91 [9+] mm.

5 examples of "BEKM" have been seen with no duplicated meter numbers. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (3), 0070 (1) and 9990 (1).

5.1.4.6 Pitney Bowes "DM210i/390i" (digital). "BELM".

BEA001BELM917AV0003081161100006121100100061E7BE00023776000176822EC1
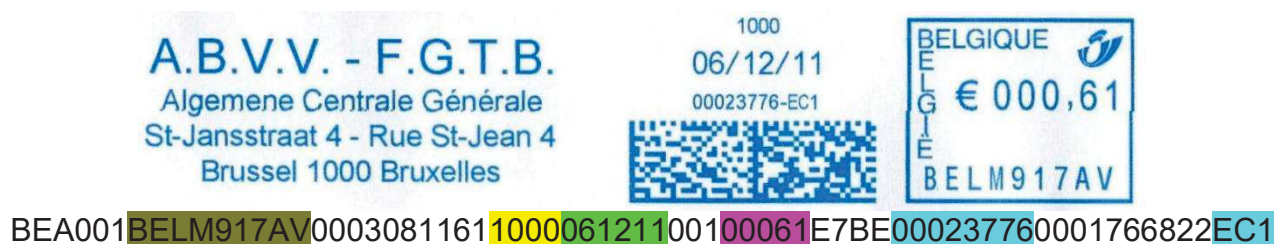
The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,85 [32+] mm. by 11,18 [10+] mm.
5 examples have been seen with no duplicated meter numbers. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (1) and 0070 (4).

5.1.5 Intimus

Intimus was founded in 1956 as Schleicher, becoming Intimus in 1965 manufacturing the Simplex office shredder. The company subsequently expanded into franking machines and a wide range of paper handling equipment. Very limited number of examples seen, many only in the Wikibook catalogue**.
Date/Month/Year spacing is variable in the second line above the data matrix.
The first 6 digits of the 10-digit "A" sequences suggest common features might exist.

	BHAM	BHBM	BHCM	BHDM	BHEM	BH5M
first 6 digits	00080	00081	00082	00083	00084	00085

5.1.5.1 Intimus "MS-20" (digital). "BHAM".

** 2900 02/02/17 00000040-260 "Data Matrix" €00,70 BHAM46814
BEA002BHAM468140008046814290002021700700070082B000000400000003489260

5.1.5.2 Intimus "MS-200" (digital). "BHBM".

BEA002BHBM748880008174888446004091901900123A3B7000062900000068973 98D
4460 04/09/19 0000629-98D "Data Matrix" €01,23 BHBM74888
The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 32,59 [32+] mm. by 11,26 [10+] mm.
** 2170 26/08/16 00000395-91F "Data Matrix" €00,70 BHBM2439
BEA002BHBM24390000812439021702608160070007 08C3D0000039500000300491F
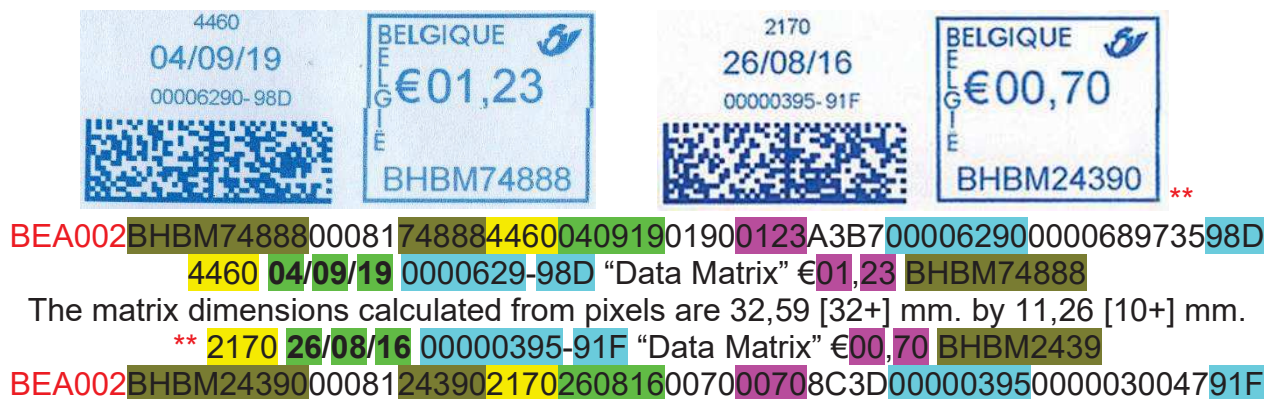
Four examples have been seen with no duplicated meter numbers. Sequences for "B" are 0010 (1), 0070 (2) and 0190 (1).

5.1.5.3 Intimus "MS-300" (digital)."BHCM".

** 7500 **15/06/17** 00008396-768 "Data Matrix" €00,74 BHCM37491
BEA002BHCM37491000823749175001506179990 0074F70F0000839600008332 49768

5.1.5.4 Intimus "MS-400" (digital)."BHDM".

** 2960 **01/02/17** 00009245- BF7 "Data Matrix" €00,70 BHDM96128
BEA002BHDM961280008396128296001021700700070E87900009245000075971 0BF7
9420 15/05/18 00037287-CC4 "Data Matrix" €00,76 BHDM40484
BEA002BHDM404840008340484942015051800700076 27A60003728700039611 53CC4
Two examples have been seen. The sequences for "B" are both 0070.

5.1.5.5 Intimus "MS-500" (digital)."BHEM".

1000 **19/12/18** 00201433-695"Data Matrix" €05,42 BHEM34517
BEA002BHEM34517000843451710001912183200 0542F06D00201433006328825 5695
** 2800 **09/08/16** 00000106- BCA "Data Matrix" €00,70 BHEM97140
BEA002BHEM971400008497140280009081600700070 6A1D0000010600000128 63BCA

The matrix dimensions calculated from pixels are 33,19 [32+] mm. by 11,18 [10+] mm.

5.1.5.6 Intimus "MS-800" (digital). "BHFM".

** 7100 **03/05/18** 00008329-8A1 "Data Matrix" €000,76 BHFM79937
BEA002BHFM79937000857993771000305180070 007620C10000832900010192 138A1

5.1.6 Errors on Franking Machine Data Matrices

The commonest errors are associated with the information entered by the operator namely the postcode and date. In all 13 examples seen, postcode errors are repeated in the data matrix. Missing dates are uncommon, only 2 seen, but a date is reproduced in the data matrix.

80J0 25/03/09 000 140 12-2A6 "Data Matrix" €00,59 BDGM85333
BEA001BDGM8533300012853338OJ0250309999000590EA40001401200011304772A6

0000 14/09/11 00009167-B07 "Data Matrix" €000,57 BEFM560WE
BEA001BEFM560WE00033705820000140911007000571FF2000091670000649978B07

"Logo" 1070 NO DATE 00000505–62D "Data Matrix" €01,08 BDGM49891
BEA001BDGM4989100012498911070230508999001086E8F0000050500000490162D

Not infrequently there are printing errors involving the data matrix making it illegible to on-line readers such as inlite and others. The faint horizontal lines of the frank below left are sufficient for it to be illegible, although the example below right is legible.

The example below left was readable but that produced a few printings later, below right was illegible. It looks like the data matrix was printed twice and slightly offset.

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Visual inspection does not always ensure that the data matrix is legible. I have found this particularly true of the King Philippe Definitive issued 2nd January 2019 sold in booklets and 10-stamp sheetlets. See Section 5.3 below.

5.1.7 "VOID" over Franking Machine Data Matrix

The reasons that lead to the data matrix being voided are unclear. As in the case below, failure by the operator to enter a valid franking value could lead to the machine automatically voiding the data matrix. In the example shown a label was produced with the correct franking and then placed to the left of the original franking. This example also supports the view that the 8-digit number immediately above the data matrix is a serial number. All details are the same on both franks apart from the numbers "00031206-00B" and "00031213-8E6" where the 8-digit numbers are very close together.

"Logo" VZW ZORG-SAAM ZUSTERS KINDSHEID JESU
2070 **15/05/14** 00031213-8E6 "Data Matrix" €00,66 BDNM38498
BEA002BDNM3849800018384982070150514007000665F620003121300022011168E6
2070 **15/05/14** 00031206-00B "Data Matrix VOID" €00,00 BDNM38498

A zero franking value and a voided data matrix does not always preclude transmission through the postal system. The example shown below arrived at the addressee quite successfully.

9800 **10 / 02 / 10** 00003198-2A9 "Data Matrix VOID" €00,00 BDFM96452

In the example below a label with a voided matrix has been generated and applied to the left of what seems to be a valid franking. The label has the Neopost logo bottom left.

PRIOR 1410 **28 / 08 / 09** 00003824-B8E "Data Matrix VOID" €01,77 BDFM23742

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5.1.8 SPECIMEN Data Matrix

The use of "SPECIMEN" to overwrite the data matrix seems to apply to demonstration of the machine's operation and capabilities. The two examples below possibly demonstrate two types of machine as the meter numbers are sequential and atypical with the initial "BD" indicating "Belgium" and "Neopost" followed by "DEMO" obviously an abbreviation for "Demonstration", "Demonstratie" in Dutch or "Démonstration" in French. A 3-digit number completes the usual 9-character meter number.

The cancellation illustrated below is a bit of a mystery. The cancellation on the 2008 issued adhesives "ANTWERPEN X DE POSTE/LA POST 5 wavy lines ANTWERPEN X ✉ Machine" truncated small double-ring would normally have the date to the right of the double-ring. Either in the form of a linear "DD/MM/YY" or "DD.MM.YY" in a large single-ring obliterating the adhesives. In this case the adhesives are cancelled by a meter franking with the data matrix obliterated "SPECIMEN". The meter number is only 8 characters but includes BDGM, indicating a Neopost IJ60/65/70/75/80/85/90/110 machine, followed by "DEMO". The date 17/02/11 might appear late usage as La Poste/De Post became Bpost on 1st September 2010, but other cancellations of this type have been seen in 2011.

0000 17/02/11 OOO65477-EBB "Data Matrix SPECIMEN" €00,00 BDGMDEMO

5.2   Data Matrices in the "Collect & Stamp" and "Collect & Send" services

5.2.1   Usage

Data Matrices are employed in the "Collect & Stamp" service in which bpost collects bagged mail, bpost then weighs, and measures each item and franks it at the most advantageous rate for the customer before delivering them. There is also a "Collect & Send" service in which, according to bpost information, the customer franks each item either with:

adhesive stamps (first seen December 2013),
or franking machine (not seen),
or Postage Paid (P.B.-P.P.),
or Deferred Reimbursement signified by "U.V." (Uitgestelde Vergoeding) or
"R.D." (Rétribution Différée) (one example seen).

The customer then places the items in a bag to be collected by bpost who then deliver each item. It appears that the cancelling of self-franked mail is the same as that used for the "Collect & Stamp" service. The use of the service is recorded by the application of a cancellation or franking mark. This is either printed directly onto the envelope on a self-adhesive label that is subsequently fixed to the envelope.

5.2.2 Format of "Frankings" involving Data Matrices.

The "Frankings" or "Cancellations" vary slightly in format but the majority of those seen employ an 18 x 18 module, data matrix on the left separated from a box on the right. The box is of the same format as that employed by franking machines. It contains BELGIQUE at the top with the "B" forming the top of BELGIE on the left at a right angle. "BELGIQUE" is followed by the bpost logo initially 🌀 and subsequently 🌀 bpost. The change in logo being introduced after "De Post–La Poste" rebranded as "bpost" in June 2010. With the De Post–La Poste logo disappearing by the first quarter of 2012. Additional text is incorporated in the franking usually the date, a postcode in the early examples, typically "1931" which is currently Brucargo at Brussels airport and sometimes "PRIOR". "1931" seems to have disappeared during the third quarter of 2012.

Excluding those that cannot be decoded, the text contained in the matrix has the same format for all examples. Visually the matrix of all 22 examples that cannot be decoded have the same structure. With those deciphered the first 5 characters form the alphabetic sequence "JJBEA". The remaining 18 characters are numeric making 23 characters in all. All but the very latest examples in the years 2019 to 2020 have "20010099" for the first 8-digits. The following 10 digits are probably unique, sequential, serial numbers. That they are serial numbers is supported by two examples seen with the same date 25/03/2015 the text reading JJBEA200100994776304381 and JJBEA200100994776304394 with only the last two digits different.

It can be reasonably assumed the serial number starts at "0000000000". The probability being that when the serial number reaches "9999999999" the 18-digit complete sequence becomes "20010099 9999999999". The next number will be "200101000000000000" led by 6 digits "200101" instead of 8 digits "20010099". Only one example of this 6-digit number has been seen, dated 07/01/2020 and deciphered as JJBEA200101000519902738. But it confirms the assumption. As an aside this indicates it took almost 11 years to reach this point and on the basis of 6 working days per week suggests an estimate of 2,9 million items per day. This quantity is supported by dates and serial numbers in Section 5.2.4.1 as part of an attempt to predict the start date of the Collect & Stamp service.

JJBEA200100991050440320

Just one example has been seen with just the matrix on the left and a normal 23-character serial number to the bottom right. This example is shown above which is on a 10,2 cm wide by 4,9 cm label. This serial number is the human readable equivalent of the text contained in the matrix when deciphered using **inlite**. Whilst clearly an atypical format, this label is useful as initially it was the only example that could positively confirm that the text, JJBEA200100991050440320, encoded in the data matrix is the same as that printed. The 18-digit number suggests the item was franked during the summer months of 2011. Subsequently a second example came to light where two labels were fixed with one on top of the other. The bottom label has the outline of a data matrix and the text JJBEA200100994661879057. As with the first example there is no indication that a box had been applied on this bottom label. The label on the top is of the normal format and the matrix deciphers as the same as the bottom label.

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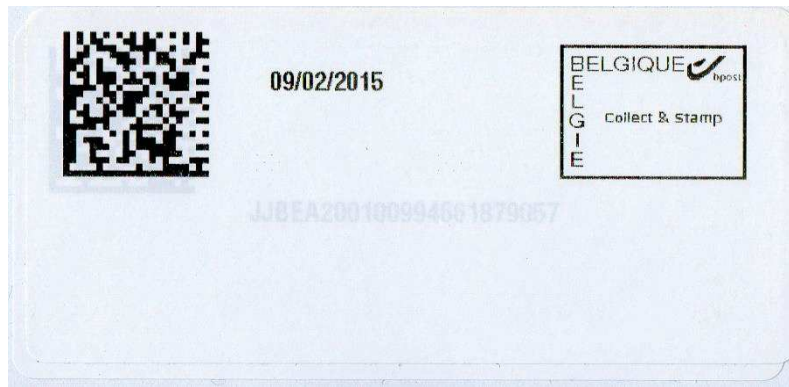
Deciphered by **inlite** as data matrix Text JJBEA200100994661879057, 09/02/2015
Boxed BELGIQUE│BELGIE ✎bpost Collect & Stamp.
Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 10,3 pixels,
Width = 226 pixels or 19.13 [19] mm, Height = 226 pixels or 19.13 [19] mm.

A similar but earlier example with two labels was subsequently found. The bottom label also has the outline of a data matrix and the text JJBEA200100990149557563 repeated as the deciphered text on the top label. This third example has the De Post–La Poste logo with "1931 **11/08/2010**" between the matrix and box.
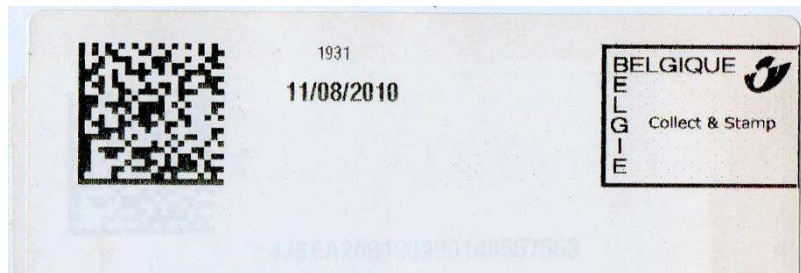
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100990149557563 1931 11/08/2010

Apart from the three examples above, the additional text is printed either to the left of the matrix or between the matrix and the box. Printing to the left of the matrix is confined to examples employing the De Post–La Poste logo. Examples printed on labels are generally of a better print quality than those printed directly on the envelope. The dimensions of the labels vary by a few millimetres around 100 mm by 50 mm.

As regards size, visually there are two groups of data matrices large and small. The actual size depends on the way in which the cancellation is employed. This will be examined under the consideration of each type of usage.

5.2.3   Anomalous use of "JBEA" instead of "JJBEA" in encoded text

"JJBEA" is employed in all but two examples seen. These two anomalies both employ "JBEA" i.e. a single "J". The two examples are both encoded in small matrices and printed on 100 by 46 mm. labels. Only 8 such labels with small matrices have been decoded. The number of characters recorded by **inlite** is 22 compared with the normal 23, the module is 7,4 pixels. Both examples employ the De Post–La Poste logo. JBEA200100991530461829 and JBEA200100991632277997 are recorded as the texts. The dimensions are 178 by 177 pixels (15,07 by 14,99 mm.). Both are 15 by 15 mm. as measured. To ensure that **inlite** was not in error the scans were interpreted by different on-line decoders with the same results.

JBEA200100991530461829
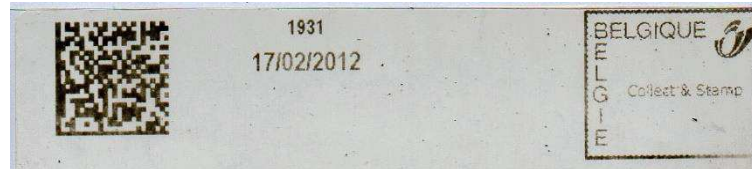
JBEA200100991632277997

JBEA and JJBEA were employed to generate data matrices on-line and compared visually with those on the labels to confirm the correct decipher was JBEA.

Part of matrix text   JBEA   JJBEA

5.2.4 Collect & Stamp

5.2.4.1   Frankings involving the De Post–La Poste logo

The earliest date recorded is 05/08/2010. Early sequential dates were seen on 11/08/2010 with a serial number 0149557563 and on 12/08/2010 with a serial number 0152488432 an increase of 2,930,869. This is entirely consistent with the estimate of the number of items franked each day of 2,9 million in Section 5.2.2. The figure of 0152488432 on 12/08/2010 suggests the system started 52 days earlier probably in late June 2010.

As well as the logo this group can be identified by the additional text, always including "1931", being printed to the left of the data matrix. Of those directly printed onto the envelope (franking) only 12 examples could be deciphered by **inlite** with another 24 examples that could not be interpreted. The print standard of those printed on a label is significantly better than those printed onto the envelope. This may explain the large number of indecipherable matrices. The distance between the right edge of the matrix and the left edge of the square is 7 mm. Those matrices on the envelope appear to be elongated and in two sizes.
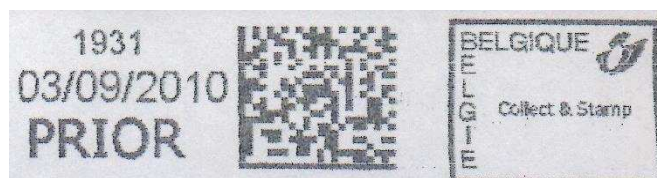
JJBEA200100990206329292 Matrix measured 21+ by 18 mm., "Box" measured 28 x 21 mm.
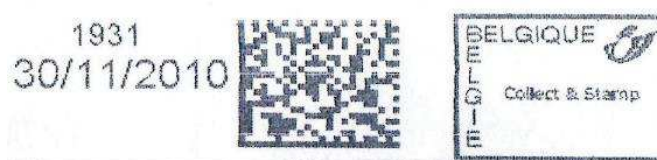
JJBEA200100990415994339 Matrix measured 21+ by 17 mm., "Box" measured 28 x 19 mm.

Excluding the two small examples, matrices printed on labels are consistent in quality and size the average of 23 examples being 227 by 225 pixels or 19.22 by 19.05 mm. All additional information is printed between the matrix and square and all include "1931". This postcode is always centralised above the date and "PRIOR", where applicable, is printed closer to the matrix than the date. The distance between the right edge of the matrix and the left edge of the square is 50 mm, 55 mm on the small matrices.

"Data Matrix" 1931 **03/12/2010 PRIOR** BELGIQUE│BELGIE ✆ Collect & Stamp. JJBEA200100990426826834

A second form of the "PRIOR" notation has been seen.

5.2.4.2 Frankings involving the bpost logo ✆ bpost

The additional text is printed between the matrix and box. The postcode "1931" disappeared during the third quarter of 2012. On the labels this text is positioned in relation to the matrix the same as labels with the De Post–La Poste logo and the bpost labels also have the same distance between the right edge of the matrix and the left edge of the square, 50 mm and 55 mm on the small matrices. When employed as a franking or cancellation the distance between the right edge of the matrix and the left edge of the square is 27 mm.

Where applicable, "PRIOR" can be seen printed in one of three formats, in plain text, or with outline text or as shown below.
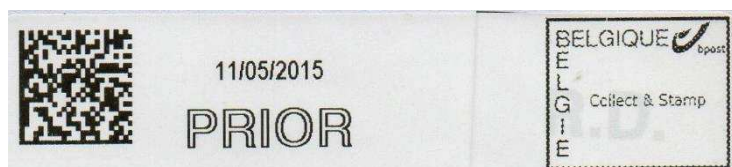
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100994900146797 11/05/2015 PRIOR

"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100994245433099 13/08/2014

Some examples seen suggest that the data matrix may be printed separately to the additional text and the box.

In the example above the window envelope has the data matrix printed top right and the remainder at the bottom left. Viewed from the front the additional text and box is inverted but would have been the correct way up if the envelope was inserted into the franking machine inverted.

The data matrix as deciphered on envelope.

Length 23 characters, Module 10,1 pixels, Text JJBEA200100991694906969

Rectangle	X=1676 pixels or 141,90 [142] mm.,	Y=88 pixels or 7,45 [7,5] mm.,
	Width=209 pixels or 17.7 [18] mm.,	Height=202 pixels or 17,10 [16,5] mm.
Data Matrix Rectangle	X=12 pixels or 1,02 mm.,	Y=6 pixels or 0,51 mm.,
	Width=209 pixels or 17.7 [18] mm.,	Height=202 pixels or 17,10 [16,5] mm.
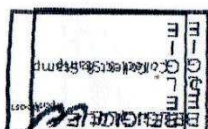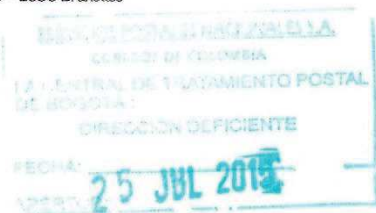
In the example above the DL window envelope franked A PRIOR ✈ | **bpost** PB-PP| B-00368 BELGIE(N)-BELGIQUE has been cancelled on the bottom of the envelope and is seen as being inverted. The date of arrival is hand stamped by the recipient, possibly Portuguese, as **25 JUL 2015**. The serial number is decipherable as JJBEA200100994985285051.
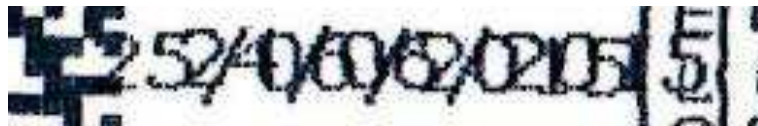
The date and box have been printed twice on 24/06/2015 and then again on 25/06/2015. The "2" of the "25" impinges onto the data matrix. Also, the "15" associated with the 24/06/2015 date impinges onto the "BELGIE" of the box closest to the data matrix. This box is almost certainly associated with the 25/06/2015 date. The sequence seems to be that the matrix, 24/06/2015 date and box were printed on 24/06/2015 and the 25/06/2015 date and box were printed on 25/06/2015.

A second example where the date and box have been printed twice is shown below with the date 15/05/2013. A second envelope from the same sender on the same date deciphers with only the last two digits different providing additional evidence that the last 10 digits are serial numbers.
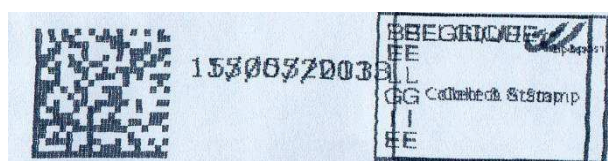
JJBEA200100993287337028
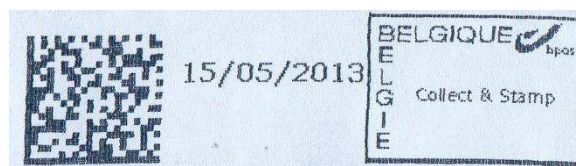
JJBEA200100993287337057

5.2.4.2.1 Addition of letter(s) to the additional text

A "v", "c" or "c v" in lowercase was added to the additional information between the matrix and box. This was first seen around 2013, insufficient examples had been seen to be positive about the date, The purpose of this is unclear. Inclusion of this additional text is also seen as part of a cancellation on items franked with adhesive stamps or P.B. – P.P. postage paid frankings.
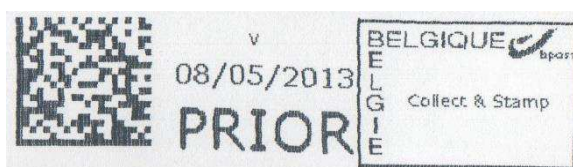
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100993276702523 v 08/05/2013 PRIOR
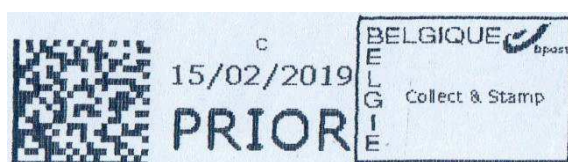
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100999691943620 c 15/02/2019 PRIOR
The matrix measures slightly less than 17 by slightly less than 18 mm.
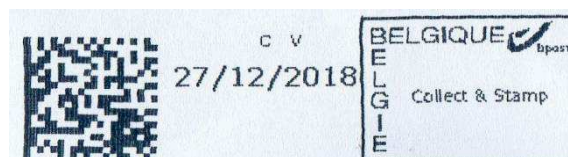
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100999554632698 c v 27/12/2018
The matrix in this example measures 17 by 17 mm.

5.2.4.2.2 Collect & Send (Collect & Stamp franking used as cancellation)

According to bpost information, this service requires the customer to frank each item either with:

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adhesive stamps (first seen December 2013),
or Postage Paid (P.B. - P.P.),
or Deferred Reimbursement signified by "U.V." or "R.D."
or franking machine (not seen)

5.2.4.2.3   Collect & Send cancellation on items franked with adhesive Stamps

In over 60 examples seen, all but one includes "PRIOR" in the additional text. The single exception is shown below. The 2-tier postal service, Prior and Non-prior lasted from November 2002 to September 2007 and was re-introduced in January 2019. The use of "Prior" on airmail labels, postage labels (Blasters) and also on data matrix franks and cancellations continued to date. Published tariff leaflets also employed "PRIOR" to describe the services. Post 2007, the use of the term "Prior" is probably a commercial decision to imply items conveyed by the quickest route. Article 17 Basic services of the UPU Convention Manual defines priority in this manner. The majority of the adhesive stamps seen are the "Normalized" form introduced in 2007 and identified thus ①. PRIOR is usual seen in plain text but is employed on 3% of those seen. On examples measured the matrix is 17 by 17 mm. and the "Box" 28 x 19 mm.
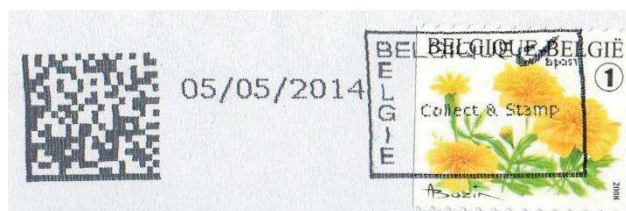
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100994023165477
05/05/2014 BELGIQUE│BELGIE ✔bpost Collect & Stamp.

5.2.4.2.3.1   Addition of letter(s) to the additional text in Collect & Send cancellations

Seven examples have been seen with "c" in lowercase being added to the additional information between the matrix and box, above the date. These have matrices nominally 17 mm. in height by around 17,5 mm. in width.
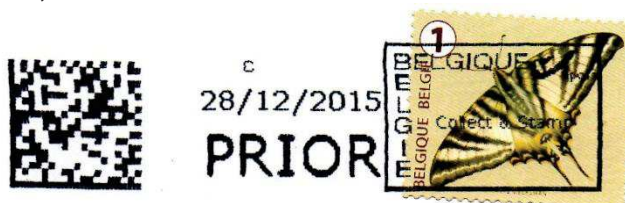
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100995594040943 c 28/12/2015 PRIOR
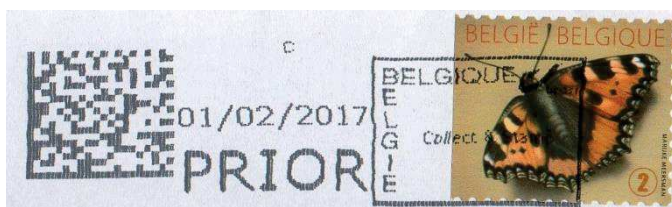
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100997267273863 c 01/02/2017 PRIOR

In an eighth case shown above the matrix is wider measuring slightly less than 17 by 19 mm. and the alignment of the 3 elements of the cancellation is different.

5.2.4.2.4   Collect & Send cancellations on items franked P.B. – P.P.
(PORT BETAALD) - (PORT PAYÉ) POSTAGE PAID

Apart from one atypical example, there appear to be three different groups although only a small number of examples of each have been seen. Five examples of the first group have been seen on items sent by Belgacom. Belgacom NV/SA (formerly the Belgacom Group) is the largest Belgian telecommunications in which the Belgian state is the major shareholder. All are franked **bpost PB-PP │B-00368 BELGIE(N) – BELGIQUE** and are cancelled by the 17 by 17 mm., data matrix/box, used to frank Collect & Stamp mail. An example is included on a registered item in Section 8.1.3 with A PRIOR o o o ✈ below the date and which also has an expansion of additional text to include a "c" in the same manner as identified in Section 5.2.4.2.3.1 above.
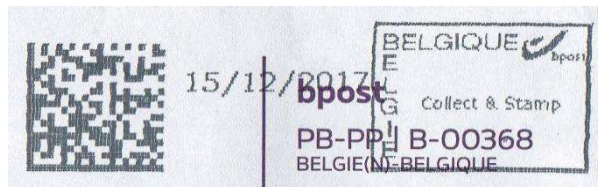
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100998466889330 15/12/2017

The second group involves a 3-part franking, a "flying envelope" pictogram on the left, followed by the date and then a 30 by 20 mm. box containing "België – Belgique P.B.-P.P. 1099 Brussel X BC 22469" in 4 rows. The franking is cancelled by a data matrix, encoding data of the normal format. Most of those held could not be decoded using **inlite** or other on-line decoders. The image of one example, shown below, was modified by using software to remove the franking and then decoding.
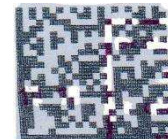
Indecipherable Matrix   JJBEA200100990294806956

This combination is also employed to cancel adhesives with the date either as straight-line text or straight-line text in a circle.
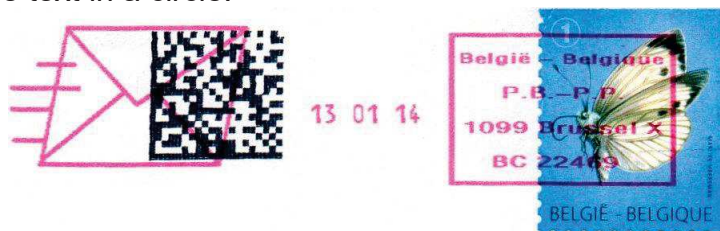
Decipherable Matrix JJBEA200100993776078186.

Decipherable Matrix JJBEA200100993779112915

As shown below, this type of cancellation has been seen without the data matrix.
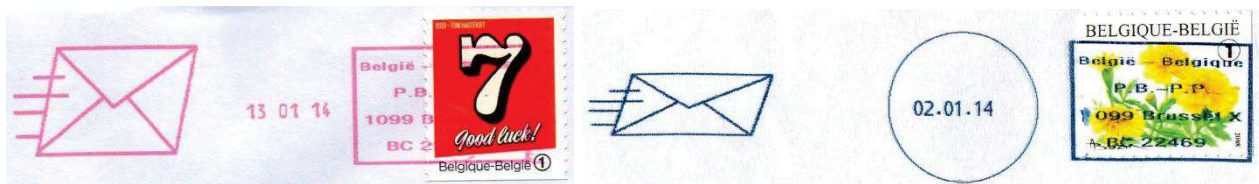
A single example has been seen, as shown below with an expansion of additional text to include a "c" as identified in Section 5.2.4.2.3.1 above. The data matrix could not be deciphered without removing elements of the pictogram from the image.

Decipherable matrix after enhancement JJBEA200100995515103791

The third type is a single example seen towards the end of the study.
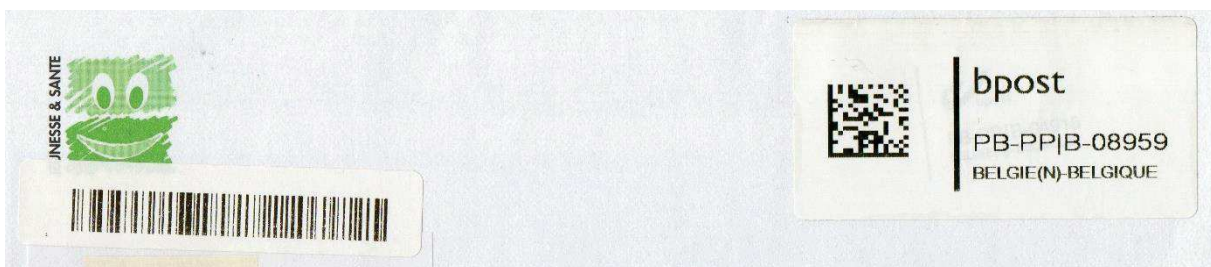
Data Matrix Length 20 characters, Module 9,3 pixels, Text BCRE9000000314692811
Rectangle   X=1828 pixels or 154,77 mm.,   Y=199 pixels or 16,85 mm.,
                  Width=164 pixels or 13,89 mm.,   Height=147 pixels or 12,45 mm.
Re-addressing label barcode Code128 Length 23 characters, Module 3,2 pixels,
Text JJBEA120403110000567439
Rectangle   X=277 pixels or 23,45 mm.,   Y=411 pixels or 34,80 mm.,
                  Width=648 pixels or 54,86 mm.,   Height=108 pixels or 9,14 mm.
The text beginning "BCRE" has not been seen elsewhere.

The atypical version shown below has a different text within the box and instructions that "if undelivered please return to: PO BOX 1934 EMC Brucargo – BELGIUM".
Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 10,1 pixels, Text JJBEA200100990113890078
Rectangle   Width=227 pixels or 19.22 [19] mm., Height=223 pixels or 18,88 [19] mm.

Also, a version of the "Box" has been seen associated with an alternative format for the "Collect & Stamp" marker, see Section 5.2.5 below.

5.2.4.2.5   Collect & Send cancellations on items franked U.V. or R.D.
             (Uitgestelde Vergoeding or Rétribution Différée)

This translates as Postponed or Deferred Remuneration meaning all charges will be accumulated over a period and then be the subject of a single bill i.e. an account. The majority seen have been on judicial mail (gerechtsbrief/pli judiciare) without cancellations or with a standard Circular Date Stamp. Three examples are held with data matrix cancellations. All are the standard matrix/date/box, normally used as a frank or to cancel adhesives. Two examples are on labels partially covering U.V. or R.P. Two non-judicial examples have the standard matrix/date/box cancellation.

17 x 18 mm. "Data Matrix" JJBEA200100992962288358 01/02/2013 PRIOR
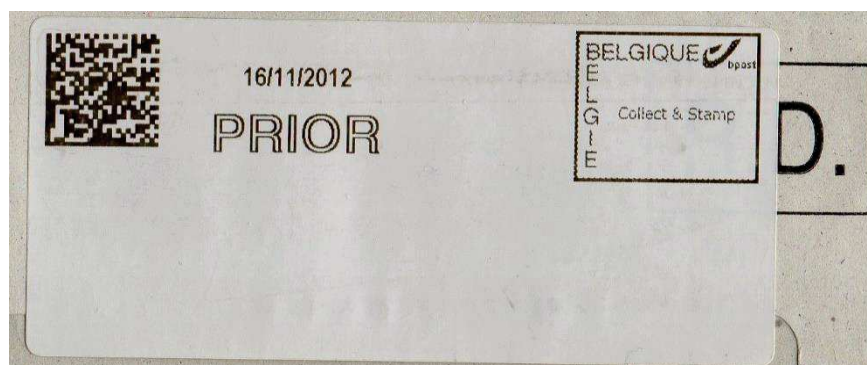
15 x 15 mm. "Data Matrix" JJBEA200100992654974554 16/11/2012 PRIOR
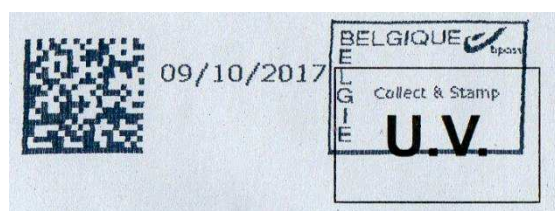
17 x 17 mm. JJBEA200100998226362989   17 x 18 mm. JJBEA200100993930539214
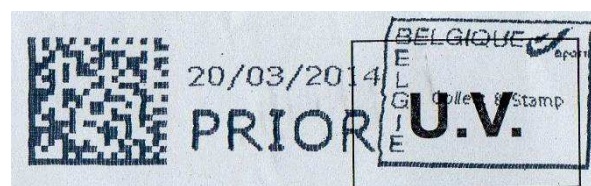
5.2.4.2.6   Collect & Send cancellations on items Machine Franking
             See Section 5.1 above.

The bpost website confirms that commercial mail may be collected through the Collect & Send service or collected on request. Very little recent, machine franked, mail has been seen and none with the "Collect & Stamp" cancellation. The franking machine number starts with a 4-alphabetic prefix. Since 2009 only meters employing the Franking On-Line Loading Service (FOLLS) has been permitted. Permitted machines are listed on the bpost website. The fourth letter of the prefix must be either "F" without data matrix, or "M" with the data matrix. Machine franking is cheaper than using adhesives.

5.2.5 Alternative Format for "Collect & Stamp"

There is another format for the "Collect & Stamp" marker. This has "COLLECT & STAMP" in an arc above the date with a pictogram and box beneath Those seen all have the "postage paid" style of boxed text "België – Belgique P.B.-P.P. 1099 Brussel X BC 22469" and are dated in the period 2011/14. To date only nine examples have been seen, 4 with, and 5 without, the data matrix. The decoded, 17 x 17 mm., matrices have the same features as the previous ones.
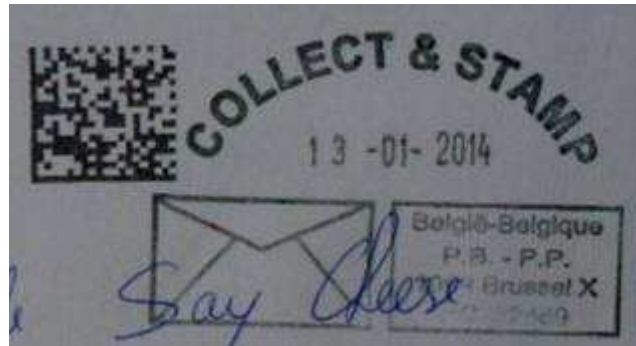
"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100993776705396 COLLECT & STAMP 13 -01- 2014

5.2.6 Collect & Stamp service for parcels.

The bpost "Collect & Stamp" service also applies to parcels. Parcels are franked with a label that includes both a data matrix and a Code 128 barcode. The labels have no indication of the date employed. The text within the data matrices has the same characteristics as the previous "Collect & Stamp/Send" items and all employ the bpost logo. Those seen are all French dominant, bilingual. The data matrix text is in the same format as the others.

JJBEA200100997355358328	32327002497995314 3603030
JJBEA200100996122494065	32327000267995283 5588030
JJBEA200100995682461164	32329990997995270 7157030
JJBEA200100994476554796	32329990997995210 7939030
JJBEA200100995275760658	32329990997995259 1234030
JJBEA200100994342512617	32329990997993164 4607030
JJBEA200100994079987089	32329990997995182 6112030
JJBEA200100994108292357	32329990997995185 1725030
JJBEA200100997419643715	32329990997995315 9205030
JJBEA200100996143871018	32329990997995284 1007030
JJBEA200100997248334424	32329990997995311 8347030
JJBEA200100998527473355	32329990997995340 9905030
JJBEA200100994355960542	32327002777994852 0686030
JJBEA200100994199068370	32329990997995191 7556030

Initially the first example shown below seemed atypical. The Expediteur / Afzender is in larger font than seen in the other examples and has no accent in Expéditeur. In the box beneath the barcode the text is "Bureau distributeur – Uitreikingskantoor" meaning Distribution office and the postcode 1040. The sender's name "DUMMY VAS FACTORY" has no obvious significance but the CENTRE MONNAIE 1 1000 BRUXELLES BE is the headquarters of bpost. This suggests that the label is for training or promotional. The data matrix is larger with Width 198 pixels or 16,76 mm. and Height 196 pixels or 16,59 mm. Subsequently, a second example was found with a similar format. The rest of the matrices seen have both width and height around 178 pixels or 15,07 mm.

"Data Matrix" JJBEA2001009943425126172   Code 128 323299909979931644607030

Second "atypical" example.

"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100994355960542   Code 128 32327002777994852068603
Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 8,8 pixels,
Rectangle   X=77 pixels or 6,52 [6] mm.,   Y=57 pixels or 4,83 [5] mm.,
              Width=194 pixels or 16,43 [16] mm.,   Height=195 pixels or 16,51 [16] mm.
Barcode is Code128 Length 24 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Rectangle   X=351 pixels or 29,72 [29] mm.,   Y=250 pixels or 21,17 [21] mm.,
              Width=737 pixels or 62,4 [62] mm.,   Height=171 pixels or 14,48 [14] mm.

"Data Matrix" JJBEA2001009941990068370   Code 128 323299909979951917556030

Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 7,4 pixels,
Rectangle   X=63 pixels or 5,33 [5] mm.,   Y=55 pixels or 4,66 [4+] mm.,
              Width=178 pixels or 15,07 [15] mm.,   Height=178 pixels or 15,07 [15] mm.
Barcode is Code128 Length 24 characters, Module 4,7 pixels,
Rectangle   X=278 pixels or 23,54 [23,5] mm.,   Y=245 pixels or 20,74 [20,5] mm.,
              Width=788 pixels or 66,72 [66,5] mm.,   Height=169 pixels or 14,31 [14] mm.

"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100996122494065   Code 128 32327000267995283558030

"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100996143871018   Code 128 32329990997995284100730

5.2.7 Parcels Collect & Stamp TAXIPOST

TAXIPOST was introduced as an internal postal service on 1st March 1985 to complement the EXPRES postal service. The EXPRES service became the POSTEXPRESS service on 1st December 1994. Its tasks were subsequently undertaken by EMS-TAXIPOST. The services included under this heading are difficult to deduce from the examination of available items. EMS-TAXIPOST and TAXIPOST provided a parcels service that involved integral carbon forms with serial numbers identified by barcodes. These and other parcel related forms, including a KILOPOST "peel-off" labels for postal packets, are addressed in Section 9.4.1. Anecdotal information suggests that in 2008, the Kilopost service was taken over by the Taxipost service and this probably led to the type of labels shown below, of which to date, only two examples have been seen.

The two examples give no clue as to the period of use although my records show that the first example shown below was purchased in 2013. The two examples demonstrate the difference between "JJBEA" and "JBEA" discussed in Section 5.2.3 in which "JBEA" occurs with a single "J". Visual examination of the data matrices confirms that the first example is "JJBEA200100993701399227" and the second example "JBEA200100991632479348". Section 5.2.2 examines data matrix format and concludes that the number associated with the second example suggests it was used before the first example. The two examples have different initial grouping of the human readable equivalent of the linear barcodes, starting either "323299" or "323270". These two groups are repeated in the 12 examples of Parcel Collect & Stamp labels held.

"Data Matrix" JJBEA200100993701399227   Code 128 32329990997995155445003

Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 7,4 pixels,
Rectangle   Width=177 pixels or 14,99 [15] mm.,   Height=178 pixels or 15,07 [15] mm.
Code 128 Length 24 characters, Module 4,7 pixels,
Rectangle   Width=791 pixels or 66,97 [67] mm.,   Height=172 pixels or 14,56 [14] mm.

"Data Matrix" JBEA200100991632479348   Code 128 32327000237995049534903

Data Matrix Length 22, Module 7.3 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 85 pixels or 7,2 mm.,   Y = 55 pixels or 4,66 mm.,
             Width = 176 pixels or 14,90 [15] mm.,   Height = 173 pixels or 14,65 [14+] mm.
Barcode Code 128 Length 24, Rotation none, Module 4.7 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 370 pixels or 31,33 mm.,   Y = 245 pixels or 20,74 mm.,
             Width = 786 pixels or 66,55 [66+] mm.,   Height = 166 pixels or 14,05 [14] mm.

5.2.8   COLLECT & STAMP Bulk Mail Bag Seal

A recent utilisation guide published by bpost suggested bulk mail is to be sealed in bags sealed with a cable tie closure on which a barcoded label can be fixed identifying the sender. The label is headed "COLLECT & STAMP" followed by a Code 128 barcode, as shown below, with the sender's name beneath.

COLLECT & STAMP

CS00000000000000000000
Name   0000000000

No examples of the label have been seen but 3 similar closures are shown below.

This was indecipherable full size but when cropped deciphered as:
Code 128 Length 14 characters, Module 4,3 pixels, Text 99010036737221.
Rectangle   X=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,   Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm.,
              Width = 490 pixels or 41,49 [41] mm.,   Height = 135 pixels or 11,43 [11] mm.
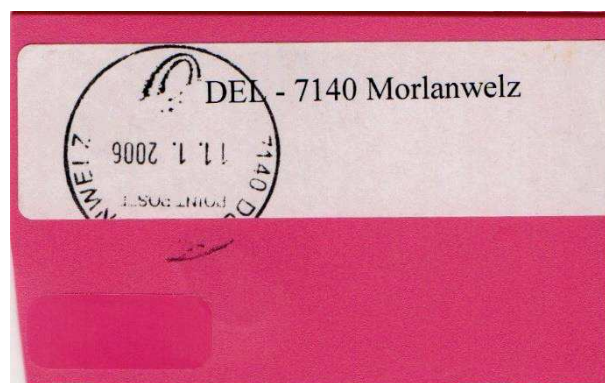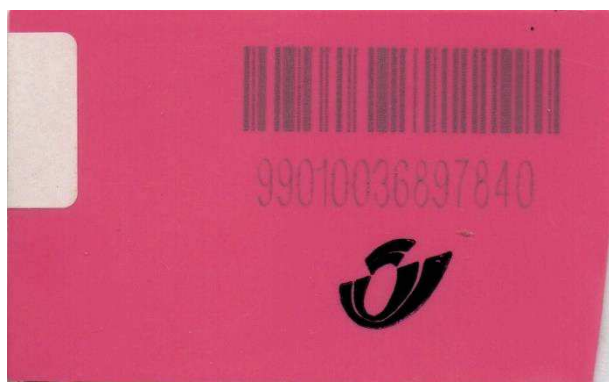
Employed 11. 1. 2006 Inverted when scanned,
Code 128 Length 14 characters, Module 8,8 pixels, Text 99010036897840.
Rectangle   X=369 pixels or 31,24 [31] mm.,   Y=54 pixels or 4,57 [4,5] mm.,
              Width=488 pixels or 41,32 [41+] mm.,   Height=136 pixels or 11,51 [11+] mm.

Indecipherable barcode 99011009646067 employed 31. 3. 2005

5.3   Data Matrix on Adhesive Definitive Postage Stamps

From January 2019 Belgium reintroduced a two-tier system similar to that introduced on 18th November 2002 as PRIOR (jour+1) and NON-PRIOR (jour+3) and subsequently abandoned on 29th September 2007 in favour of the Circled Number System. This reintroduction must have presented bpost with a problem as millions of No Value Indicated, Circled Number, value indicated in euros or Belgian francs or in both currencies, are still valid and in circulation. Part of the solution was to make existing stamps valid for NON-PRIOR mail

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only and introduce new stamps for Prior mail. To achieve this, bpost introduced stamps with a data matrix as part of the design. As a further complication, thematic stamps, probably meaning commemoratives, are issued with Circled Numbers. Mail overseas, including Europe, are all at a PRIOR rate.

On 2nd January 2019 bpost issued a King Philippe Definitive in booklets and sheetlets of 10 stamps, also a Personalized Stamp Frame and a Condolences/Mourning stamp all with data matrices and PRIOR slogans. I employed the **inlite** decoder before examining the stamps. The results for the pair above being:

Left Stamp Data Matrix Length 20 characters, Rotation left, Module 8,9 pixels,
Rectangle   X=896 pixels or 75,86 mm.,   Y=27 pixels or 2,29 mm.,
                   Width=108 pixels or 9,14 mm.,   Height=319 pixels or 27,01 mm.
Text JJBEA601910036882026.
Right Stamp Data Matrix Length 20 characters, Rotation left, Module 8,8 pixels,
Rectangle   X=422 pixels or 35,73 mm.,   Y=23 pixels or 1,95 mm.,
                   Width=106 pixels or 8,97 mm.,   Height=318 pixels or 26,92 mm.
Text JJBEA601910036881925.
Barcode on the right selvedge Code EAN-13 Length 13 characters, Rotation right,
Module 2,6 pixels, Text 5 412885 085884,
Rectangle   X=1056 pixels or 89,41 mm.,   Y=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.,
                   Width=64 pixels or 5,42 mm.,   Height=249 pixels or 21,08 mm.,

Minor variations in positional and module numbers are to be expected owing to the very small dimensions being read optically on a scan of a printed stamp, but the different texts were a surprise. Visual examination confirmed that the data matrices are indeed different. The format of the texts was familiar, with the alphabetic sequence "JJBEA" seen on other Belgian barcodes and matrices followed by a 15 numerical digit sequence. As well as the bottom of the sheet pair shown above, I obtained and examined complete booklets for the other issues and a strip of 5 for the Personalized Stamp Frame.

The matrices on the booklet, shown below at 50% actual size, also decode as having unique numerical sequences. The left column of stamps has numbers ending, 8121 to 8525, i.e. the last 4-digits are in two pairs 81 and 21. The number of each pair being sequential vertically 81, 82, 83, 84, and 85 then 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25. Similar vertical sequences are followed in the right column ending as 8626 to 9030.

Left Hand Column	Right Hand Column
JJBEA601900270438121	JJBEA601900270438626
JJBEA601900270438222	JJBEA601900270438727
JJBEA601900270438323	JJBEA601900270438828
JJBEA601900270438424	JJBEA601900270438929
JJBEA60190027043 8525	JJBEA601900270439030

The barcode on both the stamp and instruction side is Code EAN-13
Length 13 characters, Module 3,3 pixels,
Text 5 412885 085761.

The dimensions of the barcodes are the same to within a pixel.

Rectangle on booklet
X=268 pixels or 22,69 mm.,
Y=297 pixels or 25,15 mm.,
Width=312 pixels or 26,42 mm.,
Height=80 pixels or 6,77 mm.
Rectangle on instructions side
X=198 pixels or 16,76 mm.,
Y=2102 pixels or 177,97 mm.,
Width=313 pixels or 26,50 mm.,
Height=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.

The Condolences/Mourning booklet, shown below at 50% actual, has the same sequential system as the booklet above for the last two pairs of numbers 4124 to 4528 and 4629 to 5033.

Left Hand Column	Right Hand Column
JJBEA601920088864124	JJBEA601920088864629
JJBEA601920088864225	JJBEA601920088864730
JJBEA601920088864326	JJBEA601920088864831
JJBEA601920088864427	JJBEA601920088864932
JJBEA601920088864528	JJBEA601920088865033

The barcode on both the stamp and instruction side is Code EAN-13,
Length 13 characters, Module 2,6 pixels,
Text 5 412885 085785.

The dimensions of the barcodes are the same to within a pixel.

Rectangle on booklet
X=295 pixels or 24,98 mm.,
Y=294 pixels or 24,9 mm.,
Width=251 pixels or 21,25 mm.,
Height=65 pixels or 5,50 mm.
Rectangle on instructions side
X=163 pixels or 13,8 mm.,
Y=2111 pixels or 178,73 mm.,
Width=249 pixels or 21,08 mm.,
Height=64 pixels or 5,42 mm.

Visual inspection of this strip of 5 Personalized stamps shows they are all different and **inlite** provided confirmation that length, module, position and dimensions are all the same within expected limits, texts being shown below. As seen before the last pairs of digits "22" to "26" are sequential as are the penultimate pair "76" to "80".

JJBEA601930000797622
JJBEA601930000797723
JJBEA601930000797824
JJBEA601930000797925
JJBEA601930000798026

The frames with the same illustrations have texts that suggest they are from the same strip of five (JJBEA601930019987050 and JJBEA601930019986848). These along with the third illustrated example and plain frame confirm the unique nature of each stamp. The texts of the others being JJBEA601930008048370 and JJBEA601930000559667.

At a later date the scan of a complete 10-stamp sheet provided further confirmation of uniqueness, but the sequential nature of the end pairs is left to right, not vertical.

Left Hand Column	Right Hand Column
JJBEA601910017205170	JJBEA601910017205271
JJBEA601910017205776	JJBEA601910017205877
JJBEA601910017206382	JJBEA601910017206483
JJBEA601910017206988	JJBEA601910017207089
JJBEA601910017207594	JJBEA601910017207695

The different texts involved suggest that every stamp with a data matrix will be unique, an impossible nightmare for anyone seeking "completeness" yet alone when producing a catalogue.

These initial observations required some corroboration and scans seen on the Delcampe auction site provided an opportunity with 7 examples. Four involving personalized stamps, 3 with completed frames, including 2 with identical illustrations and a further blank frame. Also, a complete 10-stamp sheet, one of a complete stamp booklet and a single Condolences stamp.

The texts have some common features, all begin with "JJBEA" followed by 4 digits "6019" and then 11 digits, 15 digits in total. The digit immediately following "6019" appears to indicate the type of stamp and this is followed by a 10-digit number that is probably a serial number

Text on a King Philippe booklet stamps   JJBEA601900270438626
Text on a King Philippe stamp from sheets JJBEA601910036882026
Text on Condolences stamp   JJBEA601920088864124
Text on Personalized stamp   JJBEA601930000559667
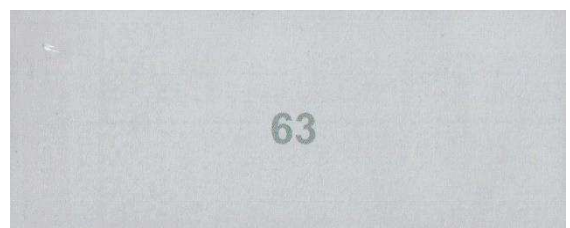
Imperforate stamp No. 63, one of those stamps normally distributed to government personnel, has been deciphered and has a slightly different style of text JJBEA 60 1800000034 CC. The first 4 numbers being "60 18" instead of "6019". Two of the characters deciphered are spaces and two Cs have been added to make 22 characters.

Data Matrix Length 22 characters, Rotation left, Module 8,9 pixels,

Rectangle	X=625 pixels or 52,92 [52,5] mm.,	Y=19 pixels or 1,61 [1,5+] mm.,	
	Width=107 pixels or 9,06 [9] mm.,	Height=320 pixels or 27,09 [27] mm.	

Unexpectedly an additional scan of a complete 10-stamp sheet offered for sale on Delcampe contradicted the previous observations with all 10 stamps on the sheet having the same deciphered text "www.bpost.be". This was true of a booklet and a single Condolences-Mourning stamp. Visually the matrices of them all are identical.

Initially there was no way of establishing whether "www.bpost.be" or the "JJBEA" and number would be the norm. Despite examining over 300 King Philippe stamps none were detected with the "www.bpost.be". It transpired that those advertised on Delcampe deciphered as "www.bpost.be" were copies from a bpost promotional leaflet and probably do not exist.

The legibility of the 300 King Philippe scanned in album pages of 28 stamps decoding with **inlite** decoder resulted in just 56% being decoded. This figure was only achieved by rotating the album page by 90 degrees and rescanning to provide 4 orientations. The data matrix of all mint stamps held and illustrations on Delcampe provided 100% decoding.

5.4   Occasional Use of Data Matrices

Very few data matrices have been seen which are not related to the Sections 5.2 to 5.3 above. An interesting example seen and illustrated below includes a "JJBEA" barcode, a subject considered in Section 10. below.

Franked postage paid bpost PB-PP │B-392 BELGIE(N)-BELGIQUE
Data Matrix Length 11 characters, Module 6,9 pixels, Text 041587BL014
      Width 112 pixels = 9,48 [9] mm.,   Height 112 pixels = 9,48 [9] mm.
Barcode Code 128 Length 23 characters, Module 3,9 pixels,
Text JJBEA129941000027940967
      Width 777 pixels = 65,79 [65] mm.,   Height 75 pixels = 6,35 [6] mm.
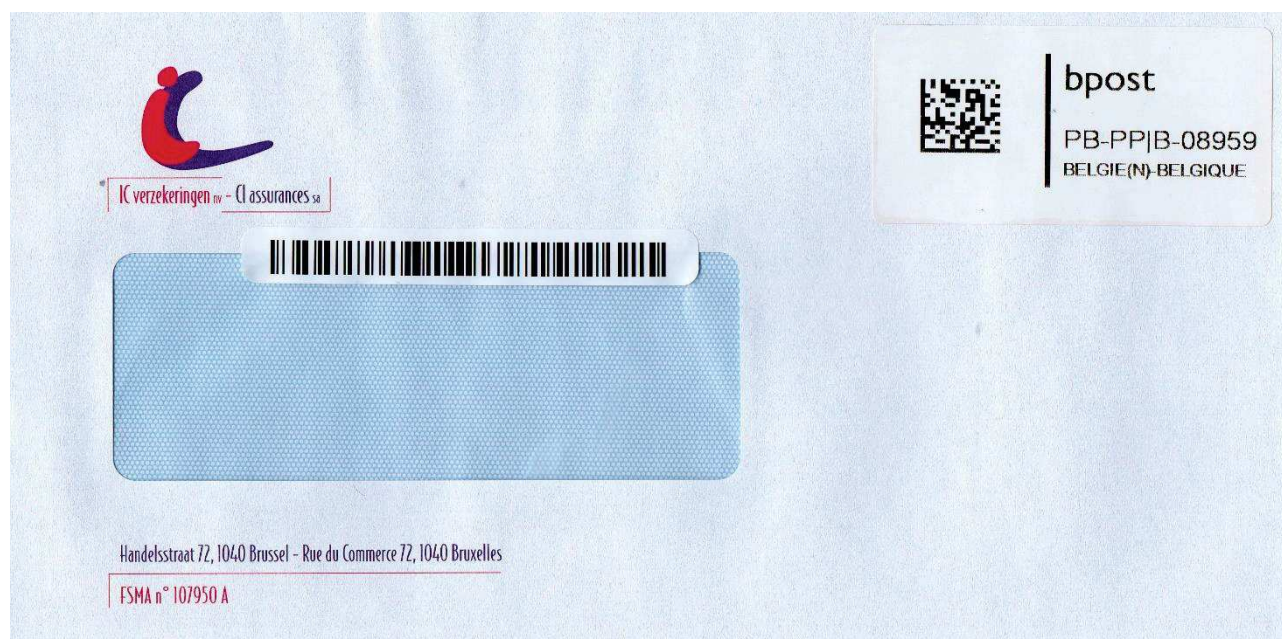
Another example shown above. The dimensions of the data matrix are smaller than usual. The envelope also has a 23-character linear barcode. This deciphers as "JJBEA" followed by an 18-digit numeric sequence. The first 8 of the 18 digits 12995568 are quite different to the normal Collect & Stamp sequence "20010099" or the first 4 digits of the 15-digit Adhesive Stamp sequence "6019". This type of barcode is addressed in Section 10.3.5.3.

The envelope illustrated above is a DL Window with a 70 x 35 mm label franked:
"Data Matrix" ▌bpost PB-PP│B-08959 BELGIE(N) – BELGIQUE
Data Matrix Length 20 characters, Module 9,6 pixels, Text BCRE9000000279536438
Rectangle   X=1888 pixels or 141,85 mm.,   Y=139 pixels or 11,77 mm.,
      Width = 164 pixels or 13,89 [14] mm.   Height = 154 pixels or 13,04 [13] mm.
80 x 10 mm label Code128 Length 23 characters, Module 4,1 pixels,
Text JJBEA129955681028451965
Rectangle   X=539 pixels or 45,64 mm.,   Y=473 pixels or 40,05 mm.,
      Width = 820 pixels or 69,43 [69] mm.   Height = 76 pixels or 6,43 [6] mm.

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6.   Quick Response or QR Code

A Quick Response is a matrix or 2-dimensional barcode that can encode four modes of data: numeric, alphanumeric, byte/binary or Kanji. There are also 40 versions of each mode. Each pasrticular version indicates the size or number of modules of a QR code. The quantity of data stored depends on the mode and version. The QR code was invented in Japan in 1994, where Kanji are the adopted Chinese characters used in the modern Japanese writing. The QR Code is normally read using a smartphone but is easily read by **inlite** or any other online decoder. The smartphone must be iOS11 or better (iPhone Operating System) or have a suitable app downloaded. The QR is likely to be a direct link to a website's Uniform Resource Locator (URL) and the smartphone may dial up to this automatically.

The format is quite distinctive, a square grid with three squares, each within a squared outline, in 3 corners of the grid. These are for location and orientation purposes in conjunction with a small square near the 4th corner. The coding is complex with extensive error correction making it less prone to poor printing than a 2-dimensional barcode.

The first example seen, shown left, was used by the private TBC-POST company in Belgium and which decoded as www.tbc-post.com. It is version 1 with 21 x 21 modules.

Another example shown below involves the use of a QR as part of the design of a commercial envelope encodes the text http://www.olko.be. This is an example of version 3 with 29 x 29 modules.

The QR on the booklet "The adventures of Tintin" see Section 4.5.3 above was the first bpost example seen. Using **inlite** it deciphers as: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n8P6fqKxwMo&feature=youtube
Instructions to scan the QR code and view the trailer are printed above the matrix in Dutch and below the matrix in French.

A tariff brochure "2013 rates for private shipments" employed a Quick Response deciphered to link to http://www.bpost.be/brochures.

The link still functions but all other brochures seen do not have this QR.

The BPACK 24h MINI box bpost 2 has a QR code on the reverse that deciphers as http://www.bpost.be/bpack.
See Section 9.4.4.2.

When magnified it is easy to count the number of vertical and horizontal modules making this a version 3 (29 x 29)

The actual barcode on the box as scanned and deciphered has a module of 7,1 pixels and the QR a width of 198 pixels. Dividing the module into 198 gives 27,89. Within the limits of the scanner and **inlite** this is close to the 29 for a version 3.

The example below is the only one of its type seen with the QR code decoding as the address of the recipient.
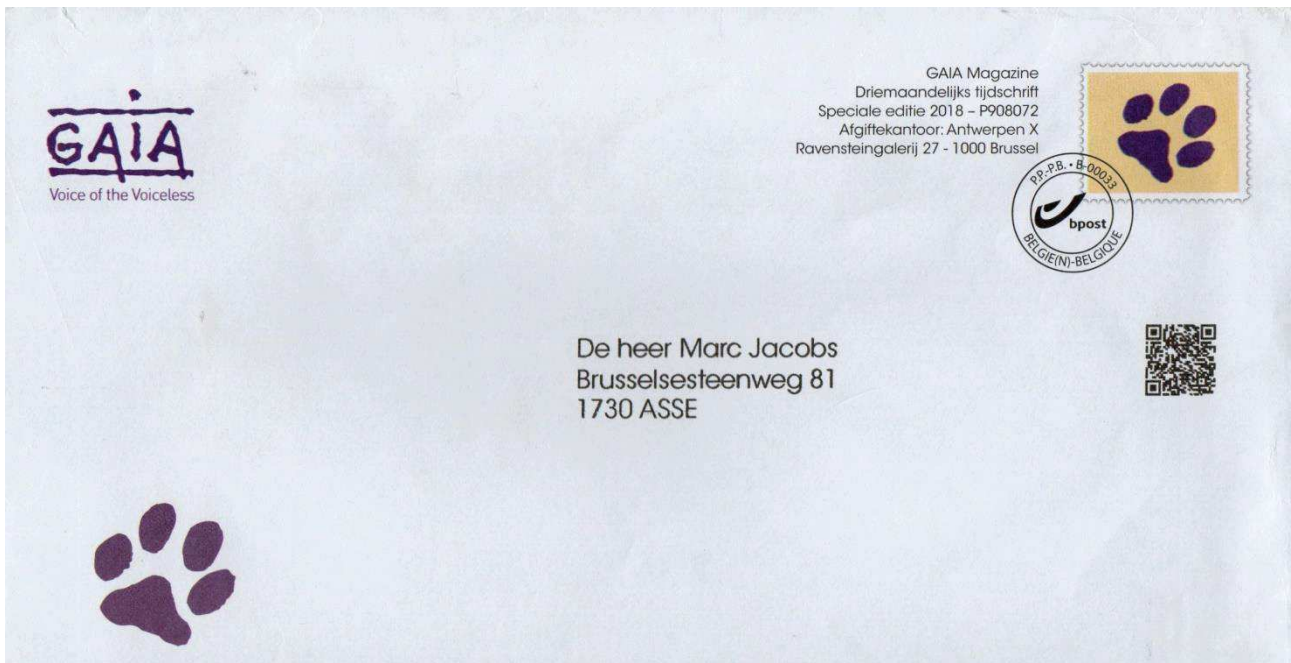
QR Length 48 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Text 33673;Marc;Jacobs;Brusselsesteenweg 81;1730;ASSE
Rectangle   X=2275 pixels or 192,62 mm.,   Y=631 pixels or 53,42 mm.,
                Width=135 pixels or 11,43 mm.,   Height=139 pixels or 11,77 mm.

6.1 QR on TBC-Post "Notice of Presentation"

The QR does not always link to a URL as demonstrated by the TBC-Post "Notice of Presentation" for a national registered item as shown below at 75% normal size.

Text MA001   Width 119 pixels or 10,08 [10] mm. Height 117 pixels or 9,91 [10] mm.
Text NON-AR   Width 90 pixels or 7,62 [8] mm.   Height 90 pixels or 7,62 [8] mm.
Barcode Code 128   Text 0105412885004526221 003 000 028 384
                   Width 827 pixels or 70,02 [70] mm. Height 83 pixels or 7,03 [7] mm.

The barcode is the registration number of the item and the last 12 digits of the number encoded are atypical "003 000 028 384". Not only atypical of bpost registration numbers of that date but also atypical of those of TBC-POST registration labels. See Section 8.13.7.2.

The reverse of the notice is a POSTAL PROXY FORM

See Appendix 1 for translations. Translations are provided in all instances by provided by googletranslate.

7.   Data Matric Types than might be encountered on postal items.

7.1   Aztec Code

The Aztec Code was invented by Andrew Longacre, Jr. and Robert Hussey in 1995 and now standardized as ISO/IEC 24778:2008. It is a 2-dimensional symbol with a bulls-eye pattern at the centre to locate the code. This looks like an Aztec Pyramid hence the name. The data is encoded in squares forming a sequence of square rings around the bulls-eye. Orientation marks at the corners of the central area allow the code to be read if rotated in any direction. The size of the Aztec Code depends on the amount of data contained within the code. Unlike most codes there is no quiet zone. The barcode is popular because it can still be decoded even when damaged or poorly printed. It can encode all 127 ASCII characters. It has not been found on bpost items but is commonly used by package transport companies such as the example below.

The Aztec label was unreadable using on-line readers.
Linear barcode Code 128 Length 28 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Rectangle on label: X=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.,   Y=1495 pixels or 126,58 mm.,
                     Width=1070 pixels or 90,59 mm.,   Height=292 pixels or 24,72 mm.
The text deciphered "%PE219QA05325001841688327826" is not exactly the same as that of the human readable text below the barcode: PE21 9QA 0532 5001 8416 88 327 826 J.

7.2 PDF417 Code

Wikipedia states that a PDF417 is a stacked linear barcode format. "PDF" stands for Portable Data File. The "417" signifies that each pattern in the code consists of 4 bars and spaces in a pattern that is 17 units (modules) long. The PDF417 symbology was invented by Ynjiun P. Wang at Symbol Technologies in 1991. (Wang 1993) It is defined in ISO standard 15438. Simplistically the PDF417 symbol might be envisaged as a pile or stack of linear 2-dimensional barcodes.

Start Pattern	Left Row Indicator	Data Codewords	Right Row Indicator	Stop Pattern
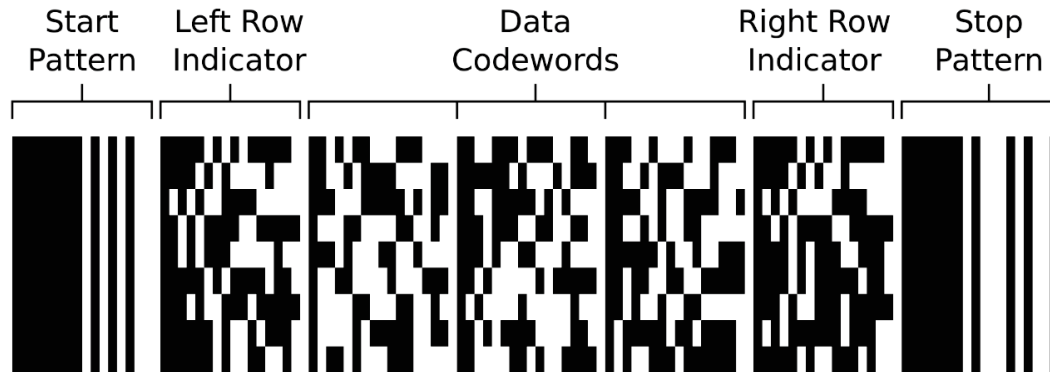
DHL Parcel from Netherlands to Asse Belgium
Date: 2018-05-18

PDF417 Length 318 characters,
Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle   X=130 pixels or 11.01 mm.,
            Y=1364 pixels or 115.49 mm.,
            Width=605 pixels or 51,22 mm.,
            Height=290 pixels or 24,55 mm.

Text:
UNH+87287410150561+IFTMIN:D:96B:UN+DHL 3.1.1/SPS5.3'BGM+787+DH2181973+9'DTM+ 186:20180518:102'TSR+++01'TOD+Z02++CPT :::39'NAD+OS+05872874'NAD+CN+++ ANN BOGAERT GREENHOUSE: ANN BOGAERT GREENHOUSE+ WEVERSSTRAAT 22+ASSE++1730+ BE'CTA+GR'COM+0477284360:TE'GID +0+1'MEA+WT++KGM:1'PCI+ZZ1+ JVGL0587287410150561'UNT+13+ 87287410150561'

Human readable text as seen on the label and coded in the matrix is highlighted.

Contact 0477284360
Customer Nr : 05872874
Bottom barcode J VGL 0587287410150561

Middle Barcode Code 128, Length 17 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Rectangle   X=110 pixels or 9,31 mm.,   Y=1707 pixels or 144,53 mm.,
            Width=836 pixels or 70,78 mm.,   Height=323 pixels or 27,35 mm.
Text: 2LBE1730+04000000
Bottom Barcode Code 128, Length 20 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Rectangle   X=94 pixels or 7,96 mm.,   Y=2079 pixels or 176,02 mm.,
            Width=787 pixels or 66,63 mm.,   Height=324 pixels or 27,43 mm.
Text: JVGL0587287410150561

As with the Aztec code the PDF417 code has not been found on bpost items. It is commonly used by package transport companies such as the example above and will be familiar to those travelling by air as it is common on boarding passes.

8. Registration Labels

At present there is no generally accepted format for highlighting the fact that a particular item of internal country mail is registered. However, most postal administrations are increasingly employing a barcoded label. Following the establishment of the independent Kingdom of Belgium in 1830, a "recommandé" or "chargée" handstamp was employed for this purpose. (These terms were initially interchangeable, implying the item was recommended or entrusted to the postal service.) In 1865 a gummed label was introduced in Vienna to signify registration and this practice soon spread. On internal mail this practice was by no means universally applied even into the 21st century. Towards the end of the 20th century barcoded labels began to appear. Of course, these early gummed labels were employed on international mail and the 1880 Universal Postal Union (UPU) conference in Paris attempted to standardise them. The conference agreed that an adhesive label with an "R" in red on a white background with black lettering would be employed on international mail. As the Paris conference was not a Congress this directive was not widely employed. However, in Belgium on 1st August 1882, resulting from a Service Order dated 24th July 1882, internal registered mail required the application a broadly conforming label with the text all in red. A subsequent Service Order of 8th July 1892 mandated the identification of the town within the label. This was generally achieved using a handstamp.

Thereafter up to the end of the century a red rectangle containing an "R" label numbered from 1 to 1000 of the type shown above, plus the cancellation was considered enough to uniquely identify a registered item. In fact, the application of a separate CDS to the envelope was, and still apparently is, a requirement. Presumably this ensured the cancellation was not obscured by the stamp design.

From the onset of registered mail, a receipt on printed pro-forma, was provided to the sender. In the post-World War II period the receipt was formalised as a form "201". These forms were printed single-sided monolingual or bilingual with Dutch on one side and French on the other. In 1992, the title of the Belgian postal service "Régie Des Postes/Regie Der Posterijen" was changed to "La Poste" (in Dutch "De Post" and in German "Die Post"). The change of name prompted a radical modification in the form 201 although previous forms continued to be used until the end of the century. It was these labels that provided a clue to the use of barcoded labels for overseas mail before an example of such mail was seen.

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8.1 <u>Barcode Registration Labels for Overseas Mail.</u>

8.1.1 <u>Regulations for Registered Overseas Mail.</u>

The regulations for mail sent from one country to another are currently governed by the UPU Letter Post Manual and the earliest issue available to the author is dated Berne 2001. This replaced the Manual of the Universal Postal Convention published after the 21st Congress at Seoul, South Korea in 1994. The 2001 issue included changes made at the 1999 Congress in Beijing and subsequent Postal Operations Council meetings in 1999 and 2000. It makes provision for the continued use of Label CN 04 for registered mail as shown below permitting alternatives of size 37 x 13 mm, with capital R in red, or black if the regulations of the designated operator of origin allow. An alternative barcoded Label CN 04 was permitted as shown below or an alternative of size 74 x 26 mm, with capital R and line under serial number in red or black, if the regulations of the designated operator of origin allow. Similar labels CN 05 for Recorded Delivery and CN 06 for Insured Items were included.

UPU Letter Post Regulations Final Protocol 2009, Article RL 132 Registered items, requires postal authorities to apply a barcoded CN 04 label on all outward registered items from 1st January 2008. The CN 04 label must have a unique item identifier conforming to the specification of 13-character identifiers in UPU Standard S10.

8.1.1.1 <u>UPU Standard S10</u>

As initially introduced the UPU S10 standard defines a system for assigning 13-character identifiers to items for the purpose of tracking and tracing them during shipping. The identifiers consist of a 2-letter service indicator code, an 8-digit number, a check-digit, or an "X" where a check digit is not employed, and a two-letter ISO country code, the latter identifying the issuing postal administration. An S10 identifier must have a human-readable component and a barcode component. For the barcoded element either Code 128 symbology, defined in ISO/IEC 15417, or Code 39 symbology, defined in ISO/IEC 16388 is acceptable. Of the two, Code 128 is preferred. The service indicator codes relevant to this study are AA to AY Recorded Delivery, CA to CY Parcel Post, EA to EZ EMS, LA to LY Express/Exprès, RA to RY Registered, but not insured and VA to VY Insured (Valeur Déclarée). As to the 8-digit number, this should not be repeated within a 12-month period but a period 24 months or longer is recommended. The International Organisation for Standardization ISO Code 3166-1 alpha-2 is "BE" for Belgium.

8.1.1.2 <u>Check Digit</u>

The check digit has nothing to do with the barcode symbology employed. Code 128 employs a weighted modulo-103 algorithm to calculate the check digit which is not printed as part of the human readable representation of the data encoded. Code 39 does not employ a check digit. The UPU S10 standard requirement for a check digit relates solely to the numeric element. The check digit is calculated from the first 8 digits using a weighted module 11 algorithm.

In the current version of the standard a check digit is mandatory. I have not seen a Belgium label with the "X" replacing a number. The check digit is a single number, the ninth in the sequence calculated from the first 8 digits in accordance with an algorithm, effectively an

algebraic equation, as shown below. Each digit in the serial number is weighted, that is multiplied, by the factors 8 6 4 2 3 5 9 7 (i.e. multiply the first digit by 8; the second by 6; the third by 4 and so on down to multiplying the last by 7). The weighted values are summed, added together, and the total divided by 11 and the remainder recorded. The remainder is subtracted from 11 and, if the result is between 1 to 9, the result is used as the check digit. If the result is 10, 0 is used as the check digit and if the result is 11, 5 is used as the check digit.

8.1.1.3   Check Digit Example

Number	3	6	6	3	1	8	8	1	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7	
Product	24	36	24	6	3	40	72	7	212

The sum, 212, divided by 11 = 19 remainder 3:
11 – 3 = 8 the check number is 8 hence this number conforms to UPU Standard 10.

8.1.2 Belgian Barcoded 74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels for Overseas Mail.

WICHELEN 1 RR 811 00362 8 BE   RR 60002390 7 BE

Form 201   Afgiftebewijs van een aangetekende zending
              Récépissé de dépôt d'un envoi recommandé
              `Proof of receipt of a registered sending

        Receipt forms 201 were the first examples seen with the application of a registration label. The registration label on the left form complied with the long-standing requirement for the inclusion of the town name but the more recent usage on the right did not. More significantly, both numbers being of 9 digits, the number was more likely to be unique as it exceeded the previous use of 3-digit numbers up to 1000. Prior to the investigation of UPU regulations current at the time the blank space below the underlined text was puzzling.

Once examples on posted items, such as that shown below at 75% actual size, became available the puzzle was solved. Clearly the 74 mm. wide by 26 mm. high registration labels were printed in pairs. The label with the barcode being applied to the item and the label without a barcode being fixed to the form 201.
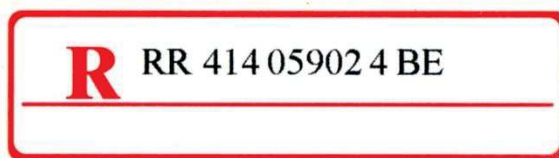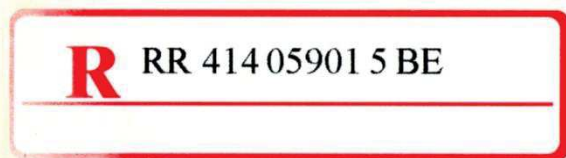
Having established that the registration labels were printed in pairs, examples were found as shown above. The texts were confirmed as meeting UPU Standard 10 by employing the online check digit validation tool provided on the UPU website. The barcodes were decoded and it was confirmed that the text encoded matched that printed.
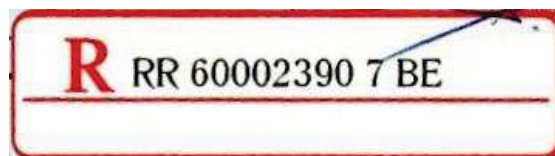
The same tool was used to check the registration numbers on the form 201 labels shown above. That on the left form, RR 811 00362 8 BE, complied with Standard 10 but that on the right form, RR 60002390 7 BE, did not. Visually the two labels are different. That on the left form has the "R" and the remainder of the text in a smaller font than that on the right form. The fonts of the two versions of "RR" are also different as is the layout of the human readable numbers 811 00362 8 being a sequence of 3, then 5 digits and finally the check digit (3-5-1). With 60002390 7 there is a block of 8 digits and then the check digit (8-1).

The fonts and layouts shown on the WICHELEN 1 label are the same on all the 20+ barcode labels seen with the post office name printed above as shown on the examples below. This was also true with a smaller number of the corresponding labels without barcodes.
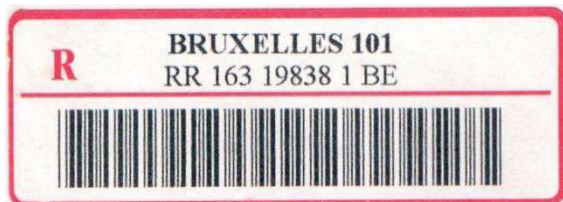
The left label reads BRUXELLES 101 **R** RR 163 19838 1 BE "Barcode"
Barcode is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 3,1 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 81 pixels or 6,86 mm.,   Y = 152 pixels or 12,87 mm.'
                Width = 691 pixels or 58,50 mm.,   Height = 126 pixels or 10,69 mm.
The item was cancelled by a BRUSSEL CITY 2 – BRUXELLES CITY 2 C **05.11.99-18** 1800
Single-ring.
The right label reads KNOKKE-HEIST 1 **R** RR 430 04011 0 BE "Barcode"
Barcode is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,9 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 95 pixels or 8,04 mm.,   Y = 148 pixels or 12,55 mm.,
                Width = 690 pixels or 58,42 [58] mm.,   Height = 125 pixels or 10,58 [10] mm.

As shown above, the fonts and layouts are the same on the corresponding labels without barcodes albeit only a small number are held. All are Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool.

8.1.2.1   Use in Belgium of barcoded registration labels for overseas mail.
                    74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels Not Compliant with UPU Standard 10.
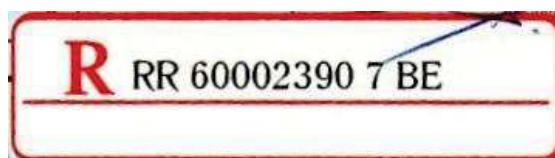
The "RR" of the RR 60002390 7 BE registration label on the right form 201 shown above is quite distinctive with a curved right leg of the "R" extending below the bottom of the left leg, technically known as a descender. The left leg has a serif. Of the 22 barcoded examples held with the curved right leg of the "R" that have been deciphered all but two, had check digits that did not comply with Standard 10. These two examples are shown below.

R RR 07100368 5 BE, not compliant with Standard 10.

Number	0	7	1	0	0	3	6	8	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7	
Product	0	42	4	0	0	15	54	56	171

The sum, 171, divided by 11 = 15 remainder 6:
11 – 6 = 5 the check number is 5 hence this number conforms to UPU Standard 10.

R RR 13312340 2 BE, Compliant with Standard 10 Barcode, Module 3,6 pixels,
Rectangle   X=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.,   Y=149 pixels or 12,62 mm.,
                Width=726 pixels or 61,47 mm.,   Height=117 pixels or 9,91 mm.
Cancelled **29-11 1999** BRUSSEL 1 Oval pictorial.

Number	1	3	3	1	2	3	4	0	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7	
Product	8	18	12	2	6	15	36	0	97

The sum, 171, divided by 11 = 8 remainder 9:
11 – 9 = 2 the check number is 2 hence this number conforms to UPU Standard 10.

8.1.2.2   Introduction and Usage of early 74 by 26 mm. Registration Labels.

        Usage of the labels with the inclusion of the town name clearly predate the noncompliant ones. The earliest usage seen being 1996 but earlier usage is possible. The earliest usage seen of the noncompliant form is 1998 but both types were used into the 21st century. The noncompliant example on the right, **R** RR 70701847 6 BE, was used on 15th March 2010. The 8-digit serial number suggests that 100 million were produced of each printing. The highest number seen of the noncompliant form being **R** RR 92002628 5 BE used on 1st March 2007.
        The two formats of the digits in the human readable element of the label, 3-5-1 and 8-1 were quickly expanded to four. This was further complicated by the use of "RA" and "RF" instead of "RR". These letter combinations are quite acceptable under the UPU Standard.

8.1.2.3   74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels Human Readable Format 9-digit No Spaces

        Only 7 examples of this format are held, 6 employing "RA" and one "RR". There appears to be two formats for the "RA" version. Both the human readable text and the barcode are visually slightly lower in the first example, shown below, than with the second. The different barcode positions being confirmed by the "Y" dimension being the distance from the top border to the top of the barcode as measured by **inlite**. The "RR" example has positioning similar to the lower example. Visually the font is the same in all examples and the date used does not show any pattern. All have a valid check digit using the UPU S10 check digit validation tool and the barcodes are Code 39 with a length of 13 characters.

R RA911018673BE "Barcode" Module 3,8 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 49 pixels or 4,15 [4] mm.,   Y = 160 pixels or 13,55 [13] mm., mm.
                Width = 783 pixels or 66,29 [66] mm.,   Height = 117 pixels or 9,91 [10] mm.
Cancelled DEURNE 5 (ANTW.) D **29.10.16-09** Single-ring to UK.

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R RA927682143BE "Barcode" Module 3,5 pixels,

Rectangle   X = 45 pixels or 3,81 mm.   Y = 151 pixels or 12,78 mm.
                 Width = 784 pixels or 66,38 mm.   Height = 121 pixels or 10,24 mm.
Cancelled 9100 PP ALMA SINT-NIKLAAS POSTPUNT **31.3.2014** Single-ring to UK.

R RR366318818BE "Barcode" Module 3,5 pixels,

Rectangle   X = 43 pixels or 3,56 mm.   Y = 162 pixels or 13,72 mm.
                 Width = 783 or 66,29 mm.   Height 120 pixels or 10,16 mm.
Cancelled HEVERLEE A **14.11.12-10** 3001 Single-ring to UK.

5.1.2.4   <u>74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels</u>
                 <u>Human Readable Format 8-digit with separated Check Digit.</u>

Invalid check digit by UPU S10 check digit validation tool.
R RR 88839081 4 BE "Barcode" Module 3,6 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 74 pixels or 6,27 mm.   Y = 148 pixels or 12,55 mm.
                 Width = 728 pixels or 61,64 mm.   Height = 118 pixels or 10 mm.
Cancelled MERKSEM 4 B **02.11.05-09** 2170 Single-ring to UK.

R RR 47327400 1 BE, Compliant with Standard 10 Barcode, Module 3,6 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 83 pixels or 7,03 mm.,   Y = 161 pixels or 13,63 mm.,
                 Width 728 pixels or 61,64 [61] mm.,   Height 120 pixels or 10,16 [10] mm.
Cancelled LEUVEN 1 **07.12.06-10** 3000 Single-ring to UK.

R RA 04004319 9 BE, Compliant with Standard 10 Barcode, Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 81 pixels or 6,86 mm.,   Y = 158 pixels or 13,38 mm.,
          Width 728 pixels or 61,64 [61] mm.,   Height 119 pixels or 10,08 [10] mm.
Cancelled ST KRUIS D **04.09.08-13** 8310 Single-ring to Russia.

The first two labels shown above with the distinctive "RR" are discussed earlier with 20 examples being noncompliant with Standard 10 and 2 examples compliant. Fifteen examples have been seen with both legs of the "RR" having serifs and two with "RA". The font is larger with the distinctive "RR" and all with "RR" have the font closer to the horizontal line. Visually the barcode is slightly lower in the "RA" examples but only by 3 pixels or 0,254 millimetres.

8.1.2.5   <u>74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels</u>
               <u>Human Readable Format 3 & 5 digits with separated Check Digit.</u>

KNOKKE-HEIST 1 R RR 430 04011 0 BE, Standard 10 Compliant Barcode, Module 2,9 pixels
Rectangle   X = 95 pixels or 8,04 mm.,   Y = 148 pixels or 12,55 mm.,
          Width = 690 pixels or 58,42 [58] mm.   Height = 125 pixels or 10,58 [10] mm.

KRAAINEM R RR 442 01793 5 BE, Standard 10 Compliant Barcode, Module 2,9 pixels
Rectangle   X = 95 pixels or 8,04 mm.,   Y = 148 pixels or 12,55 mm.,
          Width = 690 pixels or 58,42 [58] mm.,   Height = 125 pixels or 10,58 [10] mm.
KRAAINEM B 1 **-6.-2.97-10** 1 1950 Single-ring to France.

R RR 694 07719 7 BE, Standard 10 Compliant Barcode, Module 3,8 pixels
Rectangle   X = 52 pixels or4,40 mm.,   Y = 153 pixels or 12,94 mm.,
          Width 787 pixels or 66,63 [66] mm.,   Height 122 pixels or 10,33 [10] mm.
Cancelled LOKEREN 1 B **04.09.12-10** 9160 Single-ring to Croatia.

8.1.2.5.1   JURBISE Sequential Group

A group of forms 201 PoD int. was acquired all cancelled at JURBISE with the serial numbers and dates used listed below.

414 00308	30.09.05-19	414 01016	03.01.06-10	414 01116	20.04.06-09
414 01207	17.07.06-10	414 01311	18.08.06-10	414 01454	04.01.07-10
414 02167	31.10.08-10	414 02168	09.10.08-10	414 02169	09.10.08-10
414 02170	09.10.08-10	414 02171	09.10.08-10	414 02303	22.01.09-10
414 02575	17.07.06-10	414 02711	03.12.07-10	414 02852	10.01.08-10

A clerical error provided a series of four consecutive numbers with the same date of use. Barcoded registration labels were mistakenly applied to receipt forms 201 PoD Int. and subsequently replaced with the labels without barcodes. Hidden number RR 41402169 5 BE replaced by RR 414 02171 8 BE and RR 41402168 1 BE replaced by RR 414 02170 4 BE. The forms are shown below at 75% actual size with the sender's name obliterated. The forms have different printing numbers and dates and slightly different heading formats. These forms were bilingual with French on one side and Dutch on the other. Subsequently a new format 201PoD.INT was introduced that is trilingual.

8.1.2.6   74 x 26 mm. Registration Labels Human Readable Format 3 x 3 digits

All 16 examples seen have a "RF" 2-letter service indicator code, Code 39 barcodes and are compliant with Standard 10.

R RF 025 539 670 BE, Barcode, Module 2,9 pixels
Rectangle   X = 91 pixels or 7,70 mm.,   Y = 156 pixels or 13,21 mm.
              Width = 715 pixels or 60,54 mm.,   Height = 121 pixels or 10,24 mm.
Invoice inside dated 05.08.2016 arrived UK 09.08.2016.

R RF 071 176 703 BE, Barcode, Module 2,9 pixels

Rectangle   X = 91 pixels or 7,70 mm.,   Y = 156 pixels or 13,21 mm.,

               Width = 715 pixels or 60,54 [60+] mm.,   Height = 121 pixels or 10,24 [10] mm.

Arrived in Nicaragua on 18th June 2019

8.1.3   99 x 45 mm Registration Label

Recently a new form of label has been detected on Postage Paid mail as "bpost PB-PP │B-00368 BELGIE(N) – BELGIQUE", international mail. All are on **Proximus** window DL envelopes. Previously known as Belgacom, Proximus is a supplier of telecommunications to the Belgian market and is part owned by the Belgian state. Only three examples have been seen all associated with overseas receiving labels being undelivered and returned to sender.

DL Window franked **bpost** PB-PP │B-00368 BELGIE(N)-BELGIQUE cancelled

Data Matrix c **24/02/2016** A PRIOR o o o ✈ BELGIQUE│BELGIE ✔bpost Collect & Stamp.

Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 10,0 pixels, Text JJBEA200100995859040718

Rectangle   X=13 pixels or 1,10 mm.,   Y=37 pixels or 3,13 mm.,

               Width=211 pixels or 17.86 [17] mm.,   Height=203 pixels or 17,19 [17] mm.

99 x 45 mm barcoded registration label Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,8 pixels, Text RF031170910BE,

Rectangle   X=229 pixels or 19.39 mm.,   Y=274 pixels or 23,2 mm.,

               Width=705 pixels or 59,69 [59] mm.,   Height=233 pixels or 19,73 [18+] mm.

The Dutch 59 x 23 mm registration label was identified as Code 128.

The text "3SRIMU6883915" clearly does not comply with Standard 10.

The envelope has a hidden 74 x 26 mm. registration label with text R RF 031 170 910 BE, the same as that on the barcoded label although with a different format.

A second example sent to France has a French LA-POSTE data matrix return to sender label.
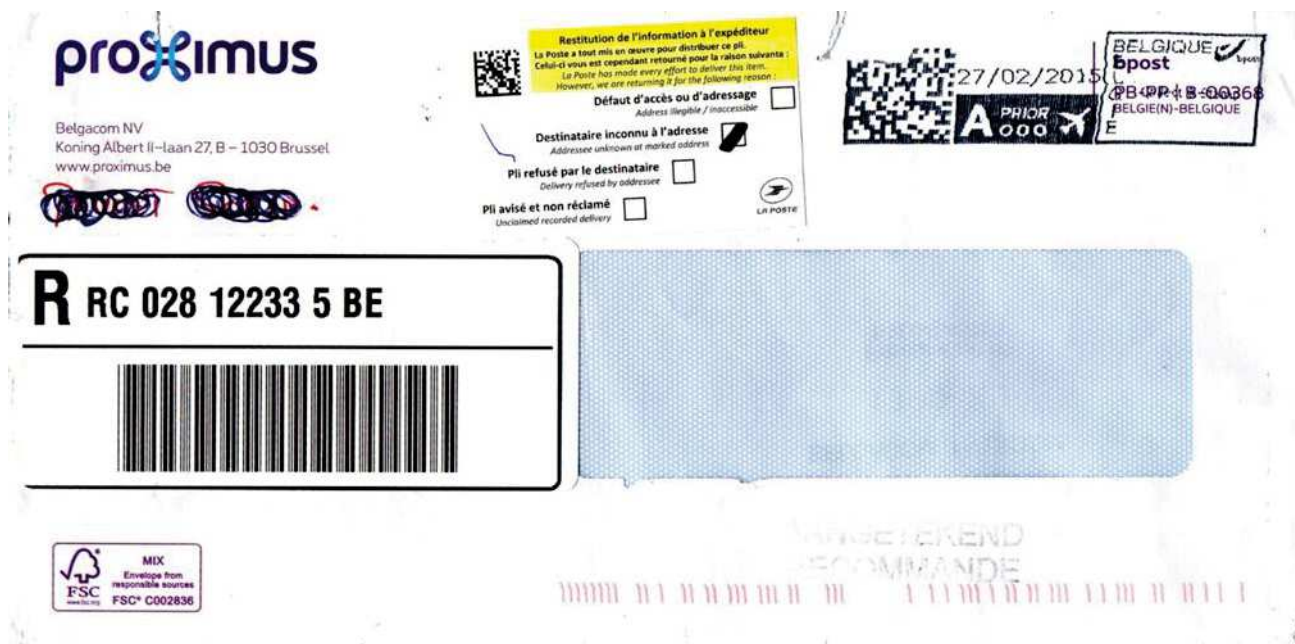
DL Window franked **bpost** PB-PP │B-00368 BELGIE(N)-BELGIQUE cancelled
Data Matrix **27/02/2015** A PRIOR o o o ✈ BELGIQUE│BELGIE ✇bpost Collect & Stamp.
It has a 99 x 45 mm barcoded registration label.
Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,8 pixels, Text RC 028 12233 5 BE,
Rectangle   X=226 pixels or 19.13 [19] mm.,   Y=737 pixels or 62,4 [63] mm.,
                    Width=708 pixels or 59,94 [59,5] mm.,   Height=226 pixels oe 19.13 [19] mm.
The registration label and barcode dimensions are the same as the other two shown above.

The data matrix on the French "Return to Sender" label reads RFX V2
It has Length 6 characters and a Module 5,9 pixels,
Rectangle   X=9 pixels or 0,76 mm.,   Y=38 pixels or 3,22 mm.,
                    Width=97 pixels or 8,21 mm.,   Height=95 pixels or 8,04 mm.
Dividing the dimension in pixels with the module gives 16 x 16 modules that is smaller than the smallest, 21 x 21 module version 1, QR code. Hence it is a micro QR or iQR Code developed by Denso Wave products.

The Dutch 59 x 23 mm registration label was identified as Code 128.

The Dutch text "3SCAGT0089684" clearly does not comply with Standard 10.

The envelope has a 74 x 26 mm Belgium registration label hidden by two labels such that it cannot be read.

A similar type of barcoded label has been seen on internal registered Proximus mail. See Section 8.13.8. In the internal example there is also a hidden 74 x 26 mm Belgium registration label with the same text as the "Proximus" label. If this were not the case duplication of serial numbers would be possible.

8.1.4   International Registration Marks Printed on Postage Paid label

Five examples are held, and two others seen of this 101 x 152 mm. printed Postage Paid label with an integral 73,50 x 25 mm. registration "label" The barcode and human readable elements of all the labels are much the same as on the labels used on ordinary overseas mail. All barcodes were confirmed as Standard 10 by employing the UPU online check digit validation tool. As all examples were associated with the sender's name E-PHILA, they probably all relate to the bpost e-shop for philatelic purchases. See Section 9.4.7.

There are 3 labels held to this addressse in Spain.
As with all other labels seen they are franked:
  bpost
  PB-PP │ BPI-09574
  BELGIE(N) - BELGIQUE

Belgian barcode Code 128 Length 13, Module 4,6 pixels, Text RG007916043BE
Rectangle   X=246 pixels or 20,83 mm.,
              Y=685 pixels or 58 mm.,
              Width=721 pixels or 61,04 mm.,
              Height=91 pixels or 7,70 mm.

Spanish barcode Code 128 Length 13, Module 5,0 pixels, Text RG007916043BE
Rectangle   X=229 pixels or 19.39 mm.,
              Y=1159 pixels or 98,13 mm.,
              Width=781 pixels or 66,12 mm.,
              Height=314 pixels or 26,59 mm.

Dated 01-07-2020

Left barcode Code 128 Length 13, Module 4,6 pixels, Text RG004778095BE
Rectangle   X=240 pixels or 20,32 mm.,   Y=676 pixels or 57,23 mm.,
              Width=722 pixels or 60,96 mm.,   Height=91 pixels or 7,70 mm.

Right barcode Code 128 Length 13, Module 4,6 pixels, Text RG005044290BE
Rectangle   X=241 pixels or 20,41 mm.,   Y=665 pixels or 56,30 mm.,
              Width=723 pixels or 61,21 mm.,   Height=95 pixels or 8,04 mm

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8.2 Barcode Declared value Labels for Overseas Mail.
Valeur Déclarée/Aangegeven waarde/Deklarierter wert

Only a single example has been seen. The label is the same as those for registration labels being of dimensions 74 x 26 mm. A 7 mm high "V" replaces the "R" and the human readable text is 3 mm high with "VB" replacing the registration equivalent. The service indicator codes "VA" to "VY" being permitted under Standard 10. The decoder deciphers the barcode as Code 39, Length 13 characters, Module 2,9 pixels.

Text VB018003435BE.
Rectangle
X = 67 pixels = 5,67 mm.,
Y = 150 pixels = 12,7 mm.,
Width 747 pixels = 63,25 [63] mm.,
Height 123 pixels = 10,4 [10,5] mm.

8.3 Use of Belgian Registration Labels on Incoming Mail

An unreferenced UPU requirement introduced when barcoded labels were first employed, made the fixing of a local, barcoded, registration label on incoming mail that was already identified by a barcoded, registration label placed by the country of origin. This was only applicable when barcoded labels were available in the receiving country. As reported in Section 8 above, Belgium introduced the practice of applying a Belgian registration label to incoming registered mail from 1st August 1882. From their introduction the 74 x 26 mm barcoded labels were used for this purpose. After the introduction of internal barcoded labels in May 2001 these have been more commonly applied.

Examples on incoming mail with registration labels appropriate to the country of origin at the time of posting are shown below.
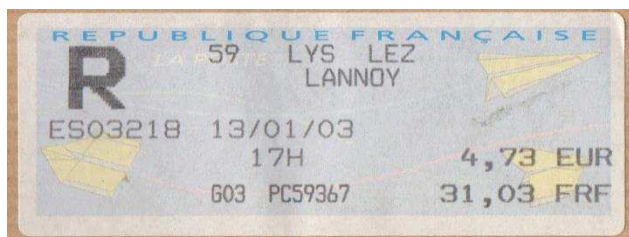
Registered C5 envelope franked: **REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE**
R 59 LYS LEZ LANNOY ES03218 **13/01/03 17** H 4,73 EUR GO3 PC59367 31,03 FRF
Belgian receiving registration label Barcode Code 39 Length 13, Module 3,1 pixels,
Text HUY 1 R RR 386 02486 6 BE
Rectangle   X=88 pixels or 7,45 mm.,   Y=147 pixels or 12,45 mm.,
              Width 693 pixels = 58,67 [58,5] mm.,   Height 121 pixels = 10,24 [10] mm.

Registered envelope franked with Polish adhesives cancelled 09110515
58-350 R Mieroszów 06672 Polish registration label
Belgian receiving registration label
Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 3,3 pixels, Text RR 139 66562 2 BE,
Rectangle   X=36 pixels or 3,05 mm.,   Y=155 pixels or 13,12 mm.,
                    Width = 784 pixels or 66,38 mm.   Height = 123 pixels or 10,41 mm.

        No examples involving incoming barcoded mail have been seen but almost certainly they exist. Below is an example of an outgoing registered letter that has a Royal Mail barcoded label fixed to the back of the envelope.

Both barcodes meet the UPU Standard 10. Text RR 142 04936 0 BE
The Belgian label is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,9 pixels,
Rectangle   X=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.,   Y=140 pixels or 11,85 mm.,
Width 695 pixels or 58,84 [58,5] mm.,   Height 122 pixels or 10,33 [10+] mm.

The Royal Mail label is Code 128 Length 13 characters, Module 4,0 pixels,
Text IR 4737 2054 8GB,

Rectangle   X=169 pixels or 14,31 mm.,   Y=344 pixels or 29,13 mm.,
               Width 626 pixels or 53,00 [52,5] mm.,   Height 96 pixels or 8,13 [8] mm.

8.4   Use of both barcoded and non-barcoded labels on outgoing mail

It did happen occasionally. Either the clerk was unsure of the new barcoded registration system or was just using up superseded registration labels. The example shown below is a Registered BELGACOM DL Window franked ✉️ BELGIE- BELGIQUE │P.B.-P.P. │B/368 and cancelled BRUSSEL X BRUXELLES **2? 0801 20** ✉️ Truncated barred machine double-ring to OOSTROZEBEKE? The OOSTROZEBEKE E **28.08.01-12** 8780. The Single-ring cancellation on the reverse confirms this destination. There was a failed delivery attempt on 28/8, indicated by the blue on white "Afwezig de …/Absent le …" label. Subsequently the item was returned to sender for the reason indicated on the label for the reason Niet afgehaald i.e. Not collected or claimed. The envelope has a standard pre-barcode 40 mm x 17 mm rectangular registration label. This has a 36½ mm x 13½ mm "box", 8 mm "R", 4+ mm "359", 1½ mm "BRUXELLES X BRUSSEL X" text and roulette perforation. The front has a 77 (Max 83) x 65,50 mm. detachable label from a Form 201 PoD see Section 8.7 below.

The remainder of the label, shown above, is on the reverse of the envelope. The label is of the Dutch monolingual type. See Section 8.7.2 below. The barcodes are Code UCC-128 with a length of Length 30 characters and a Module of 2,8 pixels,

Top	X=129 pixels or 10,92 mm.,	Y=439 pixels or 37,17 mm.,	
	Width=599 pixels or 50,72 mm.,	Height=103 pixels or 8,72 mm. and	
Bottom	X=129 pixels or 10,92 mm.,	Y=662 pixels or 56,05 mm.,	
	Width=598 pixels or 50,63mm.,	Height=101 pixels or 8,55 mm.	

Text 0105412885004526 **21400001864375**.

Dated 17-10 1998 the second example shown below is probably philatelic or contrived. The non-barcoded 41 x 17½ mm registration label has a 37 x 14 mm rectangle, a 3½ mm serial number "248" and an 8 mm "R". The label is perforated 13½ with the town name CHARLEROI overprinted with "Philabourse '98" in a manuscript style.

The Standard 10 barcode Code 39 has Length 13 characters, Module 3,1 pixels and Text RR177016234BE.

Rectangle	X=83 pixels or 7,03 mm.,	Y=150 pixels or 12,7 mm.,	
	Width=696 pixels or 58,93 mm.,	Height=121 pixels or 10,24 mm.	

A German receiving Einwurf-Einschreiben barcoded registration label is fixed to the reverse of the envelope. The 76 x 40 mm label is numbered R 02 8537 6968 4 DE label with a 14 mm. detachable element. In examples seen with the same label number, GK 912-668-00, illustrated right, the detachable element is a Code 39 barcoded label with the same number as the human readable one. Presumably the missing barcoded label was fixed on some internal German paperwork.

8.5   Barcode Registration Labels for Domestic (Inland) Mail.

On 17th July 2000, De Post-La Poste undertook an experimental, pilot project to investigate the use of barcoded labels for registered domestic mail. The experiment was centred on the main post office in Waver, the capital of the Brabant province. A new receipt form, titled 201 PoD, was introduced composed of two parts each including the same barcode. The top part was to be completed and then stamped with the post office CDS as proof of acceptance into the postal system. It seems the PoD stands for Proof of Delivery. The bottom part included a self-adhesive barcoded label to be fixed on the envelope to the left of the recipient's address.

It was reported that a restricted use form 201 PoD was employed from a limited number of post offices in the Brabant area with postcodes 1300 to 1390. The form included the letters "RE" in a red box, the same "RE" in a red box as that found on the barcoded label. Reportedly these forms were returned to the post office after the trial, and I have never seen one. I have however seen illustrations of these barcoded labels in correspondence reportedly from Alex Gorez in reply to Reference 1. Those labels seen have 17-character human readable serial numbers RE 013700 0000498 13, RE 012000 0376637 83 and RE 013002 0000793 17 and were turned into barcodes, being encoded, using the Code 128 symbology. This was confirmed by comparing one of the barcodes on the "RE 013002 0000793 17" label with an internet generated barcode with the same human readable text as shown below.

Barcode on label

Internet generated barcode
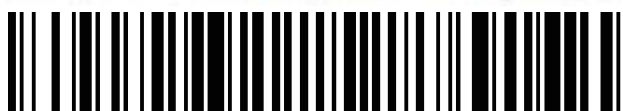
RE013002000079317

Original La Poste/De Post publications explained that the new procedure for Registered Mail would allow searches to run automatically from issue to delivery (track and trace). Information Technology based monitoring guarantees more efficient management of shipments and requests for information. The data related to the shipments such as identification number (via the barcode) and recipient addresses will be stored on a central server together with time slots and places of handling. This will allow following the progress of the item to run automatically from issue to delivery (track and trace). Considered a success the system was expanded progressively over the next two years to all post offices in Belgium. Different forms 201 PoD were introduced that employed 30-character serial number with different styles of bottom parts. For bulk and commercial mail, a form 203.12PoD was introduced. The 203.12PoD contains 12 strips of 3 detachable labels each strip of 3 having the same 30-character serial number. Subsequent sections will address the different forms of labels for both general public and business use.

Reference 2 provides a great deal of useful information on this topic.

8.6   Barcoded Registration Labels with "RE" in a Red Box

I have seen 6 examples of labels with the "RE" used on envelopes all of which were dated after the experimental period. These labels are different to those employed in the trial. The label's dimensions are width 73 mm. maximum (minimum 68 mm.) by 65 mm. high. The label includes 6 detachable elements all with the same human readable number but there is no indication as to how they should be employed. The **inlite** decoder deciphered the barcodes as UCC (Uniform Code Council) Code 128. was also known as UCC/EAN-128 and is currently called GS1-128. For convenience I have stuck with the **inlite** UCC 128 notation. The barcodes are 30 numerical characters in length, have a Module of 2,8 pixels and **inlite** interprets the top two detachable barcodes as a single barcode 238 pixels or 20,15 mm. high with the actual measurement estimated at 19.5 mm. Visually the top two barcodes are not the same height
The initial 14 human readable numbers are constant, "01054128850045", the next 2 either "19" or "26" followed by a space and "21" then a 12-digit serial number. The 16 numbers before the space are in a slightly smaller text. This text format is the same for all examples seen. The "19" seems linked to a serial number beginning "100000" or "200000" and the "26" linked to a serial number beginning "300000".

0105412885004519 21200000582284

Top Rectangle
X=134 pixels = 11.35 [11] mm.,
Y=303 pixels = 25,65 [25] mm.,
Width=597 pixels = 50,55 [50+mm.,
Height=233 pixels = 19,73 [19+] mm.

Bottom Rectangle
X=138 pixels = 11,69 [11] mm.,
Y=670 pixels = 56,73 [56] mm.,
Width=595 pixels = 50,38 [50+] mm.,
Height=94 pixels = 7,96 [8] mm.

0105412885004519 21100000596804

Top Rectangle
X=151 pixels = 12,78 [12] mm.,
Y=296 pixels = 25,05 [24+] mm.,
Width=597 pixels = 50,55 [50+] mm.,
Height=238 pixels = 19.30 [20] mm.

Bottom Rectangle
X=151 pixels = 12,78 [12] mm.,
Y=664 pixels = 56,22 [56] mm.,
Width=597 pixels = 50,55 [50+] mm.,
Height=96 pixels = 8,13 [8] mm.

0105412885004526 21300000526057

Top Rectangle
X=141 pixels = 11,94 [12] mm.,
Y=295 pixels = 24,97 [25] mm.,
Width=603 pixels = 51,05 [50+] mm.,
Height=235 pixels = 19,9 [20] mm.

Bottom Rectangle
X=145 pixels = 12,28 [12] mm.,
Y=671 pixels = 56,81 [56+ mm.,
Width=601 pixels = 50,88 [50+] mm.,
Height=93 pixels = 7,79 [8] mm.

8.7   30-character length serial numbers

All Belgian, barcoded, registration labels for internal use employ 30-character serial numbers. The 30-character length appears excessive even considering the large number of registered items handled annually each of which would be given a unique number. For example, the original 3 figure numbers employed on registration labels gave one thousand possible combinations 000 to 999. The clue to this large number is in the initial use of UCC (Uniform Code Council) barcodes.

The Uniform Code Council was formed in 1973 and is currently known as Global Standards One (GS1) formed in 2005 when UCC and EAN (European Article Number, a European standards organization) merged. GS1 uses barcode Code 128. The standard identifies data by employing Application Identifiers (AIs). Presumably the registration label barcode employs Application Identifier "01" to indicate a Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) and is followed by 14 data digits of which 12 are constant, "054128850045" for all Belgian barcoded registration labels for internal use by the general public. Possibly these 12 digits form the GS1 Company Prefix for the Belgian Post Office (The GS1 regulations require, a string of four to twelve digits). Within these digits is the sequence "2885". This is the 4-digit manufacturer code employed in all European Article Number 13 barcodes found on all items separately sold by the Belgian Post Office. The last two digits in the 14-digit data sequence are either "19" or "26".

The 14 digits are always followed by "21" the Application Identifier code for the unique product serial, a 12-digit number that follows. I highlight the "21" in red for ease of location. Sometimes there is a space between the 14 data digits and the "21" in the human readable element. The product serial number is in 4 groups of 3 digits. These are sometimes separated out into 4 strings of 3 numbers and sometimes grouped together. The first group seems to be significant for each type of label. The font employed for the human readable numbers can vary significantly. Subsequent sections will address these variations.

Registration labels employed by TBC-POST use the same format of 30-character serial number as those employed by the post office. For post office bulk and business 14 data digits are "05412885020571" followed by "21" and then a 12-digit unique product serial number.
To confirm that UCC and Code 128 barcodes are different, the 30 digits from the label illustrated above, serial number 0105412885004526 21300000526057, was internet generated as a UCC and then as a Code 128 and compared below. The generated UCC barcode has the human readable Application Identifiers in brackets (01) and (21).

UCC Barcode
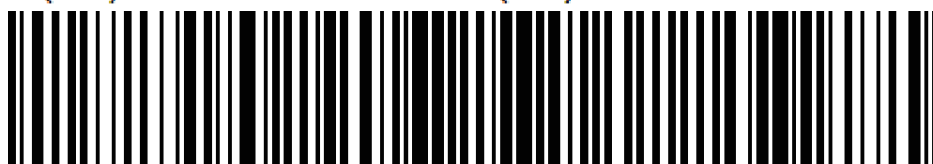
Code 128 Barcode

0105412885004526 21300000526057

8.8   77 (Max 83) x 65,50 mm. Registration labels from forms 201 PoD.

I have not been able to locate an example of a complete form 201 PoD although they are illustrated in Reference 2. However, the two parts illustrated below come from the same form. The main textural difference between the top element of these forms and that employed with the 78 (Max 83) x 38 mm. form, discussed in Section 8.9, is the use of dual currency. A Dutch dominant example is shown below at 75% actual size. The text on both sides permits the use of either Belgian Francs (BEF) or Euros (EUR). Only the dominant Dutch side has the barcode. The top part is 10,2 mm. wide and 12,3 mm. high and the bottom part is 10,2 mm. wide and 8,4 mm. high. The 78 mm. (Max 83) x 38 mm. forms have the same dimensions.

The barcode is Code UCC 128 with Module 2,8 pixels. The text corresponds to the human readable element of the form 010541288500451921400002595650.

Rectangle   X=129 pixels or 10,92 mm.,   Y=1286 pixels or 108,88 mm.,
              Width=596 pixels or 50,46 [50+] mm.   Height=101 pixels or 8,55 [8] mm.

The bottom element is shown below actual size.

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There is a "printing" reference on the right side of the bottom element "Code 139105EU **Monti** Lier". Monti was a printer based in the town of Lier and a company of that name still functions as a printer. A red indicates where the label should be peeled.

The **inlite** decoder interprets the bottom element of the form as having two barcodes, combining the two detachable ones as a singleton. The barcodes identified are Code UCC 128 with Module 2,8 pixels and text 0105412885004519 21400002595650. The top "singleton" has barcode rectangle dimensions in pixels of X=229, Y=452, Width=596 and Height=199. The bottom barcode dimensions are X=231, Y=773, Width=594 and Height=100. These are essentially the same as those of the barcode in the top element. That the two barcodes forming the "singleton" are the same was established using the bottom half of a separate registration label.

The barcode is Code UCC 128 with Module 2,8 pixels, Width=593, Height=98 half the Height=199 of the "singleton" and text 0105412885004519 21400002879406. The fact that this detachable label was on the front of the envelope with the remainder of the label on the reverse of the envelope highlights a problem. The complete label was too large! Some of the usage seen employs one of the detachable labels, often a non-barcoded one, on the front with the remainder on the reverse.

There is another problem with the label. Many examples have a pronounced yellow tint. I would suggest that this is a problem with the self-adhesive glue as it forms a distinct rectangle. The glue is probably reacting with the envelope paper or perhaps environmental factors.

All of the labels examined have 7 detachable labels, including 2 side by side pairs. Label removal is aided by a 5 mm. rounded tag on the left side. The 2 side by side label pairs are the same size 33 x 4+ mm., ignoring the tags. All 4 have the same text and font size. At the top there is a single, un-barcoded 64 x 10 mm. label with a 5 mm. tag. In the centre are 2 barcoded 64 x 13 mm. labels with the same text and font size. There is a barcoded element at the bottom of the label without human readable text. All three barcodes are the same.
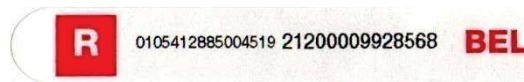
There are three forms of label, Dutch dominant bilingual and monolingual both French and Dutch. The first 16 digits in the human readable numbers are in a smaller font than the following 14 digits. As with the "RE" labels the initial 14 numbers are "01054128850045", the next 2 either "19" or "26" followed by a space and "21" then a 12-digit serial number. This text format is the same for all examples seen. Limited evidence suggests "19" is linked to a serial number beginning "100", "200" or "400" with "26" being linked to "200", "300" or "400". These numbers may also be linked to the language variant.

8.8.1 Bilingual 77 (Max 83) x 65,50 mm. Registration Label.

GELIEVE DIT VIGNET LOS TE MAKEN EN TE KLEVEN OP DE VOORZIJDE VAN DE ZENDING
PLEASE DETACH AND STICK THIS LABEL ON THE FRONT OF THE CONSIGNMENT
VEUILLEZ DETACHER ET COLLER CETTE VIGNETTE AU RECTO DE L'ENVOI

11 examples seen: lowest serial number seen 0105412885004519 21400000208503
highest serial number seen 0105412885004519 21400003840295
4 examples seen: lowest serial number seen 0105412885004526 21200001841157
highest serial number seen 0105412885004526 21200008991230.

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8.8.2 Dutch 77 (Max 83) x 65,50 mm. Registration Label.

GELIEVE DIT VIGNET LOS TE MAKEN EN TE KLEVEN OP DE VOORZIJDE VAN DE ZENDING
PLEASE DETACH AND STICK THIS LABEL ON THE FRONT OF THE CONSIGNMENT
ALLEEN BESTEMD VOOR ZENDING IN BELGIE !
ONLY INTENDED FOR CONSIGNMENTS IN BELGIUM – Printed in bold print

30 examples seen: lowest serial number seen 0105412885004519 21200000754582
                            highest serial number seen 0105412885004519 21200009928568
7 examples seen: lowest serial number seen 0105412885004526 21400001181165
                            highest serial number seen 0105412885004526 21400021994448

8.8.3 French 77 (Max 83) x 65,50 mm. Registration Label.

VEUILLEZ DETACHER ET COLLER CETTE VIGNETTE AU RECTO DE L'ENVOI
PLEASE DETACH AND STICK THIS LABEL ON THE FRONT OF THE CONSIGNMENT
UNIQUEMENT DESTINE AUX ENVOIS EN BELGIQUE !
ONLY INTENDED FOR SENDINGS IN BELGIUM – Printed in bold print

17 examples seen: lowest serial number seen   0105412885004519 21100000675602
                            highest serial number seen   0105412885004519 21100007579598.
3 examples seen: lowest serial number seen   0105412885004526 21300003634000
                            highest serial number seen   0105412885004526 21300005914277.

8.9   77 (Max 83) x 38 mm. Registration Label from forms 201 PoD.

Complete forms are illustrated below at 75% actual size. As described in Section 8.7, the main difference in text between the top receipt element of the two types of forms is the use of dual currency in those yielding the 65,50 mm. high registration labels. The 38 mm. high forms are monolingual on the side with the registration label. The second language is on the reverse but without the barcode.

Some, possibly later printings, have the invitation:
> "Volg uw aangetekende zending on line via www.depost.be/webtracker" or
> "Suivez vos recommandés en ligne sur www.laposte.be/webtracker"
> meaning "Follow or Track your registered mail online via ….".

The bottom part of all the registration forms examined have 4 detachable labels with their removal being aided by a 5 mm rounded tag on the left side. The top label has no barcode. Two of these labels are side by side with the same size, 31,5 x 4+ mm., and the same text and font sizes. There is a single barcoded label, 63 x 7 mm. with a tag. The barcode on the detachable label is reproduced immediately below on the bottom of the form.

The "printing" reference on the right side of the bottom element "Code 139105EU **Monti** Lier" occurs with and without reference to Monti Lier. The red ▮ indicating where the label should be peeled exists with and without the text HIER LOSMAKEN AUB or DETACHEZ ICI S.V.P..

The notes "PLEASE DETACH AND STICK THIS LABEL ON THE FRONT OF THE CONSIGNMENT" and "ONLY INTENDED FOR SENDINGS IN BELGIUM" are reproduced bilingually in two lines on the top of the bottom part of the form. The bottom line is in bold text as with the 65,50 mm. high barcoded registration labels. I have seen examples of Dutch

dominant forms with both these notes in two languages Dutch dominant. There may be a French dominant example.

There two variations of the location of the elements forming the registration label in particular the location of the "AR" box relative to the post office logo, this is either 5 mm. or 10 mm., and the distance from the left edge of the label to the left edge of the barcode is either 6,8 mm or 12,5 mm. The first 14 digits represented by the barcode the same as all previous labels "01054128850045", the next 2 digits are also either "19" or "26" followed by "21" and a 12-digit serial number. There is sometimes a small gap between the "19" or "26" and the "21". In addition, there are many variations in the font size and distribution of the 30 digits in the human readable number. These variations are identified as Type A to D and addressed in subsequent sub-sections.

The top parts of both labels illustrated above have the invitation: "Follow or Track your registered mail online via ….".

Type "A" AR box is 5 mm. below the post office logo, barcode is 6,8 mm. from left edge.

Type "B" AR box is 10 mm. below the post office logo, barcode is 6,8 mm. from left edge.

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Type "C" AR box is 5 mm. below the post office logo, barcode is 12,5 mm. from left edge.
   Type "D" AR box is 10 mm. below the post office logo, barcode is 12,5 mm. from left edge.

8.9.1   Type "A" 04519 21100

0105412885004519 21100008103922
Dated 18.8.05-14

0105412885004519 21100011431810
Dated 12.12.05-17

Width 5 examples 597 to 600 pixels average 598,8 = 14,14 mm.
Height 5 examples 161 to 168 pixels average 165,6 = 14,02 mm.

8.9.2 Type "A" 04519 21200

0105412885004519 21200014115494
Dated 05. 5. 2017

0105412885004519 21200012536447
Dated 28.02.11-17

Width 16 examples 595 to 603 pixels average 598 = 50,63 mm.
Height 16 examples 160 to 176 pixels average 167 = 14,14 mm.

8.9.3 Type "A" 04519 21300

0105412885004519 21300000141396
Dated 18.10.02-09

Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 mm.
Height = 163 pixels = 13,8 mm.

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8.9.4 Type "A" 04519 21400

0105412885004519 21400007607903
Dated 3.10.05-15

0105412885004519 21400004977668
Dated 05.12.02-09

Width 7 examples 597 to 604 pixels average 599,57 = 50,76 mm.
Height 7 examples 169 to 167 pixels average 162,85 = 13,79 mm.

8.9.5 Type "C" 0452621 100

0105412885004526 21 100 001 353 265
Dated 14.06.08-16

Width = 525 pixels = 44,45 [44] mm.
Height = 162 pixels = 13,72 [13,5] mm.

The format of the text on the strip label is different from that immediately below the barcode being in the form 0105412885004526 21 100001353265

8.9.6 Type "C" 0452621 200

0105412885004526 21 200 040 648 164
Dated 13. 2. 2007

0105412885004526 21 200 049 243 195
Dated 16.1.12-16

Width 38 examples 524 to 530 pixels average 526,79 = 44,60 mm.
Height 38 examples 160 to 165 pixels average 162,36 = 13,74 mm.
The format of the text on the strip label is different from that associated with the barcode
0105412885004526 21 200040648164

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8.9.7 Type "C" 0452621 **300**

010541288500452621 **300 049 894 698**
Dated 27. 05. 09

010541288500452621 **300 065 459 866**
Dated 13.11.08-17

Width 28 examples 523 to 531 pixels average 527,14 = 44,63 mm.
Height 28 examples 160 to 165 pixels average 162,32 = 13,74 mm.
The format of the text on the strip label is different from that associated with the barcode
010541288500452621300049894698

8.9.8 Type "C" 0452621 **400**

010541288500452621 **400 079 047 687**
Dated 11. 6. 2009

010541288500452621 **400 103 640 385**
Dated 07. 1. 2008

Width 31 examples 524 to 532 pixels average 526,84 = 44,61 mm.
Height 31 examples 160 to 165 pixels average 161,81 = 13,7 mm.
The format of the text on the strip label is different from that associated with the barcode
010541288500452621400079047687

8.9.9 Type "D" 0452621 2000 No Space.

010541288500452621200025833477
Dated 17.08.04-09

010541288500452621200023261489
Dated 19.10.04-19

Width 4 examples 526 to 527 pixels average 526,25 = 44,56 mm.
Height 3 examples 161 to 163 pixels average 162 = 13,72 mm.

8.9.10 Type "B" 0452621200 Space.

0105412885004526 21200010816458
Dated 18.11.11-09

0105412885004526 21200009109481
Dated 12.08.09 09

Width 2 examples 596 & 599 pixels average 597,5 = 50,59 mm.
Height 2 examples 161 pixels = 13,63 mm.

8.9.11 Type "B" 0452621300 Space.

0105412885004526 21300024119308
Dated -9. 7. 03

0105412885004526 21300019703502
Dated 11.07.02-13

Width 2 examples 596 & 600 pixels average 598 = 50,63 mm.
Height 2 examples 160 & 163 pixels average 161,5 = 13,67 mm.

8.9.12 Type "B" 0452621400 Space.

0105412885004526 21400033846298
Dated 31. III. 04

0105412885004526 21400030149532
Dated 20.07.04-16

Width 5 examples 596 to 599 pixels average 597,8 = 50,61 mm.
Height 5 examples 161 to 164 pixels average 162,6 = 13,77 mm.

8.9.13 <u>Type "D" 04522621400 No Space.</u>

010541288500452621400041689479
Dated 07. XI. 03
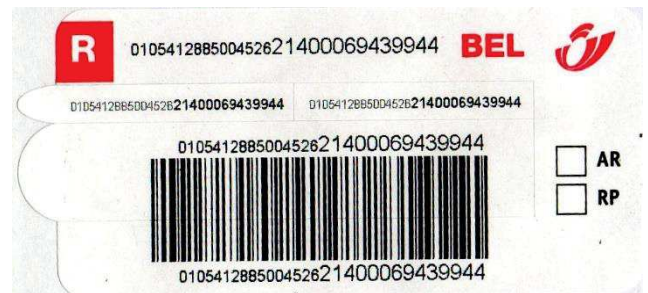
010541288500452621400069439944
Dated 23 . 05 . 07

Width 6 examples 525 to 528 pixels average 526,67 = 44,59 mm.
Height 6 examples 160 to 166 pixels average 163,17 = 13,81 mm.

8.9.14 <u>Type "D" 04522621300 No Space.</u>

010541288500452621300030889967
Dated 28. IX. 04
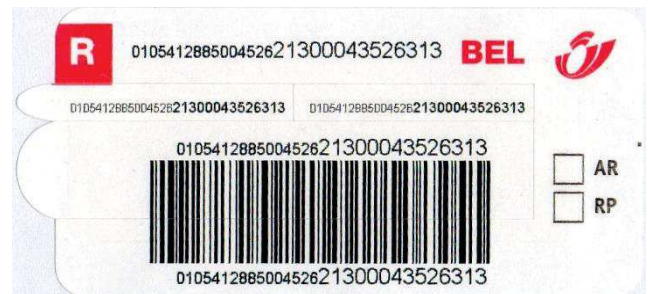
010541288500452621300043526313
Dated 15.11.05-11

Width 3 examples 525 to 529 pixels average 527 = 44,62 mm.
Height 3 examples 159 to 165 pixels average 162,33 = 13,74 mm.

8.9.15 <u>Type "C" **045226211000** No Space.</u>

010541288500452621100000642840
Dated 27. 03. 09

Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm.
Height = 162 pixels = 13,72 mm.

8.9.16 Type "C" **04526**21**2000** No Space.

01054128850**04526**21**2000**36144997
Dated 22.-2.06—9

01054128850**04526**21**2000**20361213
Dated 21. 6. 2010

Width 7 examples 526 to 530 pixels average 527,71 = 44,68 mm.
Height 7 examples 161 to 164 pixels average 162,43 = 13,75 mm.

8.9.17 Type "C" **04526**21**3000** No Space.

01054128850**04526**21**3000**39553707
Dated 05. 10. 2005

01054128850**04526**21**3000**42068352
Dated 04.08.08-16

Width 13 examples 524 to 530 pixels average 527,08 = 44,63 mm.
Height 13 examples 159 to 165 pixels average 161,85 = 13,70 mm.

8.9.18 Type "C" **04526**21**4000** No Space.
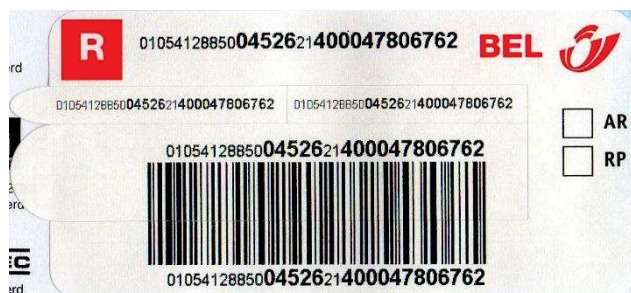
01054128850**04526**21**4000**47806762
Dated 18. I. 06
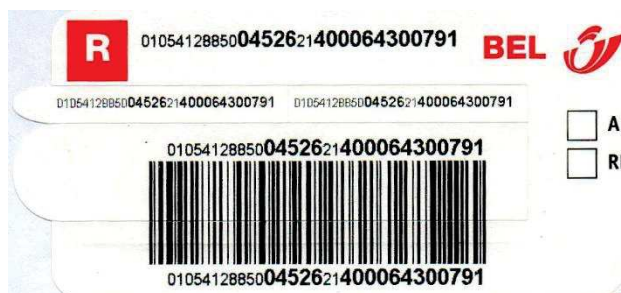
01054128850**04526**21**4000**64300791
Dated 28. 9. 2010
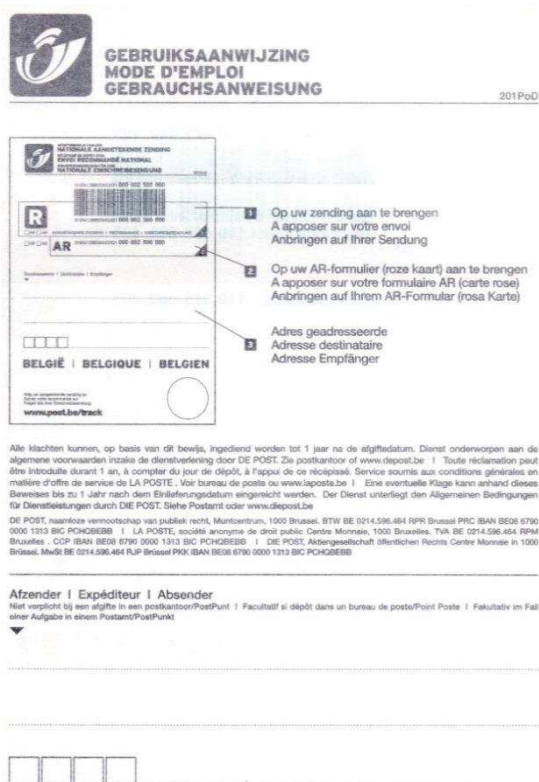
Width 56 examples 524 to 530 pixels average 526,30 = 44,56 mm.
Height 56 examples 160 to 165 pixels average 161,91 = 13,71 mm.

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8.10 Barcoded forms 201 PoD with 93 x 17 mm. Registration Labels.

Around January 2009, an actual date has not been found, a new trilingual, receipt form 201 PoD, for the deposit of a registered item was introduced. The document is 101 mm. wide by 140 mm. in height and has printed on the reverse detailed instructions for use of the form. There are two removable self-adhesive labels. The top one is a 93 x 17 mm. rectangular, barcoded, registration label to be applied to the envelope. The label is identified by ◢1 in the bottom right corner. The second removable label relates to the Avis de Reception (Acknowledgement of Receipt) service and is a 77 x 9 mm. rectangle identified by ◢2 in the bottom right corner of the label. This label is to be applied to a pink AR form. When completed the AR form is usually stuck to the back of the envelope. Use of the service is indicated by checking the AR box both on the barcoded registration label and the 201PoD. Both labels have a second box marked RP meaning "Recommandation d'Office" a special registered tariff for service items. It may be that this was for use with registered judicial mail as discussed in Section 8.12 below.

The 30-digit number on both the AR and registration labels are the same. A duplicate of the barcode is printed immediately above the removeable, barcoded, registration label with the same human readable number above. The first 18 digits, 01054128850045262**1**, are the same on all forms and registration labels seen. The last 12 digits or serial number are arranged in 4 blocks of 3. The first set of 3 was in initially **110** subsequently replaced by **220**.

At the bottom left of the form is the invitation to "Follow your registered mail on **www.post.be./track**. This was on forms 201PoD that were printed prior to the change of name from De Post/La Poste/Die Post to bpost on 1st January 2010. These later forms identify the tracker website **www.bpost.be./track**. This change preceded the change to **220** for the first set of 3 digits in the 12-digit serial number all of which cite the tracker website **www.bpost.be./track**.

GEBRUIKSAANWIJZING
MODE D'EMPLOI
GEBRAUCHSANWEISUNG
INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

1   Op uw zending aan te brengen
A apposer sur votre envoi
Anbringen auf Ihren Sendung
To be fixed to your shipment

2   Op uw AR-formulier (roze kaart) aan te brengen
A apposer sur votre formulaire AR (carte rose)
Anbringen auf Ihren AR-Formular (rosa Karte)
Affix/Attach on your AR card (pink card)

3   Adres geadresseerde
Adresse destinataire
Adresse Empfänger
Recipient's/Destination address

The text of this post-2010 issue is reproduced in Appendix 2. These instructions and the differences between the pre- and post- 2010 printings are identical to those on the form 201 P0D Int. for international use.

The earliest complete form of the "110" type held and the latest held are shown below at 75% actual. The **inlite** decoder interprets the removable barcoded label and the printed, fixed

example as a single barcode of Code UCC 128. The positional data X and Y are to some degree dependant on isolating the form's image from the surrounding area of the scan.

For the earliest example 0105412885004526 21 **110 018 400 086** the module is 2,5 pixels common to most forms examined.

Dimensions in pixels are X=372, Y=292, Width=526 and Height=160

Width of 526 pixels is 44,53 [44+] mm.,   Height of 160 pixels is 13,55 [13] mm.

For the latest example 0105412885004526 21 **110 044 901 072**. the module is 3,0 pixels.

Dimensions in pixels are X=381, Y=285, Width=635, Height=161

Width of 635 pixels is 53,76 [53+] mm.,   Height of 161 pixels is 13,63 [13] mm.

The later example is clearly different not only with module 3,0 pixels instead of 2,5 pixels and being approximately 8,5 mm wider, however it is a printing of the later www.bpost.be./track type. Very few complete forms have been examined. Only one other example of the www.bpost.be./track type is held this has the serial number 110 042 896 119. However, the barcode is also Module 2,5 pixels and width the same, within a pixel or so, of the www.post.be./track types. My hypothesis is that the change to www.bpost.be./track occurred with serial numbers starting 110 043 as this and the remaining 110 044, 110 045 and 110 046 all have widths around 635 pixels = 53+ mm.

This study was initiated by an accumulation of registered covers employing the Loketstroken or counter strips generally known as "Blasters" as an alternative to adhesive postage stamps. Introduced in September/October 2002. The "Blasters" were a precursor to the reorganization of the provision of postal services that introduced the Post Point (Point Poste or Postpunt) to both complement and replace post offices. This accumulation rapidly provided examples of the 12-digit serial number with 110 as the first set of 3 digits, followed by the numbers 000 up to 046 as the second set. This accumulation also included a small number of covers with registration labels with 220 as the first set of 3 digits with the next block of 3 numbers running sequentially from 080. Other types of labels were seen suggesting that the 110 series is unique as far as barcoded registration labels are concerned. Consequently the 110 series is considered separately to the 220 series.

8.10.1   <u>93 x 17 mm. 110 series Registration Labels.</u>

The 93 x 17 mm. label contains an 8 mm. high "R" in an 11 mm. square box. The width of the human readable text for the 18-digit number is 20+ by 1,5 mm. and that for the four, 3-digit blocks, a total of 22 mm. for "110" or 20 mm. for "220" both being 2 mm. high. On the bottom there is a sequence of 2 mm. square tick boxes labelled "RP" and "AR", followed by AANGETEKENDE ZENDING │RECOMMANDÉ │EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 mm. high. Finally a ◢ in the bottom right corner of the label.

The example of a label shown above, found on an envelope dated 24.10.08-13, has a barcode Code UCC128 Length 30 characters, Module 2,5 pixels,
Text 010541288500452621 110 006 455 797
Rectangle   X=334 pixels or 28,28 mm.,   Y=6 pixels or 0,51 mm.,
               Width 523 pixels 44,28 [44] mm.,   Height 84 pixels 7,11 [7] mm.

The earliest date seen for this type of label is 29. 1. 2009 on a used Form 201PoD. The serial numbers suggest that 47 million of these labels were produced. All include a Uniform Code Council 128 barcode that encodes the same 30-digit number as the human readable number printed below the barcode. The first 18 numbers of the 30 digits are all "010541288500452621" followed by a unique 12-digit serial number. The layout of the human readable number is the same throughout. The first 18 numbers being in a smaller size font than the serial number which is in 4 blocks of 3 digits. The accumulation provided examples of all 47 of the 3-digit, second block numbers. These were examined for the date of usage and examples of each individual number deciphered. Scans of a sample of the covers was modified to provide the illustrations below and deciphered to provide dimensional data. The modification provided an image between + or – 1 degree of horizontal and the left edge of the label was not always discernible. The top edge of the barcode is aligned with the top edge of the label suggesting the "Y" dimension might affect the deciphered height. This was investigated where the "Y" dimension was 0 and found not to be significant when compared with actual measurements. The width was almost constant for the first 43 examples with an average of 526,5 pixels, minimum 523 and maximum 529. As previously mentioned the last four examples, **043** to **046,** are visually different with an average width of 635,3 pixels and are probably all from the **www.bpost.be./track** forms. In view of the resolution afforded by the transparent plastic rule only a limited number of barcode rectangle measurements in millimeters were undertaken. These are tabulated below with the metric dimensions calculated from the deciphered dimensions in pixels provided and the corresponding measurements in brackets [].
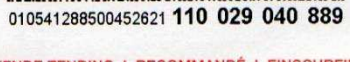
110 006 455 797	Width 523 pixels = 44,28 [44]	Height 84 pixels = 7,11 [7]
110 019 649 569	Width 528 pixels = 44,70 [42]	Height 86 pixels = 7 [7]
110 023 868 100	Width 526 pixels = 44,53 [44,5]	Height 93 pixels = 7,87 [8]
110 027 737 489	Width 525 pixels = 44,45 [44]	Height 76 pixels = 6,43 [6,5+]
110 043 635 320	Width 637 pixels = 53,93 [53+]	Height 82 pixels = 6,94 [6,5]
110 044 115 118	Width 635 pixels = 53,76 [53,5]	Height 76 pixels = 6,43 [6]
110 045 936 816	Width 634 pixels = 53,67 [53+]	Height 96 pixels = 8,13 [8]
110 046 029 816	Width 633 pixels = 53,59 [53]	Height 93 pixels = 7,87 [7,5]

Examples of the 3-digit second block numbers are shown below. After the initial accumulation there were too many subsequent additions acquired to warrant further deciphering.

 01054128850045262**1** 110 000 332 166 Dated 14.5.09-14	5 examples. Earliest 4.9.2009-15 X=330 pixels or 27,94 mm., Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=80 pixels or 6,77 mm.
 01054128850045262**1** 110 001 142 396 Dated 17.12.10-15	2 examples. Earliest 5.10.10-16 X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm., Y=0, Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=80 pixels or 6,77 mm.
 01054128850045262**1** 110 002 144 330 Dated 28.1.10-16	2 examples. Earliest 9.2.09-14 X=328 pixels or 27,77 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.
 01054128850045262**1** 110 003 022 166 Dated 27.10.08-9	2 examples. Earliest 27.10.08-9 X=324 pixels or 27,43 mm., Y=0, Width=523 pixels or 44,28 mm., Height=84 pixels or 7,11 mm.
 01054128850045262**1** 110 004 906 776 Dated 26.3.2012	4 examples, Earliest 18.11.10-09 X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm., Y=3 pixels or 0,25 mm., Width=524 pixels or 44,37 mm., Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
 01054128850045262**1** 110 005 026 383 Dated 22.6.10-12	3 examples. Earliest 27.11.08-09 X=320 pixels or 27,09 mm., Y=0, Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=71 pixels or 6,01 mm.

 0105412885004526**21** 110 006 439 482 Dated 24.6.09-9	4 examples. Earliest 11.3.09-11 X=325 pixels or 27,52 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 007 157 075 Dated 28.10.08-15	4 examples. Earliest 28.10.08-15 X=322 pixels or 27,26 mm., Y=4 pixels or 0,34 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 008 367 384 Dated 30.12.08-17	4 examples. Earliest 30.12.08-17 X=322 pixels or 27,26 mm., Y=4 pixels or 0,34 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=86 pixels or 7,28 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 009 143 188 Dated 18.3.2009	4 examples. Earliest 18.3.2009 X=328 pixels or 27,77 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 010 784 142 Dated 6.10.09-10	6 examples. Earliest 30.3.2009-16 X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm., Y=5 pixels or 0,42 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=77 pixels or 6,52 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 011 737 812 Dated 02.7.2009	6 examples. Earliest 23.2.09-16 X=321 pixels or 27,18 mm., Y=0, Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=88 pixels or 7,45 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 012 729 508 Dated 27.2.12-13	7 examples. Earliest 29.5.09-14 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=0, Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=87 pixels or 7,37 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 013 665 932 Dated 3.12.09-14	11 examples. Earliest 3.6.09-10 X=321 pixels or 27,18 mm., Y=5 pixels or 0,42 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
 0105412885004526**21** 110 014 451 083 Dated 23.6.10-11	10 examples. Earliest 4.6.09-11 X=324 pixels or 27,43 mm., Y=0, Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.

01054128850045262**1** 110 015 004 134 Dated 26.5.09-9	10 examples. Earliest 26.5.09-9 X=320 pixels or 27,09 mm., Y=0, Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=75 pixels or 6,35 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 016 014 405 Dated 16.11.09-16	6 examples. Earliest 4.6.09-11 X=331 pixels or 28,02 mm., Y=0, Width=523 pixels or 44,28 mm., Height=77 pixels or 6,52 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 017 298 980 Dated 3.10.09-10	10 examples. Earliest 3.10.09-10 X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm., Y=0, Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 018 434 635 Dated 2.11.09-15	28 examples. Earliest 14.7.09-12 X=325 pixels or 27,52 mm., Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=86 pixels or 7,28 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 019 412 141 Dated 8.4.10-17	19 examples. Earliest 19.10.09 X=332 pixels or 28,11 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 019 412 141 Dated 8.4.10-17	30 examples. Earliest 7.10.09-11 X=332 pixels or 28,11 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=525 pixels or 44,45 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 021 150 961 Dated 30.12.09-17	25 examples. Earliest 7.12.09-16 X=325 pixels or 27,52 mm., Y=3 pixels or 0,25 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=81 pixels or 6,86 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 022 235 012 Dated 16.2.10-13	24 examples. Earliest 7.12.09-12 X=325 pixels or 27,52 mm., Y=0, Width=529 pixels or 44,79 mm., Height=87 pixels or 7,37 mm.
01054128850045262**1** 110 023 868 100 Dated 27.4.11-14	13 examples. Earliest 1.2.10-11 X=324 pixels or 27,43 mm., Y=0, Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=93 pixels or 7,87 mm.

R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 024 422 639 Dated 3.6.10-16	16 examples. Earliest 1.2.10-11 X=333 pixels or 28,19 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm., Height=87 pixels or 7,37 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 025 721 199 Dated 1.3.10-11	18 examples. Earliest 26.2.10-15 X=318 pixels or 26,92 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 026 362 411 Dated 4.5.10-14	7 examples. Earliest 10.3.10-16 X=316 pixels or 26,75 mm., Y=0, Width=524 pixels or 44,37 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 027 601 046 Dated 3.6.10-11	9 examples. Earliest 30.3.10-16 X=320 pixels or 27,09 mm., Y=0, Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=78 pixels or 6,6 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 028 432 773 Dated 30.8.10-11	15 examples. Earliest 27.4.10-11 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=86 pixels or 7,28 mm.
R ☐RP ☐ÁR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 029 040 889 Dated 23.8.10-7	8 examples. Earliest 1.6.10-13 X=325 pixels or 27,52 mm., Y=0, Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=79 pixels or 6,69 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 030 112 536 Dated 25.8.10-9	9 examples. Earliest 22.6.10-10 X=328 pixels or 27,77 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=81 pixels or 6,86 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 031 580 808 Dated 22.9.10-9	7 examples. Earliest 13.8.10-11 X=328 pixels or 27,77 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.
R ☐RP ☐AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 0105412885004526**21** 110 032 514 644 Dated 19.8.10-11	8 examples. Earliest 4.8.10-16 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=70 pixels or 5,93 mm.

01054128850044526**21** 110 033 204 029 Dated 9.8.10-14	4 examples. Earliest 9.8.10-14 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=3 pixels or 0,25 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=80 pixels or 6,77 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 034 684 745 Dated 3.1.11-14	5 examples. Earliest 28.9.10-16 X=330 pixels or 27,94 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=84 pixels or 7,11 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 035 109 761 Dated 29.9.10-13	3 examples. Earliest 29.9.10-13 X=312 pixels or 26,42 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=68 pixels or 5,76 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 036 698 581 Dated 4.1.11-11	7 examples. Earliest 21.9.10-15 X=331 pixels or 28,02 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 037 900 659 Dated 29.3.11-18	2 examples. Earliest 12.1.11-15 X=316 pixels or 26,75 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=85 pixels or 7,2 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 038 668 513 Dated 16.2.11-15	3 examples. Earliest 16.2.11-15 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=81 pixels or 6,86 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 039 059 194 Dated 29.3.11-13	5 examples. Earliest 25.1.11-14 X=332 pixels or 28,11 mm., Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm., Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=86 pixels or 7,28 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 040 747 957 Dated 4.1.11-10	3 examples. Earliest 4.1.11-10 X=335 pixels or 28,36 mm., Y=0, Width=528 pixels or 44,70 mm., Height=84 pixels or 7,11 mm.
01054128850044526**21** 110 041 050 993 Dated 6.9.11-16	4 examples. Earliest 14.3.11-14 X=329 pixels or 27,86 mm., Y=0, Width=527 pixels or 44,62 mm., Height=87 pixels or 7,37 mm.

01054128850045262**21** 110 042 360 347 Dated 14.9.11-13	2 examples. Earliest 07.04.11-09 X=320 pixels or 27,09 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=529 pixels or 44,79 mm., Height=83 pixels or 7,03 mm.
01054128850045262**21** 110 043 635 320 Dated 29.6.11-15	4 examples. Earliest 04.05.11--9 X=327 pixels or 27,69 mm., Y=0, Width=637 pixels or 53,93 mm., Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
01054128850045262**21** 110 044 050 703 Dated 11.1.12-14	5 examples. Earliest 24.6.11-14 X=316 pixels or 26,75 mm., Y=0, Width=637 pixels or 53,93 mm., Height=73 pixels or 6,18 mm.
01054128850045262**21** 110 045 936 816 Dated 17.8.11-11	2 examples. Earliest 22.4.11-11 X=324 pixels or 27,43 mm., Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm., Width=634 pixels or 53,67 mm., Height=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.
01054128850045262**21** 110 046 029 816 Dated 22.3.2012	2 examples. Earliest 31.8.11-9 X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm., Y=5 pixels or 0,42 mm., Width=633 pixels or 53,59 mm., Height=93 pixels or 7,87 mm.

Shown above late usage of the 110 series registration label in 2017.

The example of a label shown above, found on an envelope dated 29.01.20-10, has a barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 4,0 pixels,

Text 0105412885004526**21** 220 304 936 703

Rectangle   X=231 pixels or 19,56 [19,5] mm.,   Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm.,
             Width=805 pixels or 68,16 [68] mm.,   Height=95 pixels or 8,04 [7] mm.

The main difference between the "110" and "220" series is in the type of barcode employed. The "110" series employs Uniform Code Council 128 (UCC128) and the "220" series employs Code 128. Barcodes of both UCC128 and Code 128 that decipher for the number "01" are shown below. The difference in dimensions of the bars employed is due to difference in scale to provide images of the same dimensions. The difference in the two types is the series of bars in red. The green and blue series are the start and stop delimiters and are the same for both types.

UCC   Code 128

The lowest 3-digit second block numbers seen is "080" and the only example seen is illustrated below. It was used on 8th November 2011. An online barcode generator was employed to produce UCC and Code 128 barcodes of the complete 30-digit number. Although the exercise was intended to show the similarities and differences in the coding, interestingly the on-line UCC generator highlighted (01) and (21) with brackets in the human readable equivalent.

UCC generated barcode

Code 128 generated barcode

Only the later **www.bpost.be./track** printings of forms 201PoD employ the 220 series.
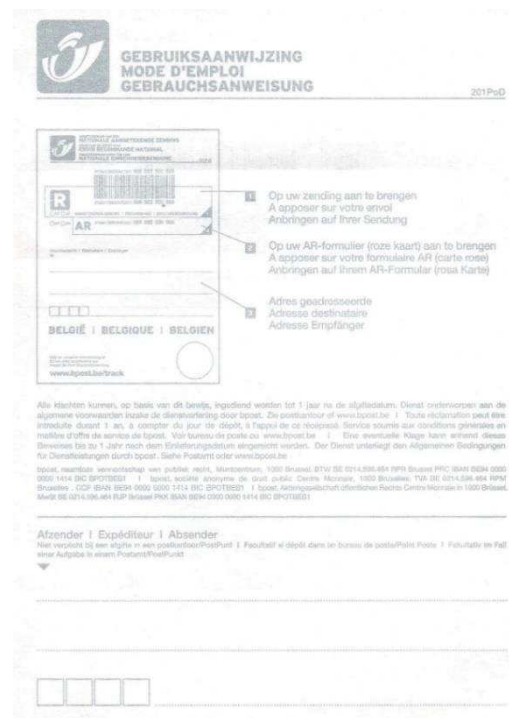
Rectangle dimensions for 010541288500452621 **220 099 431 716**, as measured in [].
X = 382 pixels = 32,34 [33] mm.,   Y = 301 pixels = 25,48 [26] mm.,
Width = 497 pixels = 42,08 [42] mm.,   Height = 158 pixels = 13,38 [13] mm.

The gap in the series of 3-digit second block numbers from 046 in the 110 series to 080 in the 220 series seemed odd. Around the time the **www.bpost.be./track** printings of forms 201PoD were introduced, 64 x 12 mm. registration labels of a similar design were seen associated with commercial mail. The 12-digit, serial numbers were in the 220 series with second block numbers from 000 to 079. Although examples were not seen throughout this range it did seem that the 64 x 12 mm. labels provided an explanation of the "080" starting point. The example shown below being the highest number to hand at that time.

010541288500452621 220 079 928 615

8.10.2.1   Small Red Dot on 220 series 93 x 17 mm. Registration Labels.

There is a small red dot to the left of, or just below the left edge of the barcode. The exact position appeared to vary but it is present in all labels seen. It was established by drawing a line through the dot, that positioning of the barcode varies. The dot was initially located above the third "E" in "AANGETEKENDE".

123

8.10.2.2   Possibility of Duplicate Numbers in Registration Labels.

The UN Standard S10 for international mail requires that the 9-digit number should not be repeated within a 12-month period. The Belgian internal labels seen at the time the **www.bpost.be./track** printings were introduced suggested that such labels would have unique serial numbers. Quite quickly, examples of both 64 x 12 mm. and 64 x 17 mm. labels appeared in which the second, 3-digit number matched ones in the 93 x 17 mm. series suggesting labels might not have unique numbers. A view supported by the labels illustrated below. Although the final two series of 3 numbers are not identical, they are close enough to demonstrate that identical numbers will or have already appeared on two different labels. The chance of finding exact matches in any collection is minimal. See Section 8.13.2 Probability of number repetition.

220 088 291 191   220 088 236 208

This discovery in 2012/13 delayed research until a greater range of second, 3-digit numbers could be found for examination. This delayed completion of research until 2020. To date 329 is the highest number seen, but this number will undoubtedly increase.

Labels involving "RE" in a Red Box, see Section 8.6 above, were considered for possible duplication with the 77 (Max 83) x 38 mm. label from forms 201 PoD., see Section 8.9 above. The numbers seen by me are small and the only second, 3-digit number seen is "000". Consequently, the probability will be small. Any difference in the format of the human readable text on the labels is irrelevant as the barcode only encodes the number and not its format.

Labels for commercial mail are addressed in Sections 8.13.1, 8.13.3 and 8.13.4 for labels with dimensions 66,5 x 13 mm., 64 x 12 mm. and 64 x 17 mm. respectively.

8.10.2.3 Second 3-digit numbers "080" to "186".

Of the group with the second 3-digit numbers ranging from "080" to "186" only 86 have been seen dating from late 2011. Including multiple examples with the same second 3-digit number. All 86 examples deciphered had a barcode module of 2,5 pixels. It seems reasonable to assume that all within this range would have a module of 2,5 pixels.

All 86 examples seen appear visually to have the same width, with 56 examples being measured all having a width of 42 mm. As can be seen in the chart below the distribution of widths seems normal around 499 pixels or 42,25 mm.

Width	
5 @ 497 pixels 42,08 mm.	XXXXX
12 @ 498 pixels 42,16 mm.	XXXXXXXXXXXX
30 @ 499 pixels 42,25 mm.	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
22 @ 500 pixels 42,33 mm.	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
13 @ 501 pixels 42,42 mm.	XXXXXXXXXXXXX
4 @ 502 pixels 42,50 mm.	XXXX

The height distribution is less consistent with three groups: 75 from 80 to 89 pixels {6,77 to 7,54 mm.}, 9 from 74 to 79 pixels {6,27 to 6,69 mm.}, with one each at 90 pixels {7,62 mm.} and 91 pixels {7,70 mm}.

Height = pixels	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89
Quantity held	5	8	8	9	14	7	4	10	4	6
74 = 6,27 mm.	76 = 6,43 mm.		77 = 6,52 mm.		78 = 6,60 mm.		79 = 6,69 mm.		
Quantity held 1	1		3		1		3		

	Width 501 pixels = 42,42 [42] mm. Height 77 pixels = 6,52 [6,5] mm. 220 183 605 950 Dated **10 . III . 16**
	Width 501 pixels = 42,33 [42] mm. Height 89 pixels = 7,54 [7] mm. 220 100 760 735 Dated **11.9.12-14**
	Width 500 pixels = 42,33 [42] mm. Height 91 pixels = 7,70 [5+] mm. 220 082 811 641 Dated **21.11.11-15**

8.10.2.4 <u>Second 3-digit numbers "193" to "235".</u>

At some point between the second 3-digit number "187" to "193" the dimensions of the barcode change dramatically. From "193" to "235" 19 examples have been seen and deciphered. The barcode module being 6 @ 3,7 pixels or 13 @ 3,8 pixels an insignificant difference. The width varies from 746 pixels {63,16 mm.} to 753 pixels {63,75 mm.} with 17 measurements 10 @ 7 mm and 7 @ 7+ mm.

Width = pixels	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753
Quantity held	2	2	3	1	3	5	2	1

The height varies from 71 pixels {6,01 mm.} to 96 pixels {8,13 mm.} with no obvious pattern.

Height = pixels	71	76	80	82	83	84
Quantity held	2	1	3	3	1	1
Height = pixels	85	86	87	91	92	96
Quantity held	1	2	2	1	1	1

	Width = 748 pixels = 63,33 [63+] mm. Height = 71 pixels = 6,01 [6] mm. 220 235 311 436 Dated **28.4.17-9**
	Width = 748 pixels = 63,33 mm. Height = 96 pixels = 8,13 mm. 220 233 965 489 Dated **28.4.17-12**

The position of the small red dot to the left of or just below the left edge of the barcode is now located above the "G" in "AANGETEKENDE".

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8.10.2.5 <u>Second 3-digit numbers "236" onward.</u>

From second 3-digit number "236" onwards the dimensions of the barcode increased slightly, and the position of the red dot shifts right. 29 labels including some multiples of the second 3-digit number have been deciphered of which 25 have been measured. The barcode module being 4 pixels in all cases.
The width varies from 796 pixels {67,39 mm.} to 804 pixels {68,07 mm.}.
The height varies from 69 pixels {5,84 mm.} to 92 pixels {7,79 mm}.

Width 799 pixels = 67,65 [67] mm. Height 69 pixels = [6] mm. 220 242 916 508	
Width = 796 pixels = 67,39 mm, Height = 92 pixels = 7,79 mm. 220 245 665 229	

In this group the small red dot moves back to a position just above the "E" in "AANGETEK**E**NDE".

	220 244 539 332 Width 799 pixels = 67,65 [67,5] mm. Height 86 pixels = 7,29 [7] mm.

8.10.2.6 <u>Second 3-digit numbers Circa "254" onward.</u>

Once again at some point between the second 3-digit number "246" and "253" the position of the small red dot moves to a position just above the "N" in "AA**N**GETEKENDE". As can be seen below the position of the red dot remains the same even though the dimensions of the barcode are different within the same second 3-digit number "254". The third and fourth 3-digit numbers were encoded for the second 3-digit number "254" using an on-line generator. Proving what might be seen as obvious that the barcode width is dictated by the number encoded.

	220 254 139 824 Width = 803 pixels = 67,97 mm. Height = 83 pixels = 7,03 mm.
	220 254 388 521 Width 801 pixels = 67,82 [67,5] mm. Height 82 pixels = 6,94 [7] mm.
	220 254 458 436 Width 799 pixels = 67,65 [67,5] mm. Height 80 pixels = 6,77 [5+] mm.
	220 258 029 999 Width = 797 pixels = 67,48 [67+] mm. Height = 89 pixels = 7,54 [7+] mm.

126

139824 388521 458436

To date I have seen very few examples with the second 3-digit number beyond "258". The latest seen decoded is "325" with the red dot underneath the second black bar.
Code128, Module 4,0 pixels, Text 010541288500452621 220 325 688 231
Rectangle   X=221 pixels or 18,71 [19+] mm.,   Y=1 pixel or 0,08 [0] mm.,
             Width=804 pixels or 68,07 [68] mm.,   Height=87 pixels or 7,37 [7] mm.

8.11   Valeur Déclarée/Aangegeven waarde/Deklarierter wert Declared value

Only a single example has been seen. The label is basically the same as those for 93 x 17 mm. registration labels. An 8 mm. high "V" in an 11 mm. square box replaces the boxed "R". The human readable text for the 18-digit number is 20+ by 1,5 mm. and that for the four 3-digit blocks a total of 20 by 2 mm. There is no indication of the use of the label in the form AANGETEKENDE ZENDING │RECOMMANDÉ │ EINSCHREIBESENDUNG nor are "RP" and "AR" tick boxes employed in the registration label. The Code 128 barcode has a module of 3,8 pixels. The barcode encodes a 30-digit number that decodes as the human readable number 010541288501010721100000053831. The barcode employs the Application Identifier "01" followed by 14 data digits, then "21" and then a 12-digit unique product serial number. The first 9 data digits, "054128850", are the same as for all barcoded registration labels. The following 5 digits are different with "10107" replacing "04526". The 12-digit unique product serial number is broken into 4 blocks of 3 digits as with the 93 x 17 mm registration labels.
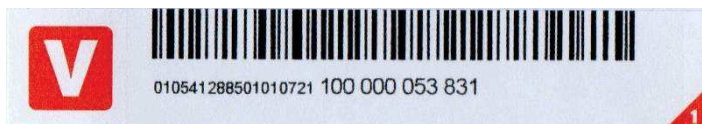
X=228 pixels or 19.30 mm., Y=0,
Width = 750 pixels = 63,5 [63+] mm.
Height = 81 pixels = 6,86 [6,5+] mm.

No evidence is available, but one can assume that the label is removed from a receipt form similar to the 201 PoD.

8.12   Gerechtsbrief/Pli Judiciare/Court Letter

Court letters are dispatched in a specific form of buff or green coloured envelopes with monolingual markings, Dutch Gerechtsbrief or French Pli Judiciare. All have a reference number, RP – AR and a payment that may be by U.V./R.D., by adhesive stamps, by meter franking or by Collect & Stamp.
As mentioned in Sections 5.2.1 and 5.2.4.2.5 above, the mark R.D. stands for "Rétribution Différée" in French or U.V. "Uitgestelde Vergoeding" in Flemish meaning Deferred or Postponed Compensation in which charges are accumulated over a period and then be the subject of a single invoice.

The Dutch GERECHTSBRIEF above has a reference number GW.006. Like many of the 34 examples held there is no date information, but this is often provided by the barcoded Form S03 advising of the attempted delivery of the item in question. The Form S03 is a self-adhesive label removed from a "Failure to Deliver Notice" that on the reverse has a note for the redelivery of the Gerechtsbrief/Pli Judiciare. This notice and the Form S03 are considered in Section 11.8.

Indien deze gerechtsbrief noch aan de geadresseerde in persoon, noch aan diens woonplaats ter hand kan gesteld worden, wordt hij gedurende ACHT dagen op het postkantoor ib bewaring gehouden.	If this Court letter cannot be given to the addressee in person, nor handed to his place of residence, it is to be kept for EIGHT days at the post office.

AR "Avis de Reception" or Notice of Receipt is fixed to the back of the envelope with instructions for the postman at the bottom.

Postbode : losmaken als u de omslag afgeeft
Facteur : à detacher lors de la remise du pli
Briefträger: Bei Aushändigung des Umschlags abreissen.

Postperson: detach if you deliver the envelope
Factor: to detach during the handing-over of the envelope.

Postman: Tear off in the case of handing the envelope out.
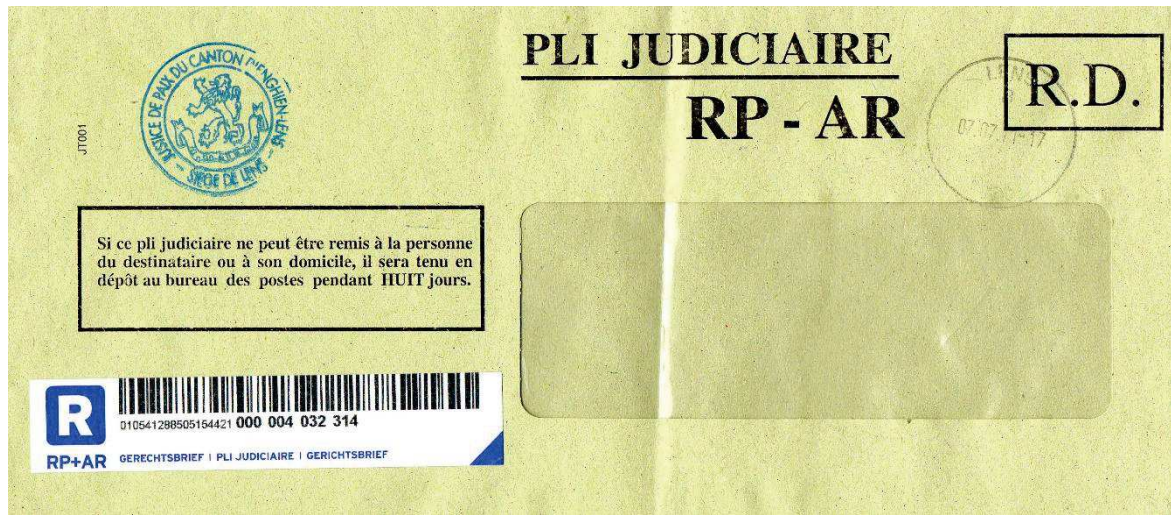
French PLI JUDICIAIRE, reference number JT001.
Cancelled LENS B 07.07.11-17 7870 Single-ring.

Si ce pli judiciaire ne peut être remis à la personne du destinataire ou à son domicile, il sera tenu en depot au bureau des postes pendant HUIT jours.	If this judicial envelope cannot be delivered to the recipient's person or to his home, it will be kept in deposit at the post office for EIGHT days.

RP "Recommandation d'Office" is a special registered tariff for service items. In 2020 the fee for RP shipments was 8/9 of the standard registration price.

8.12.1 Court Letter Registration Label.
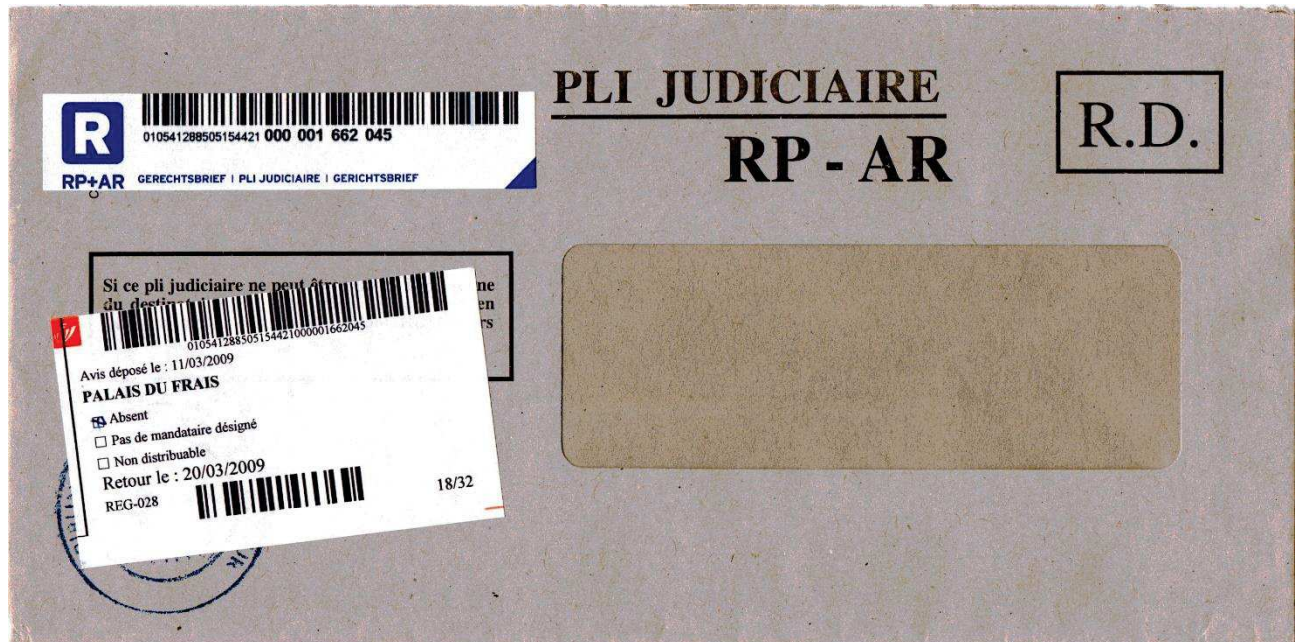
The earliest date held for the current type of label is 11/03/2009 with the date taken from the Form S03 on the cover as illustrated above. Prior to this date other forms of labels such as the 77 (Max 83) x 38 mm. label from Form 201 PoD or a commercial or a bulk mail label size 64 x 12 mm. or 66,5 x 13 mm. See Section 8.13.

This was 010541288500452621400046503084 barcode was on an envelope cancelled BRUGGE 1 A-P **10.02.05-17** 2e afdeling 8000 27 mm. diameter Single-ring. The date is supported by the "Absent" label to the right. Also held is an almost identical cover with the sequential barcode number 010541288500452621400046503085.

64 x 12 mm. label 010541288500452621 220 000 831 127 Code 128 on undated envelope.

66,5 x 13 mm. 010541288500452621 **300 050 619 038** UCC 128 on undated envelope.

The current 88 by 17 mm. Court Letter Registration Label has a similar format and content as the 93 x 17 mm. red post office registration labels.

010541288505154421 **000 000 738 472**

010541288500452621 **000 000 738 472**

The Court label has a 7,5 mm. high "R" in an 11 mm. square box on the left with a barcode above the human readable text. The text for the 18-digit number is 21 by 1,5 mm. and that for the four 3-digit blocks a total of 22 by 2 mm. There is a space of varying width between the "21" at the end of the 18-digit number and the beginning of the 12-digit serial number which is in 4 blocks of 3 digits. The "RP" and "AR" tick boxes are replaced by 2 mm high "RP+AR". There is no need for a choice as all court letters seen are printed with "RP–AR". The use of the label is indicated by GERECHTSBRIEF │PLI JUDICIARE │GERICHTSBRIEF in 1 mm high text. The numbered red triangle bottom right is replaced by an un-numbered blue triangle. The lack of a number suggests that the label does not come from a Form 201 PoD. No evidence is available as to the manner in which the label is supplied and whether a receipt is provided. The barcodes are all Code UCC 128 and employ one of three modules in those deciphered, 3,5, or 3,7 or 3,8 pixels. The barcode encodes a 30-digit number that deciphers as the human

readable number. The barcode employs the usual Application Identifier "01" followed by 14 data digits, then "21" and then a 12-digit unique product serial number. The first 9 data digits, "054128850", are the same as for all barcoded registration labels. The following 5 digits are different with "51544" replacing "04526" as with the 93 x 17 mm. registration labels.

All labels held are illustrated below. The first block of 3 digits "000" of the serial number has been ignored. The slight variation in the width between the "21" and the beginning of the 12-digit serial number can be seen. The module lengths on four sequential serial numbers "005 662 188" to "005 662 188" are slightly different. The small difference 0,0085 mm. may be due to the scanned image resolution. Varying heights of the barcodes can be seen and are verified by the measurements made. There are some vertical shifts in the text position and the distance of the barcode from the boxed "R" varies.

 Module 3,7pixels, 000 738 472	GW 06 GERECHTSBRIEF Boxed U.V. X = 192 pixels = 16,26 [16+] mm. Width = 788 pixels = 66,72 [66,5] mm. Height = 87 pixels = 7,37 [7] mm.
 Module 3,7pixels, 000 888 476	JT001 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. Tribunal De Police Neufchâteau X = 205 pixels = 17,36 [17] mm. Width = 789 pixels = 66,80 [66,5] mm. Height = 66 pixels = 5,59 [5,5] mm.
 Module 3,7pixels, 001 946 987 08 -11- 2012	GW 06 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Rechtbank Van Koophandel Veurne X = 208 pixels = 17.61 [17,5] mm. Width = 790 pixels = 66,89 [66,5] mm. Height = 68 pixels = 5,76 (5,5] mm.
 Module 3,7pixels, 001 662 045 11/03/2009	GW 06 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. X = 209 pixels = 17.7 [17,5] mm. Width = 789 pixels = 66,80 [66,5] mm. Height = 73 pixels = 6,18 [6] mm.
 Module 3,7 pixels, 003 942 339 24/11/2010	– GW 06 – Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. X = 189 pixels = 16,00 [16,5] mm. Width = 789 pixels = 66,80 [66,5] mm. Height = 75 pixels = 6,35 [6] mm.
 Module 3,7 pixels, 004 939 638	JT001 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. Tribunal De Commerce Mons X = 201 pixels = 17,02 [17] mm. Width 792 pixels = 67,06 [66,5] mm. Height 66 pixels = 5,59 mm [5,5] mm.
 Module 3,7 pixels, 004 032 314 08/07/2011	JT001 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. Justice De Paix Lens X = 197 pixels = 16,68 [16+] mm. Width = 791 pixels = 66,97 [66+] mm. Height = 88 pixels = 7,45 [6,5+] mm.
 Module 3,7 pixels, 004 032 316 07.07.11-17	JT001 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. Justice De Paix Lens X=197, Y=0, Width=791, Height=88 X = 197 pixels = 16,68 [16+] mm. Width = 791 pixels = 66,97[66+] mm. Height = 88 pixels = 7,45 [6,5+] mm.

R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 005 662 188** Module 3,8 pixels, 005 662 188 **21/10/2010**	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 206 pixels = 17,44 [17+] mm. Width = 790 pixels = 66,89 [66,5] mm. Height = 56 pixels = 4,74 [4+] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 005 662 189** Module 3,7 pixels, 005 662 189	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 205 pixels = 17,36 [17+] mm. Width = 791 pixels = 66,97 [66,5] mm. Height = 52 pixels = 4,40 [4] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 005 662 191** Module 3,7 pixels, 005 662 191 **21/10/2010**	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 207 pixels = 17,53 [17+] mm. Width = 792 pixels = 67,06 [66,5] mm. Height = 50 pixels = 4,23 [4] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 005 662 192** Module 3,8 pixels, 005 662 192	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 204 pixels = 17,27 [17+] mm. Width = 792 pixels = 67,06 [66,5] mm. Height = 56 pixels = 4,74 [4,5] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 007 113 952** Module 3,5 pixels, 007 113 952 **16-10-2012**	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Rechtbank Van Koophandel Ieper X = 186 pixels = 15,75 [15,5] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [62] mm. Height = 73 pixels = 6,18 [6] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 008 458 147** Module 3,5 pixels, 008 458 147	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 210 pixels = 17.78 [17,5] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [62,5] mm. Height = 71 pixels = 6,01 [6] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 009 358 958** Module 3,5 pixels, 009 358 958 **09-11-2012**	GW 06 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffie Van De Arbeidsrechtbank Dendermonde X = 204 pixels = 17,27 [17] mm. Width = 740 pixels = 62,65 [62] mm. Height = 73 pixels = 6,18 [6] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 009 875 296** Module 3,5 pixels, 009 875 296 **08-10-2012**	– GW 06 – Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. X = 208 pixels = 17.61 [17,5] mm. Width = 738 pixels = 62,48 [62] mm. Height = 64 pixels = 5,42 [5] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 010 633 928** Module 3,5 pixels, 010 633 928 **16/11/2012**	CJ.006 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. X = 187 pixels = 15,83 [15,5] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [15,5] mm. Height = 61 pixels = 5,16 [15,5] mm.
R RP+AR GERECHTSBRIEF I PLI JUDICIAIRE I GERICHTSBRIEF 010541288505154421 **000 010 459 651** Module 3,5 pixels, 010 459 651 **01/02/2013**	– GW 06 – Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Rechtbank van Eerste Aanlag Brussel X = 186 pixels = 15,75 [15,5] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [62+] mm. Height = 69 pixels = 5,84 [5] mm.

 Module 3,5 pixels, 010 004 528 **27 -11- 2012**	GW.006 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Griffe Arbeidsrechtbank Antwerpen X = 201 pixels = 17,02 [17] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [6,25] mm. Height = 72 pixels = 6,1 [6] mm.
 Module 3,5 pixels, 013 124 490 **05.03.14-12**	VP 001 Gerechtsbrief Boxed U.V. Vredegerecht Sint-Pieters-Leeuw X = 202 pixels = 17,10 [17] mm. Width = 739 pixels = 62,57 [62+]mm. Height = 56 pixels = 4,74 [4,5] mm.
 Module 3,5 pixels, 014 681 569 **25.03.15**	DGROJ/RO131/PRINT/2012/SZ7 Pli Judiciare Boxed R.D. Justice De Paix Gembloux X = 209 pixels = 17.7 [18] mm. Width = 749 pixels = 63,42 [63] mm. Height = 63 pixels = 5,33 [5] mm.

8.13   Commercial or Bulk Mail Registration Labels.

The first of three types of small, barcoded, registration labels for use with commercial, usually bulk, mail was reportedly introduced in October 2002. The first design was different to that subsequently introduced. The second design was employed in two different sized labels issued about the same time. The human readable text associated with the barcode all have the same content: an 18-digit number ending "21" and a 12-digit serial number. The introduction of the second design coincided with a change from Code UCC128 to Code 128 barcodes.

8.13.1 66,5 x 13 mm. Registration Labels.

The label is white and includes a 3,5 mm. "R" in red located immediately above the left, top edge of the barcode in those with a 2,8 pixels module or above and to the left of the barcode in those with a 2,5 pixels module. The barcode is always Code UCC128.
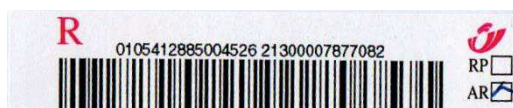
The La Poste/De Post logo is in the top right corner above 2 mm. square tick boxes labelled "RP" and "AR". The vertical positioning of both the "R" and the logo varies.

The human readable text is above the barcode in the same variety of formats as those on labels described under Sections 8.5, 8.7 and 8.9 above. The smaller font has a height of slightly more than 1 mm. and the larger font slightly more than 2 mm. The initial 16-digit number is "0105412885004526", the alternative "0105412885004519" is not employed. The 16-digit number is followed by "21" There is a small gap between "26" and "21" in the format 0105412885004526 21XXXXXXXXXXXX but no gap in either the 010541288500452621 **XXX XXX XXX XXX** or 0105412885004526**21**XXXXXXXXXXXX formats.

Examples have been seen where the label was employed on an item entering Belgium.
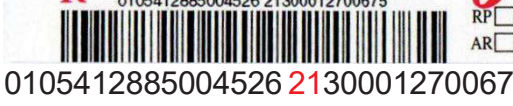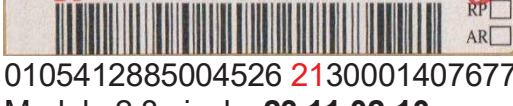
Incoming Polish envelope franked with traditional 44 x 20 mm. "Skarzysko Kam. 3" registered label numbered 033513. Franked 37,8 Polish złoty, cancelled SKARZYSKO KAMIENNA 3 **29090511** ✸AB✸ Single-ring to Belgium. 66,5 x 13 mm. Belgian barcoded label numbered 0105412885004526**21**400056362972 applied for the purpose of internal Track and Trace.

8.13.1.1   0105412885004526 **21**200XXXXXXXX

X = 79 pixels = 6,69 mm., Y = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 (50) mm., Height = 77 pixels = 6,52 (6) mm.	0105412885004526 21200004811953 Module 2,8 pixels, **19.02.03-15**

8.13.1.2   0105412885004526 **21**300XXXXXXXX.

X = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm., Y = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 [49,5] mm., Height = 85 pixels = 7,2 [7] mm.	0105412885004526 21300006637318 Module 2,8 pixels, **13.11.02-08**
X = 83 pixels = 7,03 mm., Y = 69 pixels = 5,84 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 [50,5] mm., Height = 84 pixels = 7,11 [6,5+] mm.	0105412885004526 21300006817810 Module 2,8 pixels, **21.03.05-09**
X = 72 pixels = 6,1 mm., Y = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 mm., Height = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm.	0105412885004526 21300007164029 Module 2,8 pixels, **25. 4.02-02**
X = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm., Y = 72 pixels = 6,1 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 [50,5] mm., Height = 88 pixels = 7,45 [7] mm.	0105412885004526 21300007863822 Module 2,8 pixels, **10.11.09-13**

X = 79 pixels = 6,69 mm., Y = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 mm., Height = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm.	0105412885004526 21300007877082 Module 2,8 pixels, **6.7.10-15**
X = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Y = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 mm., Height = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm.	0105412885004526 21300008069257 Module 2,8 pixels, **31.10.02-10**
X 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Y 78 pixels = 6,60 mm., Width 598 pixels = 50,63 mm., Height 82 pixels = 6,94 mm.	0105412885004526 21300010397703 Module 2,8 pixels, 18.02.03-09
X = 86 pixels = 7,28 [7] mm., Y = 82 pixels = 6,94 [6,5] mm., Width = 597 pixels = 50,55 [50,5] mm., Height = 75 pixels = 6,35 [6+] mm.	0105412885004 5 2621300010558520 Module 2,8 pixels, **02.03.04.-19**
X = 91 pixels = 7,70 mm., Y = 71 pixels = 6,01 mm., Width = 596 pixels = 50,46 mm., Height = 86 pixels = 7,29 mm.	0105412885004526 21300011478751 Module 2,8 pixels, **02 03 06-09**
X = 83 pixels = 7,03 mm., Y = 74 pixels = 6,27 mm., Width = 600 pixels = 50,8 mm., Height = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm.	0105412885004526 21300012700675 Module 2,8 pixels, **10.11.11**
X = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm., Y = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Width = 600 pixels = 50,8 [50+] mm., Height = 78 pixels = 6,60 [6] mm.	0105412885004526 21300014076777 Module 2,8 pixels, **23.11.02-10**

8.13.1.3   0105412885004526 21400XXXXXXXX.

X = 77 pixels = 6,52 mm., Y = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 mm., Height = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm.	0105412885004526 21400010972337 Module 2,8 pixels, **-7. 3. 06**
X = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm., Y = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 [50+] mm., Height = 75 pixels = 6,35 [6] mm.	0105412885004526 21400011317873 Module 2,8 pixels, **12.04.06-10**
X = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm., Y = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,78 [50,5+] mm., Height = 74 pixels = 6,27 [6] mm.	0105412885004526 21400013469423 Module 2,8 pixels, **19.VI.09**

X = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Y = 78 pixels = 6,60 mm., Width = 600 pixels = 50,8 [50+] mm., Height = 74 pixels = 6,27 [6] mm.	**R** 0105412885004526 21400018827869 RP☐ AR☐ 0105412885004526 21400018827869 Module 2,8 pixels, **15.04.08▮10**
X = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Y = 69 pixels = 5,84 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 mm., Height = 91 pixels = 7,70 mm.	**R** 0105412885004526 21400021665226 RP☐ AR☐ 0105412885004526 21400021665226 Module 2,8 pixels, **25.03.02-09**

8.13.1.4   0105412885004526**21 200 XXX XXX XXX**

X = 142 pixels = 12,02 mm., Y = 68 pixels = 5,76 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm.	**R** 010541288500452621 **200 042 949 043** RP☐ AR☐ 200 042 949 043 Module 2,5 pixels, **20.07.09-08**
X = 145 pixels = 12,28 mm., Y = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 mm., Height = 79 pixels = 6,69 mm.	**R** 010541288500452621 **200 042 949 194** RP☐ AR☐ 200 042 949 194 Module 2,5 pixels, **03.07.09-09**
X = 144 pixels = 12,19 mm., Y = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm.	**R** 010541288500452621 **200 042 949 317** RP☐ AR☐ 200 042 949 317 Module 2,5 pixels, **20/10/2009**
X = 142 pixels = 12,02 mm., Y =68 pixels = 5,76 mm., Width =527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height =86 pixels = 7,29 mm.,	**R** 010541288500452621 **200 043 174 449** RP☐ AR☐ 200 043 174 449 Module 2,5 pixels, **17.8.10-12**

8.13.1.5   0105412885004526**21 300 XXX XXX XXX**.
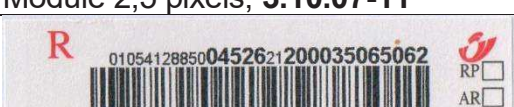
X = 129 pixels = 10,92 mm., Y = 70 pixels = 5,93 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height =81 pixels = 6,86 mm.,	**R** 010541288500452621 **300 055 405 611** RP☐ AR☒ 300 055 405 611 Module 2,5 pixels, **28.10.08-11**

8.13.1.6   010541288500452**621 400 XXX XXX XXX**.

X = 139 pixels = 11,77 mm., Y = 69 pixels = 5,84 mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 mm., Height = 85 pixels = 7,20 mm.	**R** 010541288500452621 **400 085 134 221** RP☐ AR☐ 400 085 134 221 Module 2,5 pixels, **16.05.2007**
X = 140 pixels ÷= 11,85 [12] mm., Y = 67 pixels = 5,67 [5,5] mm., Width = 529 pixels = 44.79 [44,5] mm., Height = 85 pixels = 7,20 [7,8] mm.	**R** 010541288500452621 **400 085 263 544** RP☐ AR☐ 400 085 263 544 Module 2,5 pixels, **17/07/07**

X = 134 pixels = 11.35 mm., Y = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm., Width = 529 pixels = 44.79 [44,5] mm., Height = 78 pixels = 6,60 [6,5] mm.	400 090 961 284 Module 2,5 pixels, **06.06.2007**
X = 137 pixels = 11.6 mm., Y = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 80 pixels = 6,77 mm.	400 096 374 913 Module 2,5 pixels, **-3. 1. 07**
X = 137 pixels = 11.6 mm., Y = 75 pixels = 6,35 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm.	400 097 278 128 Module 2,5 pixels, **12.5.11-15**
X = 140 pixels = 11,85 [12] mm., Y = 70 pixels = 5,93 [6] mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 [44,5] mm., Y = 84 pixels = 7,11 mm.	400 100 867 094 Module 2,5 pixels, **15. 10. 2010**
X = 134 pixels = 11.35 mm., Y = 70 pixels = 5,93 mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 mm., Height = 91 pixels = 7,70 mm.	400 101 385 454 Module 2,5 pixels, **21 / 01 / 08**

8.13.1.7   01054128850**04526**21**200XXXXXXXX**.

X = 130 pixels = 11.01 mm., Y = 74 pixels = 6,27 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm.	0105412885004526**21**200034550758 Module 2,5 pixels, **11.12.09-9**
X = 131 pixels = 11.09 mm., Y = 68 pixels = 5,76 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 92 pixels = 7,79 mm.	0105412885004526**21**200034950005 Module 2,5 pixels, **3.10.07-11**
X = 138 pixels = 11,69 mm., Y = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,92 [44,5] mm., Height = 82 pixels = 6,94 [7] mm.	0105412885004526**21**200035065062 Module 2,5 pixels, **6.3.07-15**

8.13.1.8   01054128850**04526**21**300XXXXXXXX**.

X = 138 pixels = 11,69 mm., Y = 78 pixels = 6,60 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height = 78 pixels = 6,60 mm.	0105412885004526**21**300044596811 Module 2,5 pixels, Illegible date
X = 140 pixels = 11,85 mm., Y = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 mm., Height = 78 pixels = 6,60 mm.	0105412885004526**21**300043852049 Module 2,5 pixels, **07 03 06-11**

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X = 141 pixels = 11,94 mm., Y = 78 pixels = 6,60 mm., Width = 525 pixels = 44,45 mm., Height =81 pixels = 6,86 mm.	 0105412885004526**21**300043852056 Module 2,5 pixels, **07 03 06-11**

8.13.1.9   010541288850**04526**21**400XXXXXXXX**.

X = 141 pixels = 11,94 [12] mm., Y = 68 pixels = 5,76 [5,5] mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 [44,5] mm., Height = 85 pixels = 7,20 [7,8] mm.	 0105412885004526**21**400043619745 Module 2,5 pixels, **15 10 2010**
X = 135 pixels = 11,43 mm., Y = 74 pixels = 6,27 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height = 83 pixels = 7,03 mm.	 0105412885004526**21**400045450080 Module 2,5 pixels, **23.03.06.20**
X = 135 pixels = 11,43 mm., Y = 77 pixels = 6,52 mm., Width = 528 pixels = 44,70 mm., Height = 73 pixels = 6,18 mm.	 0105412885004526**21**400056362972 Module 2,5 pixels, **29 09 05 11**
X = 137 = pixels = 11.6 mm., Y = 76 pixels = 6,43 mm., Width = 527 pixels = 44,62 mm., Height = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm.	 0105412885004526**21**400071106921 Module 2.5 pixels, **10 . 2 . 10**
X = 140 pixels = 11,85 mm., Y = 81 pixels = 6,86 mm., Width = 526 pixels = 44,53 mm., Height = 77 pixels = 6,52 mm.	 0105412885004526**21**400055644883 Module 2,5 pixels, **17.09.08-10**

Use of this type of label continued until well after its replacements were introduced. Registered DL window franked by Pitney Bowes "B762" "EasyMail", digital, Franking On Line Loading System as LAMALLE & RENETTE Cabinet d'Avocats Rue Paul Devaux, 2 (Terrasses) B-4000 LIEGE 56154 170947 LIEGE 12 10.11.11 4000   05,31€ BEDF48ZYF. K15. Cancelled 4020 PP DELHAIZE LONGDOZ POINT POST 09. 11. 2011 ℧ Single-ring. 66,5 x 13 mm. barcoded label numbered 0105412885004526 21300012700675.

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8.13.2   Probability of number repetition.

The chance of number duplication was not recognized by me until the 220 series of 93 x 17 mm. registration labels, See Section 8.10.1. The numbers associated with 66,5 x 13 mm. labels also provided the opportunity for duplication which has been investigated. The continued use of the numbers "100", "200", "300" and "400" as the first series of 3 digits after the "21" suggests duplication is possible. The combination of the first and second series of 3 digits provides a million combinations of the third and fourth series of 3 digits as shown below. The possibility of finding two labels with the same number is therefore very small. Finding two labels with the same combination of the first and the second series of 3 digits would be a regular event for a specialist collector, as demonstrated by the examples highlighted and the two covers illustrated below. Such an event would in no way compromise the Track and Trace system.

0105412885004526 21400021994448

0105412885004526 21400021665226

0105412885004526 21 300 055 228 699

0105412885004526 21 300 055 405 611

A registered DL Envelope franked: 3 x COB 2964 (50fr./1,24€) + NVI COB 3046a (17fr./0,42€) Cancelled OLEN 1 C **25.03.02-09** 2250 Single-ring to Geel, employs a 66,5 x 13 mm. Belgian, barcoded, registration label numbered 0105412885004526 21400021665226.

CocaCola Enterprises Belgium DL: Window franked:
PRIOR SERVIPOST **08.03.2005** BRUSSEL X Double-ring BELGIQUE/BELGIË SERVIPOST P30102 employs a 66,5 x 13 mm. Belgian, barcoded, registration label numbered 010541288500452621 400021459835 applied.

SERVIPOST was a service where De Post-La Poste collected unfranked items daily subsequently franking and delivering the items. Items were placed in sacks sealed with white, self-adhesive labels with the company's barcode. These were provided in sheets of 21. Their undated, user guide I have downloaded, required the use of lists or receipts for registered mail and illustrated what appears to be the Form 201 PoD. There were offices in Antwerp, Brussels, Charleroi, Ghent and Liege and the latest cancellation I have seen was dated 23/06/2010.

8.13.3	64 x 12 mm. registration labels.

The 64 x 17 mm. and 64 x 12 mm. registration labels are identical in format and layout to the 93 x 17 mm labels of the 110 and 220 series, see Sections 8.10.1 and 8.10.2 above.

The human readable text beneath the barcode is in a similar style with the 18-digit number slightly smaller than the four, 3-digit blocks. The difference is not so pronounced as seen in the 93 x 17 mm labels and the various features printed in red are not amenable to measurement with any accuracy using a simple transparent rule. All barcodes are Code 128, and the Module varies from 2,5 to 3,1 pixels with the 64 x 12 mm. labels whilst the 64 x 17 mm. labels are all Module 3,0 pixels. The first 18 numbers of the 30 digits are all "01054128850045262 1" followed by a unique 12-digit serial number. Section 8.10.1 above provides information leading to the conclusion that both 64 x 12 mm and 64 x 17 mm labels have second, 3-digit number that match ones in the 93 x 17 mm series. Table 1. below provides details supporting this conclusion.

The earliest date seen is 28/04/2009 for the 64 x 17 mm. labels and for the 64 x 12 mm. ones. 14/05/2009. As the second 3-digit block number increases the dates seen are later in both cases. For example, 64 x 12 mm. "277 644 846" seen dated 19/12/2018 and "180 181 105" dated 07/01/2019. Similarly, 64 x 17 mm. labels "294 024 547" dated 26/07/2019 and "192 478 632" dated 13/12/2016. Unless there is some change in policy one might expect all three sizes to continue for decades until the second 3-digit block reaches 999. That two different sized, labels were issued at the same time is a puzzle. This may be explained by the way in which these labels are supplied which is addressed in Section 8.13.5 below.

8.13.3.1	64 x 12 mm. registration labels 11 examples with Module 3,0 pixels

2nd 3-digits	023	025	028	029	030	031		
Quantity held	2	4	1	1	1	2		
X = pixels	101	102	104	105	107	108	114	
Quantity held	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	
Width = pixels	599	600	601	607	608	609	611	
Quantity held	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	
Height = pixels	63	64	66	67	68	71	73	74
Quantity held	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1

X = 114 pixels = 9,65 mm., Y = 0 pixel = 0,00 mm., Width = 609 pixels = 51,56 mm., Height = 64 pixels = 5,42 mm.	 010541288500452621 220 030 795 115 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 030 795 115 05.10•09
X =102 =pixels = 8,64 mm. Y = 0 pixel = 0,00 mm. Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 [50+] mm. Height = 74 pixels = 6,27 [5,5+] mm.	 010541288500452621 220 025 240 362 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 025 240 362 14. 5.09-12
X = 107 pixels = 9,06 mm., Y = 0 pixel = 0,00 mm., Width 611 pixels = 51,73 [51+] mm., Height 68 pixels = 5,76 [6] mm.	 010541288500452621 220 028 897 576 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 028 897 576 17.08.09-21
X = 108 pixels = 9,14 mm., Y = 1 pixel = 0,08 mm., Width = 608 pixels = 51,48 [51,5] mm., Height = 66 pixels = 5,59 [5,5] mm.	 010541288500452621 220 031 361 956 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 031 361 956 14.4.10-11
X = 104 pixels = 8,81 mm., Y = 0 pixel = 0,00 mm., Width = 607 pixels = 51,39 mm., Height = 63 pixels = 5,33 mm.	 010541288500452621 220 031 669 692 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 031 699 692 03/12/10

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8.13.3.2   64 x 12 mm. registration labels 13 examples with Module 3,1 pixels

2nd 3-digits	057	058	059	060	061	062	063	064	066	068	069
Quantity held	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1

X = pixels	92	94	97	98	99	103	105	107	112	116
Quantity held	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1
Width = pixels	608	609	610	611	612	613	615	616		
Quantity held	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	1		
Height = pixels	64	66	67	68	69	71	72	74	75	78
Quantity held	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1

220 061 419 010   **02/12/2013**

X = 92 pixels = 7,79 mm.,
Y = 0 pixel = 0,00 mm.,
Width = 609 pixels = 51,56 mm.,
Height = 72 pixels = 6,1 mm.

220 064 111 049   **11. 2. 2010**

X =116 pixels = 9,82 mm.,
Y =0 pixel = 0,00 mm.,
Width 613 pixels = 51,90 mm.,
Height 78 pixels = 6,60 mm.

220 057 215 083   **17.07.10-21**

X =105 pixels = 8,89 mm.,
Y = 2 pixels = 0,17 mm.,
Width = 608 pixels = 51,48 mm.,
Height = 68 pixels = 5,76 mm.

220 068 753 684   **05/05/11**

X = 112 pixels = 9,48 mm.,
Y = 1 pixel = 0,08 mm.,
Width = 616 pixels = 52,15 [52] mm.,
Height =64 pixels = 5,42 [5] mm.

8.13.3.3   64 x 12 mm. registration labels 13 examples with Module 2,5 pixels

2nd 3-digits	70	71	75	76	79	87	88	100	102	127	180
Quantity held	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

X = pixels	95	96	98	103	104	109	110	111	113	117
Number held	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1
Width = pixels	497	498	500	505						
Number held	1	5	6	1						
Height = pixels	57	58	60	61	62	63	66	73		
Number held	1	2	1	1	1	2	3	2		

X = 95 pixels = 8,04 mm.,
Y = 0 pixels = 0,00 mm.,
Width = 500 pixels = 42,33 mm.,
Height = 66 pixels = 5,59 mm.

220 100 027 565   **06-05-2014**

X = 117 pixels = 9,91 mm.,
Y = 0 pixels = 0,00 mm.,
Width = 498 pixels = 42,16 mm.,
Height = 62 pixels = 5,25 mm.

220 071 705 306   **30/11/10**

X = 109 pixels = 9,23 mm.,
Y = 2 pixels = 0,17 mm.,
Width = 497 pixels = 42,08 mm.,
Height = 60 pixels = 5,08 mm.

220 079 928 615   **01. 12. 2011**

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X = 96 pixels = 8,13 mm., Y = 2 pixels = 0,17 mm., Width = 505 pixels = 42,76 mm., Height = 57 pixels = 4,83 mm.	010541288500452621 220 087 374 911 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 087 374 911 **7.9.12-11**
X = 104 pixels = 8,81 mm., Y = 2 pixels = 0,17 mm., Width = 498 pixels = 42,16 mm., Height = 73 pixels = 6,18 mm.	010541288500452621 220 088 236 208 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 088 236 208 **02. 10. 2017**

8.13.3.4   <u>64 x 12 mm. labels 3 examples "Out of Sequence" with Module 3,0 pixels</u>

Three examples have been seen "out of sequence" with Module 3,0 pixels

R 010541288500452621 220 060 949 212 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 060 949 212 **16. 03. 10**	X = 100 pixels = 8,47 (8+) mm. Y = 1 pixel = 0,08 mm. Width = 607 pixels = 51,39 [51+] mm. Height = 63 pixels = 5,33 [5+ mm.
R 010541288500452621 220 075 505 586 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 075 505 586 **25.10.11-13**	X = 109 pixels = 9,23 [9+] mm. Y = 0 pixels = 0,00 mm. Width = 500 pixels = 42,33 [42] mm. Height = 63 pixels = 5,33 [5+] mm.
R 010541288500452621 220 277 644 846 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 277 644 846 **19/12/18**	X = 96 pixels = 8,13 [8+] mm. Y = 0 pixels = 0,00 mm. Width = 601 pixels = 50,88 [50,5] mm. Height = 54 pixels = 4,57 [4+] mm.

8.13.4   <u>64 x 17 mm. registration labels.</u>

All of the barcodes are Code 128 with a Module of 3,0 pixels. There are two different number font sizes the initial 18-digit series being slightly smaller than the 4 blocks of 3 digits. Of the 28 examples deciphered the barcode dimensions are fairly consistent. The average width is 599,11 pixels or 50,72 mm. and a spread of 8 pixels or 0,68 mm. with an average height of 85,04 pixels or 7,2 mm. and a spread 7 pixels or 0,53 mm.

X = pixels	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
Quantity held	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	1	5
X = pixels	111	112	113	116	117	118			
Quantity held	1	2	1	3	1	1			
Width = pixels	596	597	598	599	600	601			
Quantity held	1	1	7	7	9	3			
Height = pixels	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	
Quantity held	1	4	9	2	5	1	4	1	
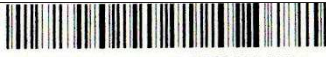
X = 102 pixels = 8,64 mm., Y = 15 pixels = 1,27 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 mm., Height = 86 pixels = 7,29 mm.	010541288500452621 220 019 463 883 R RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 019 463 883 **25. 2. 10**
X = 110 pixels = 9,31 mm., Y = 10 pixels = 0,85 mm., Width = 596 pixels = 50,46 mm., Height = 85 pixels = 7,20 mm.	R 010541288500452621 220 049 119 571 RP AR RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1 220 049 119 571 **08/12/10**

X = 104 pixels = 8,81 mm., Y = 18 pixels = 1,52 mm., Width = 601 pixels = 50,88 mm., Height = 88 pixels = 7,45 mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 112 507 857 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 112 507 857 **21/01/2015**
X = 118 pixels = 9,99 mm., Y = 16 pixels = 1,35 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 mm., Height = 82 pixels = 6,94 mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 011 712 550 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 011 712 550 **02/03/11**
X = 128 pixels = 10,84 mm., Y = 8 pixels = 0,68 mm., Width = 600 pixels = 50,8 mm., Height = 89 pixels = 7,54 mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 192 478 632 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 192 478 632 **13/12/2016**
X = 112 pixels = 9,48 mm., Y = 10 pixels = 0,85 mm., Width = 598 pixels = 50,63 mm., Height = 86 pixels = 7,29 mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 013 925 363 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 013 925 363 **28/04/09**
X = 111 pixels = 9,4 mm., Y = 13 pixels = 1,10 mm., Width = 599 pixels = 50,72 [50+] mm., Height = 84 pixels = 7,11 [7] mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 294 024 547 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 294 024 547 **26/07/2019**
X = 104 pixels = 8,81 [9,50] mm., Y = 9 pixels = 0,76 [1] mm., Width = 597 pixels 50,55 [50,5] mm., Height = 88 pixels = 7,45 [7] mm.	 0105412885004526 21 220 003 531 303 RECOMMANDÉ I AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 220 003 531 303 **17. 6. 2013**

Latest use seen a **PSA** FINANCE Avenue de Finlande 8 b2 1420 Braine-l'Alleud DL Window franked: Data Matrix 26/07/2019 PRIOR BELGIQUE│BELGIE Collect & Stamp. 64 x 12 mm. registration label 010541288500452621 220 294 024 547.
Barcoded "Reason for Late Delivery" label S03. See Section 11.9.

Table listing the 2nd, 3rd and 4th blocks of 3 digits on labels held. Those where duplication is a rare possibility are <mark>highlighted</mark>.

Left table

64 x 17 mm.	64 x 12 mm.
	000 831 127
003 531 303	
004 342 383	
006 945 837	
009 458 376	
011 709 329	
012 514 438	
013 936 755	
014 979 705	
019 463 883	
	023 452 313
	024 133 468
	025 027 882
	029 677 137
	030 795 115
	031 699 692
032 910 048	
033 943 260	
034 868 674	
036 198 479	
042 826 164	
044 784 824	
049 119 571	
051 813 277	
055 203 258	
	056 155 096
	058 957 101
64 x 17 mm.	64 x 12 mm.

Right table

64 x 17 mm.	64 x 12 mm.	93 x 17 mm
	059 199 463	
	060 949 212	
	061 751 325	
	062 598 370	
	063 099 962	
	064 111 049	
	066 007 130	
	068 753 684	
	069 245 939	
	070 699 037	
	071 705 306	
	075 505 586	
	076 695 320	
	079 928 615	
		080 630 954
		081 212 483
		082 719 123
		083 128 427
		084 634 433
		085 009 212
		086 012 453
087 374 911		087 488 479
088 236 208		088 291 191
089 142 276		
		090 903 272
100 027 565		100 735 777
		101 527 304
102 183 913		102 504 880
112 507 857		112 223 066
114 473 600	127 429 606	
118 195 951	128 875 281	
136 577 574	180 181 105	
64 x 17 mm.	64 x 12 mm.	
		93 x 17 mm

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8.13.5   Supply & Usage of 64 x 12 mm. & 64 x 17 mm. registration labels.

I have not sighted any documentation relating to the supply and usage of the first bulk mail, 66,5 x 13 mm., registration labels, See Section 8.13.1 above. Reference 1 provides some insight into the procedure suggesting they come in an A4 sheet (Form 208 BC) with eight labels. The same or similar sheets serve as the receipt.

Some illustrations are provided in an unreferenced, undated user guide for the COLLECT & STAMP service. These include:

the Form 201 PoD for single items,
the Form 208BC for up to eight items that appears to double as the receipt form,
the Form 203.12PoD of which an example is shown and discussed below,
the form 201 PoD Int for single international items,
and the form 208 Int that appears to be a receipt form for multiple international items.

8.13.5.1   Form 203.12PoD.

Full size illustrations of the top and bottom parts of the form, translations into English and the labels to which the two parts apply are shown immediately below. A complete sheet at 75% actual size is shown below at the end of this section.

TOP PART

NATIONAL REGISTERED SENDING   203.12PoD
Stick on the front of your shipment
▼   Stick on the AR form
              ▼
                          Stick on your 208 receipt
                          ▼

BOTTOM PART

BELGIQUE | BELGIË | BELGIEN

Suivez votre recommandé sur
Volg uw aangetekende zending op
Folgen Sie Ihrer Einschreibesendung
www.post.be/track

Follow your registered mail
www.post.be/track

The reference to www.post.be./track indicates the sheet was printed prior to the change of name from De Post/La Poste/Die Post to bpost on 1st January 2010.

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Instructions for use are printed on the reverse of the form.

I have not seen the label employed on an avis de reception, nor a label employed on a bpost list of registered items, but I have one employed on a list produced by TBC-POST. Presumably, this "list of registered sendings" acts as a record of registered items sent from the customer in this case Proximus.

Labels employed by TBC-POST are addressed in Section 8.13.7.

8.13.6 Registration Labels for use by the Postal Authority.

Only three of these labels have been seen and no supporting receipts or documentation. Their usage strongly suggests that they are possibly employed on internal, post office, registered mail. All three examples include a service indicator "SI" and a 30-digit human readable text below the barcode with the same text as that encoded. As with other registration labels the initial 16-digit number is followed by "21" and then a 12-digit unique product serial number. None has the RP & AR Boxes. All held were employed in 2012. The difference lies in the final 5 digits of the initial 18-digit number which is "20571" instead of the usual "04526".

The example illustrated below at 75% actual, has a registration label with a similar human readable format to the Section 8.13.1.9 example shown below right. The post office label is 67 x 13 mm. the Section 8.13.1.9 label has a slightly smaller width, measuring 66,5 x

13 mm. and reads 010541288850**04526**21**400045450080**. Both barcodes are printed on the bottom of the label and are UCC (Uniform Code Council) Code 128 with a 4 mm high "RI" replacing the 3 mm. high "R". Could "RI" represent Recommandé Interne?

The post office example left has the usual length 30 characters, a module of 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 141 pixels or 11,94 [12] mm.,   Y = 77 pixels or 6,52 [6,5] mm.,
              Width = 527 pixels or 44,62 [44+] mm.,   Height = 79 pixels or 6,69 [6,5] mm.
The text printed above the barcode is 010541288850**20571**21**000000305885**.
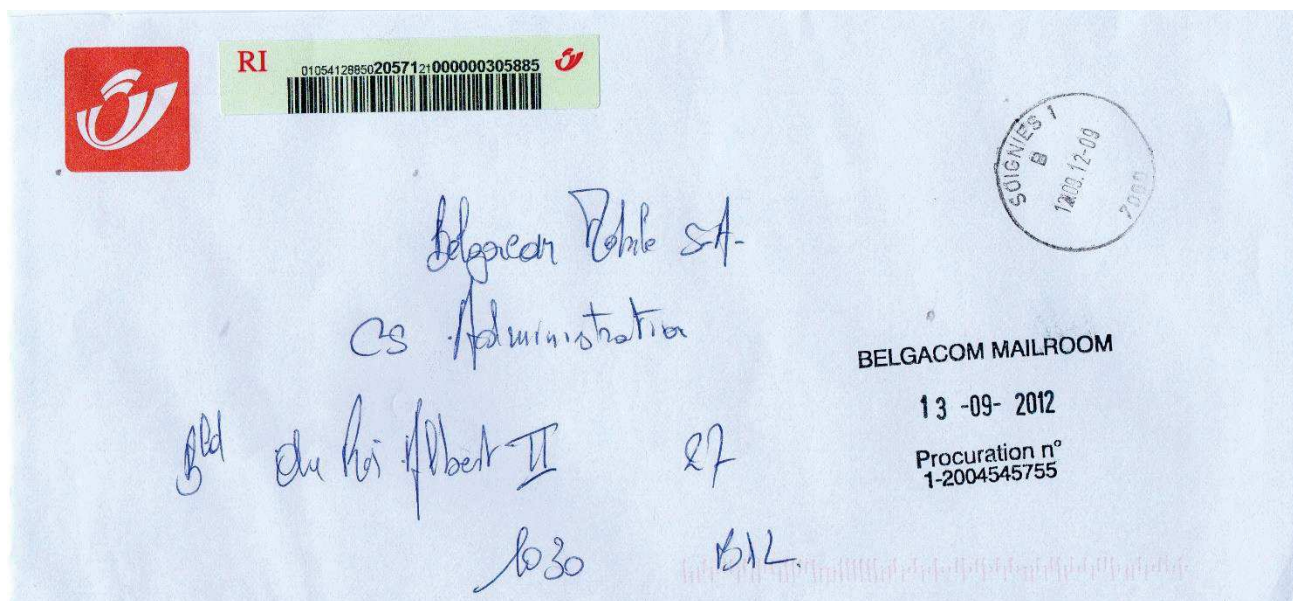
The DL envelope, identified on the reverse as R 492 Bis – Code ERP 2500000002525, is unfranked and cancelled SOIGNIES 1 B **12.09.12-09** 7080 Single-ring to Belgacom. The identification number is typical of post office documents of the time.
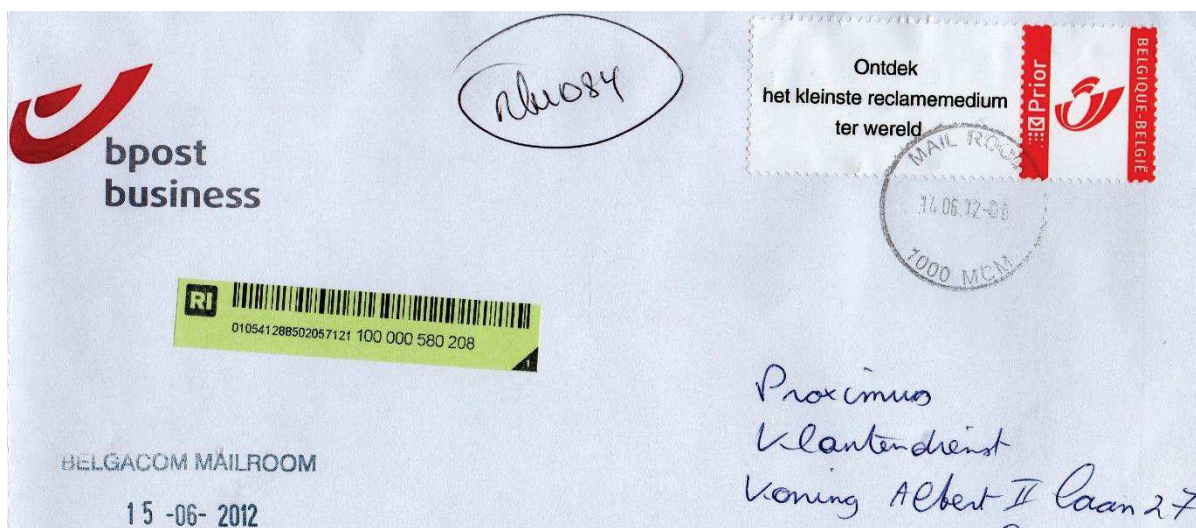
The 64 x 12 mm. label has a 3 mm. high green "RI" in a 5,5 mm. square black box. The Code 128 barcode is at the top with the human readable text below.
There is a black triangle containing a green "1" in the bottom right corner. This is suggestive that there may be a receipt form of some type possibly with a different number in the triangle. The Code 128 barcode encrypts the usual 30 characters and has a module of 3,1 pixels,

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Rectangle   X = 115 pixels or 9,74 [10] mm.,   Y = 0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
          Width = 618 pixels or 52,32 [52] mm.,   Height = 53 pixels or 4,49 [4+] mm.

The human readable text below the barcode is 010541288502057121 100 000 580 208 the same as that encoded. On the reverse the ✔ bpost business DL envelope has the text "bpost business – Group Marketing Communication – 1ste verdieping – Muntcentrum – 1000 Brussel". It is franked by a NVI COB 3274 issued on 19th April 2004 Post Office Logo for use with personalised Montimbre, Duostamp and Mediastamp. The personalised vignette being "Ontdek het kleinste reclamemedium ter wereld" [Discover the smallest advertising medium in the world]. The cancellation is MAIL ROOM **14.06.12-00** 1000 MCM Single-ring to Belgacom in Brussels.
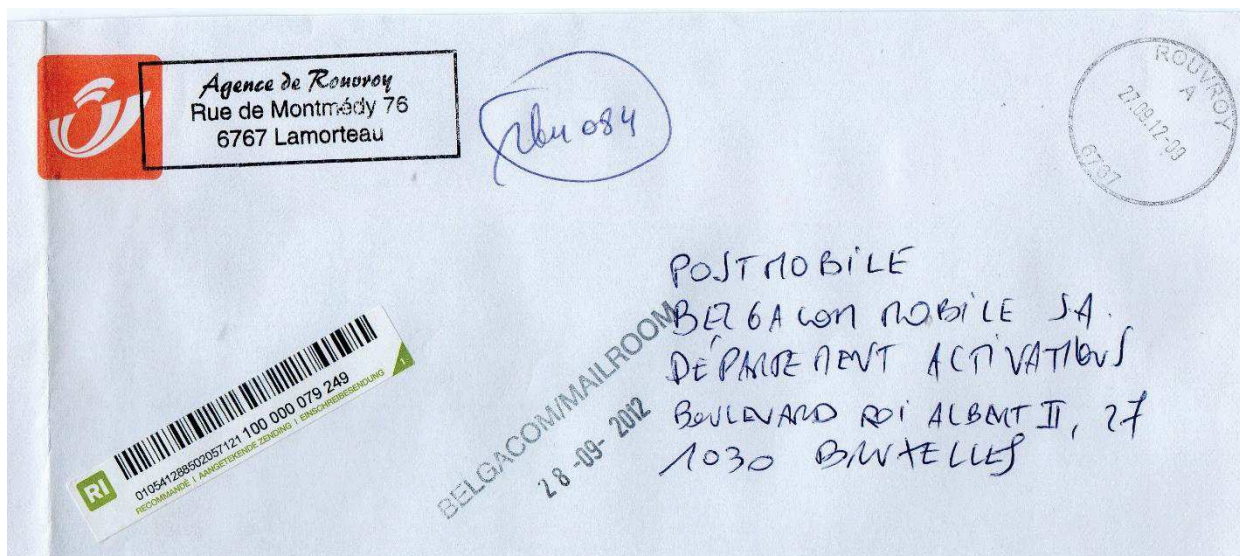
On the reverse of the ⟁ DL envelope shown above is the text R 492 Bis – Code ERP 2500000002525 and the envelope is unfranked. The cancellation is ROUVROY A **27.09.12-09** 6767 Single-ring to 1030 Brussels. The significance of the boxed cachet "Agence de Rouvroy Rue de Montmédy 76 6767 Lamorteau" is unknown.

The 64 x 12 mm. label includes a 3,0 pixels module barcode.

Rectangle   X=121 pixels or 10,24 [10] mm.,   Y=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.
          Width=598 pixels or 50,63 [5,5] mm.,   Height=57 pixels or 4,83 [5] mm.

The human readable text below the barcode is 010541288502057121 100 000 079 249 the same as that encoded. The label has a 3 mm. high green "RI" in a 5,5 mm. square black box. The Code 128 barcode is at the top with the human readable text below. The first 18 digits are approximately 1 mm. high whilst the 12-digit product serial number is approximately 2 mm. high and is split into four 3 digits blocks. Below the human readable text identifies the purpose of the label. There is a green "1" in a black triangle in the bottom right corner of the label. As with the previous example this is suggestive that there may be a receipt form of some type.

Apart from absence of RP & AR boxes this label is identical in format to those addressed in Sections 8.10.1, 8.10.2, 8.13.3 and 8.13.4. Apart from the text size for the 12-digit serial number the closest match being those in Section 8.13.3.1. whose barcodes have the same 3,0 pixels module.

An anomalous Form 201 PoD, a receipt for the deposit of a registered item (See Section 8.10 above) is shown below. In this form the barcodes have been struck out manually and the Avis de Reception (Acknowledgement of Receipt) removable self-adhesive label has been

obscured by a yellow label bearing a 30-digit number in the same general form of those seen on registration labels.
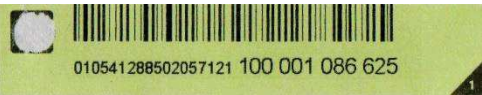
The difference lies in the final 5 digits of the initial 16-digit number which is "11128" instead of "20571" in post office labels or "04526" for labels in general use. The full 30-digit number being 010541288501112821000000042316.

The Form 201 PoD is cancelled JURBISE B **09.06.09-10** 7050 Single-ring.

This Jurbise cancellation indicates that the item was dispatched by a Delcampe seller but gives no obvious clue to the reason for the application of the yellow numbered label. A clue may lie in the recipient, the Philatelic Centre at Mechelen/Malines.

Another anomalous item is shown below. An AR (Acknowledgement of Receipt), unfranked envelope with a modified 52 x 12 mm., black on green registration label with the "RI" punched out. The 30-digit text, 010541288502057121 **100 001 086 625,** is consistent with the intact version shown above. The barcode is Code 128 with a module of 2,5 pixels. Sent from Eghezee there is what seems to be a private, sender's address on the rear. There is a next day Belgacom receiving handstamp.

	Rectangle: X=118 pixels or 9,99 [9,5+] mm., Y=0 pixels or 0 [0] mm., Width=498 pixels or 42,16 [42] mm., Height=57 pixels or 4,83 [5] mm.
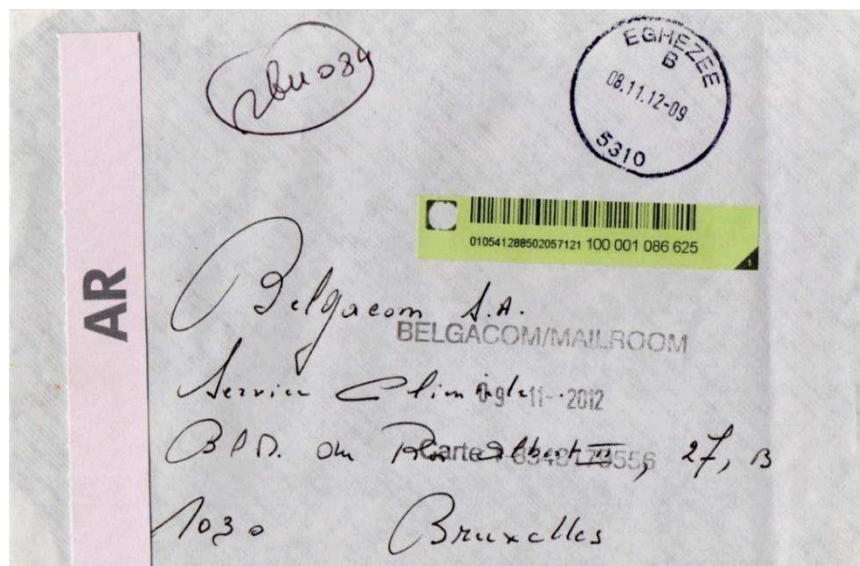
8.13.7　　　TBC-Post Registration Labels.

　　　There appear to be close links between bpost and the private TBC-Post although I have not been able to identify any formal link. Covers clearly associated with TBC-Post often have a 4-state postal barcode suggesting passage through the bpost system, See Section 4.7.2. TBC-Post have employed bpost items such as registration labels as can be seen under Section 8.13.5.1 and on the registered item below.

8.13.7.1　　TBC-Post Franking Machine "Meter Marks".

　　　The limited number of covers seen with mechanical machine franking employ meter numbers BEGM570Z3 or BEGM68CZ3 and are of the Pitney Bowes "DM800/900" (digital) type, See Section 5.1.5.2. For those held the period covered is 2008 to 2012.

010541288500452621 **110 039 201 387** 93 x 17 mm. registration label on
TUC RAIL BELGIAN RIL ENGINEERING A5 Window franked:
WWW.TBC-POST.COM 1800 28 / 03 / 11 00586515-8C8 "Data Matrix" €005,84 BEGM68CZ3 BEA001BEGM68CZ30000337166618002803119990058BDF900586515000477054508C8
Registration fee 4,70€, abnormal letter 1,42€ total 6,12€,
5,84€ paid hence probably a contract tariff.
The base of this large envelope does have an undecipherable, 4-state, postal barcode.

8.13.7.2　　TBC-Post Registration labels.

　　　As can be seen below, the TBC-Post equivalent of the bpost Form 203.12PoD shown under Section 8.13.5.1 differs in that it caters for items sent to both national and international destinations. The text and language precedents, French/Dutch/German are the same. Like the bpost form the TBC-Post form includes the AR "Avis de Reception" or Notice of Receipt but with a barcode as well as its human readable equivalent. The bpost form just has the human readable text. The human readable text beneath the barcode is continuous in the TBC-Post labels but printed in 18 digits followed by 4 blocks of 3 digits for the bpost. In both TBC-Post and bpost labels the first 18 numbers "010541288500452621" are identical.

ENVOI RECOMMANDE NATIONAL ET INTERNATIONAL
NATIONALE EN INTERNATIONALE AANGETEKENDE ZENDING
NATIONALE UND INTERNATIONALE EINSCHREIBESENDUNG

A coller au recto de votre envoi	A coller sur le formulaire AR	A coller sur votre récépissé
Op de voorzijde van uw zending kleven	Op het bericht van ontvangst kleven	Op uw afgiftebewijs kleven
Auf Vorderseite Ihrer Sendung anbringen	Auf AR-formular anbringen	Auf Einlieferungsschein anbringen

R 0105412885004526213330011122141
RECOMMANDE /AANGETEKENDE ZENDING/ EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1

AR 0105412885004526213330011122141
AR 2

R 0105412885004526213330011122141
3

ENVOI RECOMMANDÉ NATIONAL
NATIONALE AANGETEKENDE ZENDING
NATIONALE EINSCHREIBESENDUNG

203.12PoD

A coller au recto de votre envoi	A coller sur le formulaire AR	A coller sur votre récépissé 208
Op de voorzijde van uw zending kleven	Op het bericht van ontvangst kleven	Op uw afgiftebewijs 208 kleven
Auf Vorderseite Ihrer Sendung anbringen	Auf AR-formular anbringen	Auf Einlieferungsschein 208 anbringen

R 0105412885004526213330011122141
RP 0105412885004526213330011122141
01 AR RECOMMANDÉ | AANGETEKENDE ZENDING | EINSCHREIBESENDUNG 1

AR 0105412885004526213330011122141
AR 2

R 0105412885004526213330011122141
3

The reverse of the TBC-Post form is also similar to the bpost equivalent.

MODE D'EMPLOI
GEBRUIKSAANWIJZING
GEBRAUCHSANWEISUNG

1
A apposer sur votre envoi
Op uw zending aan te brengen
Auf ihrer Sendung anbringen

2
A apposer sur votre formulaire AR
Op uw AR-formulier aan te brengen
Auf Ihrem AR-Formular anbringen

3
A coller sur votre récépissé
Te kleven op uw afgiftbewijs
Auf dem Einlieferungsschein anbringen

BELGIQUE | BELGIË | BELGIEN

TBC-Post, a division of Mosaïc sprl/bvba – Leuvensesteenweg, 518 – 1930 Zaventem –Belgium
Phone 0032(0)2.751.85.52
info@tbc-post.com –www.tbc-post.com – BE 0469.311.437 – FORTIS 210.0753110.54

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The manner in which the sheet was sold on Delcampe gave some cause for concern that the item might have been produced by TBC-Post for philatelic purposes. Also, the first 3 digits of the 12-digit serial number "333" is different to the "900" seen used on covers and on other items considered below, albeit this is a small sample. Examples of the two types of labels were deciphered and compared. Both examples were Code128, Length 30 characters, Module 3,0 pixels.

010541288500452621333001122141

Rectangle on complete sheet

X=155 pixels or 13,12 mm., Y=511 pixels or 43,26 mm.,
Width=602 pixels or 50,97 [51] mm., Height=72 pixels or 6,1 [6] mm.

Rectangle on label

X=156 pixels or 13,21 mm., Y=46 pixels or 3,89 mm.,
Width=601 pixels or 50,88 mm., Height=71 pixels or 6,01 mm.

010541288500452621900051172619

Rectangle on label

X=111 pixels or 9,4 mm., Y=49 pixels or 4,15 mm.,
Width=596 pixels or 50,46 [50,5] mm., Height=71 pixels or 6,01 [6] mm.

The example ending "900051172619" came from the Postage Paid cover from Belgacom illustrated below. The postage paid number "B-368" is also seen on covers originating from Proximus as might reasonably be expected.

Only a small number of registration labels have been seen used on cover.

Registered AANGETEKEND RECOMMANDE

proximus Belgacom NV Koning Albert 11 – laan 27.B – 1030 Brussel www.proximus.be
DL Window franked: │ bpost PB-PP │B-00368 / BELGIE(N) – BELGIQUE
Cancelled **www**.TBC-POST.**com**   LICENCE Nº PO-2013-001-LIF **27-11-2014** TBc Belgium
Zaventem 1 44 mm. diameter double-ring.
Returned to BELGACOMMAILROOM 03 -12- 2014

> 80 x 35 mm. boxed label. **www.TBC-POST.com**
> Ne reçoit pas/plus le courrier à l'adresse indiquee
> Ontvangt de briefwisseling niet (meer) op het aangeduide adres
> Does not receive correspondence (anymore) at the address indicated

64 x 16.5 mm registration label

Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle on label scan X=122, Y=68,
Width 598 pixels or 50,63 [50,5] mm.
Height 72 pixels or 6,10 [6] mm.
Text 010541288500452621900051249523

A different format of registration has been seen and deciphered, but the context is unclear.

70 x 25,5 mm registration label
Code 128 Length 30, Module 2,4 pixels,
Rectangle on label scan X=132, Y=102,
Width 480 pixels or 40,64 mm.,
Height 59 pixels or 5 mm.
Text 010541288500452621900049484377

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8.13.7.3 TBC-Post Registration Receipt Forms - Bulk Mailing

The use of the type of "List of Registered Sendings" form shown below is mentioned above in Section 8.13.5.1 above where it is employed with a bpost bulk mail registration label. All of the TBC-Post forms seen with TBC-Post registration labels have the same 44 mm. diameter double-ring with identical text apart from the date:

Liste des envois recommandés
Lijst van aangetekende zendingen
Liste von einschreibesendungen

BELGACOM NV

Destinataire / Geadresseerde / Empfänger *ADAM LUC* *U13*

FORTIS Banque SA
Bd St,- Lazare 10 St, Lazaruslaan
1210 Bruxelles

☐ AR

☐ AR
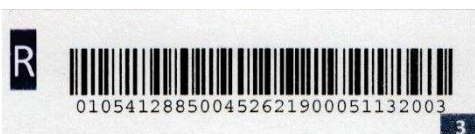
LICENCE N°
PO-2013-001-LIF
07 -10- 2013

☐ AR

64 x 17 mm registration label

Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle on label scan X=106, Y=61,
Width 596 pixels or 50,46 mm.
Height 70 pixels or 5,93 mm.
Text 010541288500452621900051132003

Liste des envois recommandés
Lijst van aangetekende zendingen
Liste von einschreibesendungen

PROXIMUS NV-Sonia Ravoet 04P040

Destinataire / Geadresseerde / Empfänger

DIGIPOLIS
Generaal Armstrongweg 1
2020 ANTWERPEN

☐ AR

☐ AR

LICENCE N°
PO-2013-001-LIF
10 -12- 2014

☐ AR

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The registration label seen on a second form shown above has the last digit of the human readable text partly obscured by the **3** on the right bottom corner. This is also true of those labels on the form misdirected to Switzerland also shown below.

www.TBC-POST.com LICENCE Nº 2013-001-LIF **07 -10- 2013** TBc Belgium Zaventem 1

64 x 17 mm. registration label

Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle on label scan X=122, Y=51,
Width 596 pixels or 50,46 mm.
Height 73 pixels or 6,18 mm.
Text 010541288500452621900051249741

The TBC "List of Registered Sendings" form overprinted for use by Proximus shown below involves items to The Netherlands. They seem to have been misdirected to Switzerland and returned with Swiss registration labels applied. The Swiss barcodes meet Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool. The barcodes were deciphered on a scan of the whole document.

The bottom part of the form has a BELGACOM/MAILROOM **13 -11- 2014** handstamp.

	Barcode Code128, Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels, Text 0105412885004526221900051248931, Rectangle X=189, Y=553, Width=598 pixels or 50,63 mm., Height=77 pixels or 6,52 mm.
	Barcode Code 128, Length 30, Module 3,3 pixels, Text RY003269689CH. Rectangle X=1120, Y=735, Width=520 pixels or 44,03 mm., Height=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.
	Barcode Code 128, Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels, Text 01050412885004526221900051248932, Rectangle X=237, Y=859, Width=598 pixels or 50,63 mm., Height=75 pixels or 6,35 mm.
	Barcode Code 128, Length 30, Module 3,3 pixels, Text RY003269692CH, Rectangle X=1025, Y=1128, Width=520 pixels or 44,03 mm., Height=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.

8.13.7.4 <u>TBC-Post Registration Receipt Forms - Individual Mailing</u>

Two different types of TBCPOST receipts have been seen. They do not have the integral barcode labels associated with the post office forms 201PoD being more like the pre-barcode receipt forms 201. The used example immediately below does have a registration label applied That from the third column of the TBC-Post equivalent of the bpost Form 203.12PoD. The label with the boxed "3" .

Barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle on label X=115, Y=62,
Width = 599 pixels or 58,06 [50,5] mm., Height = 69 pixels or 7,37 [6] mm.
Text 010541288500452621900051207170

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Interpretation of the form:

AFGIFTEBEWIJS AANGETEKENDE ZENDING
RECEPISSE DE DEPOT D'UN ENVOI RECOMMANDE
EINLIEFERUNGSSCHEIN FUR EINE EINSHREIBESENDUNG
CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY REGISTERED SHIPMENT

Plak de barcode | Coller code à barre | Bring den strichcode ein
Paste the barcode | Paste barcode | Bring on the barcode
   Ontvangsbewijs
☐ Avis de Reception "Acknowledgement of Receipt"
   Erhalt
Volg uw aangetekende zending op
Suivez vos recommandé sur
Folgen Sie ihrer Einshreibesendung
Follow or Track your registered mail on" **www.tbc-post.com**
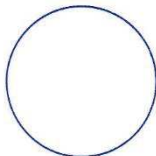
8.13.7.5   TBC-Post Registration Receipt Forms - Notice of Presentation

Only one "Notice of Presentation" for a national registered item has been seen and is shown in Section 6.1 above. It includes two Quick Response (QR) codes and a Code 128 barcode with an atypical series of 4 by 3-digit numbers 010541288500452621 **003 000 028 384**. In all other used TBC-POST registered labels the first block of 3 is "900".

NOTE TBC-Post also employs labels with Code 128 linear barcodes for what appears to be the serialisation of items, customer identification text beginning "JJBEA" and adhesive postage stamps. These are addressed under Section 10 on "JJBEA" texts.

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99 x 44 mm. Proximus Internal Registration Labels

Only a single example is held, and no others have been seen. Similar types of barcoded labels are held on international registered Proximus mail. See Section 8.1.3. In the international examples there are also hidden 74 x 26 mm Belgium registration labels with the same text as the "Proximus" label. If this were not the case duplication of serial numbers would be possible.

proximus DL window franked bpost PB-PP │B-00368 BELGIE(N)-BELGIQUE
Hidden 93 x 17 mm barcoded registration label with human readable number
0105412885004526**21** 220 117 692 198.
Re-franked with illegible, obscured, data matrix **28 / 12 / 2015** PRIOR on label cancelled Boxed BELGIQUE/BELGIE ✔ bpost Collect & Stamp.
PROXIMUS MAILROOM 18 -01- 2016 procuration 1-3706698465 boxed handstamp.

99 x 44 mm. registration label, R , "Barcode" ☐ **RP**, ☐ **AR**,
RECOMMANDÉ │AANGETEKENDE ZENDING│ EINSCHREIBESENDUNG.
Barcode Code 128 Length 30, Module 4.4 pixels,
Rectangle X=227 pixels or 19.22 [19] mm., Y=87 pixels or 7,37 [7] mm.,
Width=884 pixels or 74,85 [75] mm., Height=221 pixels or 18,71 [19] mm.
Text 0105412885004526**21**220117692198,
Significantly the serial numbers of the hidden and visible labels are the same.

99 mm x 34 mm notice of non-delivery label S03. See Section 11.9
Unclaimed letter label S12. See Section 11.5.

9.   PARCEL POST.

The Belgian State Railway, that became the National Railway Company of Belgium (NMBS or SNCB) in 1926, had provided the first parcels service in Belgium first issuing stamps in 1879. On 1st October 1928, the service, for parcels up to 5 kilograms in weight, became jointly operated with the post office. The service required that a waybill accompanied the parcel. The waybill evolved over the years but never involved a barcode. Cooperation between the railway and the post office appears to have ended in 1988. The subsequent period is quite confused with no clear evidence seen by me as to how the two organisations provided services or interacted. Reference 3 provides a great deal of information and also mentions references that I have not consulted. Dates where quoted come from a variety of unreferenced documents and the Internet. Modern parcel post does not seem to be a popular subject for study or collection and examples seen are limited.

9.1 DATAPOST.

1st February 1980 saw the beginning of a move away from the Railways for parcel distribution with the introduction of DATAPOST for packets up to 15 kilograms. It may have been a service provided under contract operating between a limited number of localities. In 1987, the term EMS (Express Mail Service) was associated with DATAPOST and, in 1988, the EMS network replaced the initial service. Barcodes were not employed for this service.
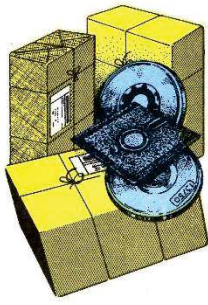
Maatwerk in postzendingen. Tailored for postal items.
Een oplossing voor uw tijdgevoelige zakenpost.
A solution for your time-sensitive business post
Heeft U belangrijke documenten of infomatiedragers te verzenden naar Uw bedrijf, Uw filiaal, een zakenrelatie, in binnen- of buitenland?
Do you send important documents or infomation carriers to your company, your branch, a business relationship, home or abroad?
Stelt U er prijs op dat Uw zendingen met zekerheid ter bestemming komen op een door U vooraf bepaald tijdstip?
Do you appreciate that your shipments arrive with certainty at a time determined by you in advance?
De oplossing voor Uw probleem: DATAPOST Maatwerk in postzendingen.
The solution to your problem: DATA POST Tailored postal items.

NOTE Currently the Express Mail Service (EMS) provides a fast cross-border postal service for mail and parcels. It is a cooperative established in 1998 by postal organisations worldwide through the auspices of the UPU.

9.2 TAXIPOST.

9.2.1 Forms without Barcodes

On 1st March 1985 the post office introduced a service for the rapid delivery of parcels up to 15 kilograms within Belgium. The service known as "Taxipost" employed a waybill with 4 sheets initially without barcodes. The top copy was white and the others yellow, pink and blue. Monolingual and bilingual forms were produced.

The printing reference number: Bon 17750 – Bch – 1985 – 64639 – 1000 includes the year "1985". A unique 9-digit serial number was applied. The example below suggests that the "10" and "13676375" were separately applied however examples have been seen with the complete 9-digit number, or with "100" followed by a 6-digit number or "100" followed by Nº plus 6-digits. Other formats may exist. Franking was through adhesive postage stamps or meter.

9.2.2 Taxi Post Forms with Barcodes.

A Code 39 barcode was included in the design about 1990.

Waybill sent on 1st October 1992 from St-Denijs Westram to Brugges.

The **inlite** decoder deciphered the barcode on the waybill as a Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 3,3 pixels, Text ✻ T P 0 3 0 4 9 6 7 7 3 B E ✻.
Rectangle X=1695, Y=160, (OR X=27, and Y=26 on the barcode as scanned),
Width=1043 pixels or 88,31 [88] mm., Height=108 pixels or 9,14 [9] mm.,
As before figures in brackets [] are the actual measurements using a transparent plastic rule.

The human readable text on the waybill includes the Start and End Delimiters in the form of asterisks "✻" at each end. These days they are not always printed as part of the human readable text. An online generator was used to produce the barcode of TP030496773BE without the asterisks. The sequence of bars is the same, but the bars are closer together. The waybill barcode was possibly specially generated so that each coded character and corresponding, human readable, character below was printed with a wider space than the usual narrow white bar. Interestingly, although predating the standard, the text meets the UPU Standard 10 as confirmed by the online check digit validation tool. "TP" is not however a Standard 10 approved service indicator for any type of product.
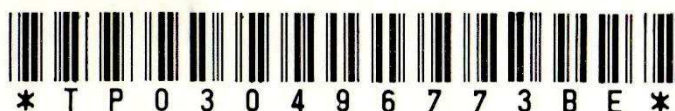
✻ T P 0 3 0 4 9 6 7 7 3 B E ✻

TP030496773BE

The edge of the waybill has the printing reference number:
monti computer forms - 03/490 47 11 - 90/ 14128 4 - POST 001
The figures "11 – 90" suggest a 1990 printing date.

The Taxipost barcodes are the earliest recorded use by the Belgian post office of linear barcodes other than the postal type. The earliest linear barcodes seen by me are Japanese. Reportedly the use of the Japanese Article Number (JAN) began in 1978 and is regulated by JIS X 0501, the bar code symbol for uniform commodity codes. I have not found an Internet decoder for these barcodes.

1990 seems to be the earliest date for Australian and 1994 for Royal Mail barcodes.

Deciphers of all the waybills seen are listed below. They come in two sizes excluding the detachable, punched, continuous feed edging. The sizes are 231 x 113,1 mm. for those with the larger gap (X=118,5 mm.) between the TAXIPOST logo and the start of the barcode of which two types have been seen, the difference being in the parcel weights permitted. Those with the smaller gap, (X=116,5 mm.) measure 245 x 113,1 mm. All barcodes are of the same UPU Standard 10 style format with 13 characters and a module of 3,3 pixels.

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9.2.2.1   Large Gap between the TAXIPOST logo and the start of the barcode

Rectangle   X=1403 pixels or 118,79 [118,5] mm.,   Y=61,
           Width=1036 pixels or 87,71 [87,5] mm., Height=108 pixels or 9,14 [9] mm.,
Text ✱ T P 0 3 7 5 3 8 0 8 4 B E ✱,
Cancelled BRUXELLES-BRUSSEL **10-1-95.15** C 37 C Single-ring.

A second example with this "weight box" is held with text ✱TP077145390BE✱.
The meter franking is cancelled BRUXELLES 5 BRUSSEL **12. 4. 95** 1050 Double-ring.
Width=1046 pixels or 88,56 [88] mm., Height=110 pixels or 9,31 [9] mm.

An example of the more extensive "weight box", is shown below with barcode text:
✱ T P 0 8 3 6 5 0 3 5 5 B E ✱

The form is franked with two 200-franc adhesives.
Cancelled WILRIJK 1 M **23-11-95.16** 2610 Single-ring to Sint Niklaas.
Width=1044 pixels or 88,39 [88] mm., Height=111 pixels or 9,4 [9] mm.,

9.2.2.2 <u>Small Gap between the TAXIPOST logo and the start of the barcode</u>

Text ✱ T P 1 2 0 6 1 1 6 7 5 B E ✱,
Rectangle   X=1382 pixels or 117,01 [116,5] mm.,   Y=30 pixels or 2,54 mm.,
             Width=1036 pixels or 87,71 [87,5] mm., Height=114 pixels or 9,65 [9] mm.,
Franked with a 300-franc meter mark cancelled:
BRUXELLES 18 BRUSSEL **30.3.95-12** 1180 Double-ring to ST NIKLAAS

Two other examples are held
Width=1040 pixels or 88,05 [87,5] mm., Height=112 pixels or 9,48 [9] mm.,
Text ✱ T P 1 1 3 5 1 8 6 1 3 B E . ✱ Franked with a 500-franc meter mark.
Cancelled ANTWERPEN 14 **24.3.95-12** 2018 Double-ring.

Width=1039 pixels or 87,97 [87,5] mm., Height=116 pixels or 9,82 [9] mm.,
Text ✱ T P 10 9 6 1 4 5 9 5 B E ✱. Franked with a 500-franc meter mark.
Cancelled BRUGGE 1 **-8.3.95-10** 8000 Double-ring to MOERBEKE.

9.2.3 <u>Other TAXIPOST items.</u>

A post office official postage paid DL Envelope with the TE2 MC label as shown below on the front. The address on the reverse "TAXIPOST | Muntcentrum, B 1000 Brussel / Centre Monnaie, B 1000 Bruxelles".

The barcode is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,1 pixels, Text MC 768 855 466 BE.
Barcode confirmed as Standard 10 by employing the UPU online check digit validation tool.
Rectangle   X=1336 pixels or 113,11 mm.,   Y=71 pixels or 6,01 mm.,
             Width=552 pixels or 46,74 mm.,   Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
This is the only example of this label seen and as it is undated it cannot be placed in context.

Twelve examples are held of the 193 x 210 mm. blue documents as illustrated below. The paper on which they were printed was originally perforated on the top and left sides, the examples held are all perforated vertically to form two halves, both headed LA REDOUTE 7700 MOUSCRON. This appears to be a catalogue retail company based in Mouscron. Each side has the same printed text with the addition of a page number on the righthand half. Three examples have post point cancellations, almost certainly those employed by the post point in the Delhaize supermarket. These provide a 2007 date of usage.

DELHA W TOU 09229	RCB6680209229	ATH	4789 / 1387
DELHA W TOU 09229	RCB2204109229	ATH	3330 / 1033
DELHA W TOU 09296	RCB6512009296	TOURNAI	528 / 152
DELHA W TOU 09296	RCB6560309296	TOURNAI	3599 / 1313
DELHA W LIG 09008	RCB32014609008	SERAING	4153 / 951
DELHA W LIG 08250	RCB37871208250	LIEGE	671 / 69
DELHA W LIG 08915	RCB30650708915	GRIVEGNEE	2319 / 387
DELHA W HAN 08915	RCB32496609202	MARCINELLE	735 / 173
DELHA B HAN 09261	RCB30692209261	NIVELLES	2738 / 806
DELHA B HAN 09288	RCB23641809288	OTTIGNIES	4285 / 1395
DELHA F LUM 08100	RCB26442208100	WATERSCHEI	1531/ 134
DELHA F WVL 09555	RCB65354209555	IZEGEM	5328 / 2205

The text "DELHA" obviously relates to the Delhaize Supermarkets and stores can be found in all the towns mentioned. In two cases the 5-digit number following the alphabetic characters "DELHA W TOU" are repeated being "09229" and "09296". Possibly "09229" and "09296" are account numbers.

All of the barcodes are Code 128B, with 14 characters and Module 4,0 pixels. Within a few pixels they are all the same size. All have a page number printed sideways on the bottom right edge in the form "Page 5328 / 2205".
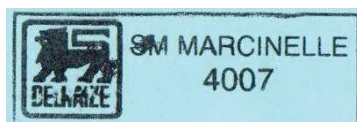
Only the Marcinelle example has a Handstamp with a boxed Delhaize "Lion" logo and the text DELHAIZE SM MARCINELLE 4007 on the top below the right LA REDOUTE 7700 MOUSCRON.
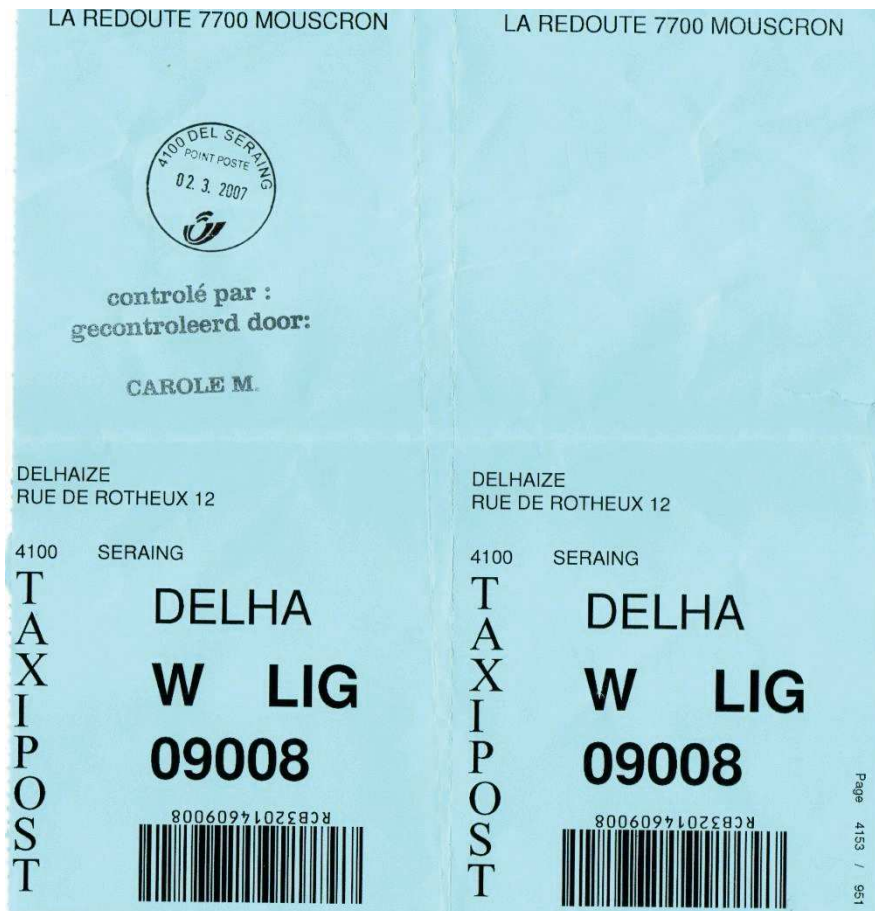
controlé par : gecontroleerd door :   checked by : CAROLE M.
DELHAIZE RUE DE ROTHEUX 226   The Delhaize Supermarket in 4100 Seraing.
TAXIPOST DELHA W LIG 09008 On both halves
Inverted barcode on both sides. Text RCB32014609008,
Rectangle Width=580 pixels or 49,11 mm. [49] mm., Height=202 pixels or 17,10 [17] mm.
Cancellation 4100 DEL SERAING POINT POSTE **02. 3. 2007** ✆ Single-ring.

An inverted example is shown below to illustrate the barcodes.

DELHAIZE KORTRIJKSESTRAAT 226   The Delhaize Supermarket in 8870 Izegem
TAXIPOST DELHA F WVL 09555
Inverted barcode on both sides. Text RCB65354209555,
Rectangle Width=585 pixels or 49,53 [49,5] mm., Height=202 pixels or 17,10 [17] mm.
8870 PP DELHAIZE SM IZEGEM POSTPUNT **01. 7. 2007** ✆ Single-ring.

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A possibly related item is shown below. Returns to LA REDOUTE 7700 MOUSCRON?

The barcodes are all Code 128B Length 14, Module 4,0 pixels, Text RBRR00000266603.

Top Rectangle	X=719 pixels or 60,88 mm.,	Y=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.,
	Width=581 pixels or 49,19 mm.,	Height=69 pixels or 5,84 mm.,
Bottom Right Rectangle	X=759 pixels or 64,26 mm.,	Y=833 pixels or 70,53 mm.,
	Width=581 pixels or 49,19 mm.,	Height=50 pixels or 4,23 mm.
Bottom Left Rectangle	X=62 pixels or 5,25 mm.,	Y=836 pixels or 70,78 mm.,
	Width=579 pixels or 49,02 mm.,	Height=50 pixels or 4,23 mm.

9.2.4   "Étiquette d'échantillon" Sample Label.

Printed 140 x 80 mm. parcel or sample labels as shown below have a different human readable form of Code 39 barcode when compared with the waybills illustrated above, although only two examples have been seen.

The "reverse" of the parcel label has printed locations for the sender's time, date and location and a printing reference: Bon 19122 – Bch – 1989 – 85089 – 4000. This example being sent and hence cancelled by a St NIKLAAS-VERZENDING E **-2-10-92.12** Single-ring to Oostende. The "front" is just the post office logo on a red background. In this example the same cancellation has been applied as on the reverse. The label also has a triangular, Dutch dominant, bilingual VERREKENING REMBOURSEMENT i.e., COD (Cash on Delivery) label, similar to those employed on railway waybills and also a 109 x 23 mm. barcoded label.

The label barcode is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 4,6 pixels, Text TS005747024BE
Rectangle on barcode label:

X=56 pixels or 4,74 [4,5+] mm.,   Y=14 pixels or 1,19 [2] mm.,
Width=1200 pixels or 101,6 [101,5] mm.,   Height=185 pixels or 15,66 [15] mm.

The coding is for a single asterisk "✱" at each end "| |■ ■|" which does not match the double asterisks "✱✱" shown in the human readable element. A whimsy or artistic licence? The text meets the UPU Standard 10 as confirmed by the online check digit validation tool.

The reverse of the second parcel label has less printed information and does not have a printing reference number. In this example the barcoded label has been fixed to the reverse of the label along with a French dominant bilingual REMBOURSEMENT/VERREKENING triangular label and place of origin cancellation BRUXELLES 8 BRUSSEL N **22.04.93-12** 1000 Single-ring to Oostende. The label and barcode are similar to the previous example but with text TS002522512BE that complies with the format of a UPU standard S10 confirmed by using the algorithm.

Number	0	0	2	5	2	2	5	1	Sum
Weighting factors (x)	8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7	
Product	0	0	8	10	6	10	45	7	86

86 divided by 11 = 7 remainder 9: 11 – 9 = 2 the check number is 2 hence it has the same or a similar check-sum algorithm as the modern UPU S10 standard.

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On 1st January 1994 the service became POSTE RAPID/SNELPOST encompassing Taxipost, E.M.S., Exprès, Bureaufax and Faxpostogram. 1st January 1997 saw the replacement of the Exprès service by the 200-franc Post-express Vignette, shown below, and the loss of Faxpostogram, all being replaced by EMS-TAXIPOST on 18th June 2001.

I have sighted, but not held, documents headed BUREAUFAX and numbered BFX 1. Some examples had a print reference number Bon 18554 – Bch – 1987 – 74054 – 480. Those with a print reference all had text headings in 3 languages: "REGIE DES POSTES DE BELGIQUE", "REGIE DER BELGISCHE POSTERIJEN" and "BELGIAN POST OFFICE". Some of these 3 language headings documents were without print reference numbers as were those with bilingual headings "LA POSTE Belgique" and "DE POST België". A specific envelope has also been seen headed BFX 10.

9.3   EXPRÈS service & EMS TAXIPOST

The EXPRÈS/SPOEDBESTELLING service was introduced by the Belgian postal authority on 29th April 1868. For an additional fee a postal item would be delivered urgently to the addressee up to a specific distance from the post office. Initially it was not a particularly popular service. The service expanded over the years being more widely available and applied over a wider distance from the office at extra cost. The distance charges remained until a uniform charge was introduced on 5th May 1946. At first the application of the service was indicated by an EXPRÈS handstamp.
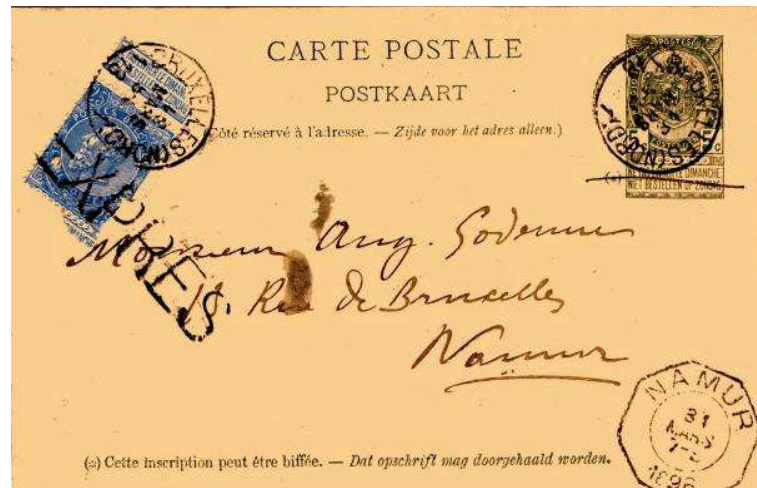
This handstamp being replaced by a bi or tri-lingual label.

A POSTEXPRESS vignette was issued by the Belgian post office on 1st December 1994 at 180 francs. This met both the Express fee and the internal letter rate up to 250 grams. Charge increased to 200 francs on 1st January 1997. This type of vignette was widely employed worldwide but did not involve a barcode.

Belgium 16.11.95-11   Portugal 28.06.99   Royal Mail 17 May 1993

The Belgian equivalent includes two numbered labels at the top one of which could be fixed to a receipt. The numbers held are LX001326345BE and LX000744323BE. These have the format of a Standard 10 number but do not meet the check digit validity.

The Belgian vignette was employed on overseas mail with the addition of a 16-franc adhesive. Royal Mail received the item and applied a barcoded IE060583462GB label:
International GUARANTEED DELIVERY
with a Code 128, 13-character barcode
Module 4,0 pixels,
Rectangle X=158 pixels or 13,38 mm.,
       Y=346 pixels or 29,29 mm.,
       Width=622 pixels or 52,41 mm.,
       Height=211 pixels or 17.86 mm.

The EXPRÈS service was replaced by EMS-TAXIPOST on 18th June 2001 at 9,40 Euro for up to 350 grams and 12,15 Euro for up to 1 kilogram. The service was abolished on 18th November 2002 in favour of the Prior/Non-prior postal service.

An example of an EMS TAXIPOST barcoded label has been seen on an undated BELGACOM telegram DL window envelope as shown below. The 80 x 36 mm. label has a Code 39 barcode with 13 characters, the normal standard 10 number, a Module of 3,0 pixels and text TG15006834XBE. This number is invalid using the modern online check digit validation tool as the use of "X" to replace the check digit is no longer permitted. Using the algorithm, the check digit can be calculated.

Number	1	5	0	0	6	8	3	4	Sum	
Weighting factors (x)	8	6	4	2	3	5	9	7		
Product	8	30	0	0	18	40	27	28	151	

151 divided by 11 = 13 remainder 8: 11 − 8 = 3. Replacing "X" with "3" TG150068343BE the text becomes valid using the online check digit validation tool. However, "TG" is not a recognised service indicator.

Rectangle   X=97 pixels or 8,21 [8] mm.,   Y=159 pixels or 13,46 [13,5] mm.,
               Width=749 pixels or 63,42 [63] mm.,   Height=154 pixels or 13,04 [13] mm.

Express Mail Service (EMS) is a cooperative established in 1998 by postal organisations worldwide through the auspices of the UPU. It offers an express postal service replacing the EXPRÈS service.

9.3.1   EMS TAXIPOST Waybills

Three examples of EMS TAXIPOST waybills have been seen. Details of all are shown below. The human readable text as printed beneath the barcode matches that encoded and meets the UPU Standard 10 as confirmed by the online check digit validation tool. Although, "TG" is not a recognised service indicator.

First example held 205 x 152 mm. waybill with print reference number:
monti computer forms - ☎ 03/490.47.11 – 97/661 – 30239.

Barcode Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,9 pixels,
Rectangle on waybill:

    X=1660 pixels or 135,47 mm.,   Y=153 pixels or 12,94 mm.,
    Width=688 pixels or 58,25 mm. [58] mm.,   Height=98 pixels or 8,3 [8] mm.,
Text TP 212 927 353 BE
The barcode on the EMS TAXIPOST waybill includes the Start and End Delimiters for a single asterisk "✷" at each end "||■■|" but the human readable text does not include asterisks.

      This example is less colourful than the examples below and lacks the post van illustrations. There are some differences in text, but the most significant difference is in the charges being in Belgian francs whilst the other examples permits either Belgian francs or euros. This suggests that this example is almost certainly earlier than the others shown or referenced below.

      This example includes the bottom sheet glued to the parcel that extends 20 mm. beyond the top sheet. As far as can be seen the text on the bottom sheet is limited to the EMS TAXIPOST logo and the barcode with human readable text below. This example has the space for the instructions at the top seen in the next example, but the instructions are not printed.

Second example held 205 x 152 mm. waybill with print reference number:
JOOS Turnhout 493490 1 350200.
Instructions at the top of the waybill on the left in blue.
"To be completed and / or ticked by the sender":
Te vervolledigen en/of aan te kruisen door afzender
A compléter et/ou cocher par l'expéditeur
Instructions at the top of the waybill on the right in Red.
To be completed and / or ticked by EMS-TAXIPOST® /
Te vervolledigen en/of aan te kruisen door EMS-TAXIPOST® /
A compléter et/ou cocher par EMS-TAXIPOST®

Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 3,8 pixels, Text TP 463 913 402 BE
Rectangle on waybill:

    X=1670 pixels or 141,39 mm.,   Y=108 pixels or 9,14 mm.,
    Width=729 pixels or 61,72 [61,5] mm.,   Height=102 pixels or 8,64 [8] mm.,

Compared with the second example above the third example below appears to have been cut short effectively removing the space for the instructions at the top. Also removed are the space for, and the instructions to,
"REPRODUCE THE HANDWRITTEN DATA THROUGH ALL THE SHEETS PLEASE"
HANDGESCHREVEN VERMELDINGEN VOLLEDIG DOORDRUKKEN AUB
REPRODUIRE LES DONNEES MANUSCRITES A TRAVERS TOUS LES FEUILLETS SVP

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Second example held:
Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 3.1 pixels, Text TP 608 826 181 BE
Rectangle on waybill:

X=1537 pixels or 130,13 mm.,   `Y=21 pixels or 1,78 mm.,
Width=691 pixels or 58,50 [58] mm.,   Height=96 pixels or 8,13 [8] mm.,

Meter mark franking MONS **19. III.02 9** DISPATCHING Double-ring.

Two other examples of this curtailed form have been seen with human readable text TP 448 450 565 BE dated 14th November 2000 and TP 612 780 367 BE dated 22nd March 2002. None of this type seen have a print reference number.

9.4   21st Century Parcels.

Reference 4 published in French and in Dutch, provides an excellent summary of the situation up to 2008 but has few illustrations. Within the constraints and limitations of items seen or held it has only been possible to establish the types of barcodes employed on parcel products offered by the Belgian postal service.
Code UCC 128 Kilopost Human readable text length 27 characters starting 010541288500
Code 128 Kilopost Nt'l Human readable text length 27 characters starting JJBEA
Code 128 TAXIPOST Human readable text 18 characters starting 3232
Code 128 BPACK Human readable text 18 characters starting 3232
Code 39 INT'L BELGIAN POST INTERNATIONAL Human readable text 13 characters, style CENNNNNNNNNBE. Confirmed as Standard 10 employing the UPU online check digit validation tool.

9.4.1   Kilopost Postal Stationery Labels.

Reference 4 explains the reasons that the society included these items as postal stationery. Reference 4 describes a trial series of labels issued on 2nd January 2001. These are multi-colored self-adhesive vignettes. At the top right of a circle segment is the number that indicates the maximum weight in kilograms: 0,5 - orange-yellow, 01 - pinkish red, 02 - blue, 03 - lemon yellow, 04 - purple, 05 - green, 10 - wine red, 20 - brown, 30 - turquoise. These figures do not have a black border. The background is grey, the front is dull, the plastic backing foil is white. Size complete: 221 x 102 mm., without the attached proof strip: 172 x 102 mm. I have not seen any examples of this trial issue either used or unused. A similar issue in April 2001 has a fine black border line around the numbers that indicate the weight class. The paper is glossy and the background almost white, the backing foil is yellow.
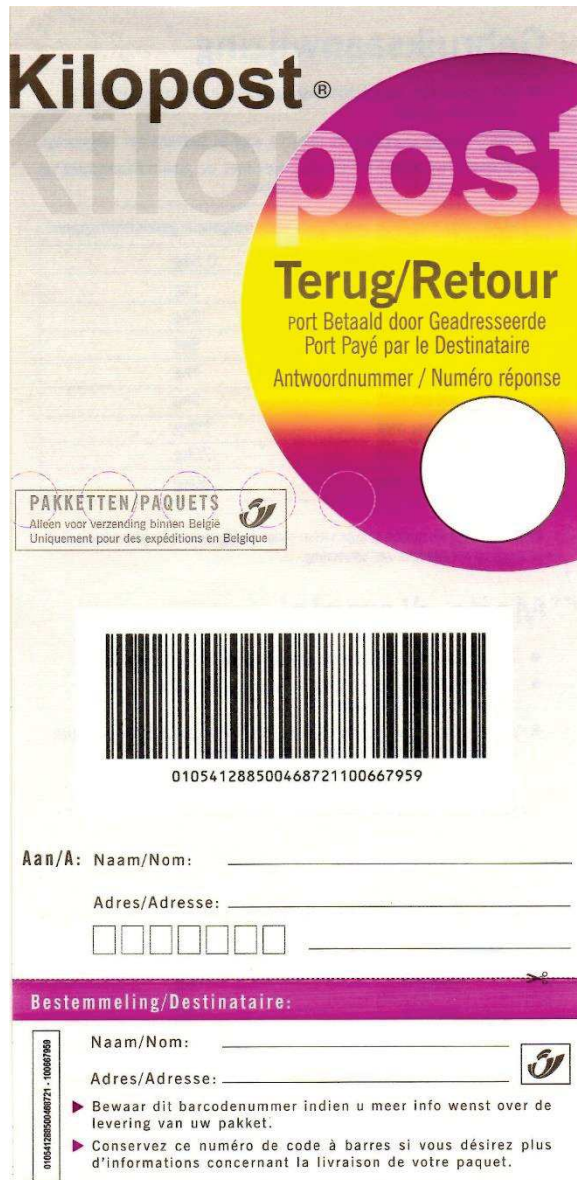
Only 10 used examples are held of what seems to be the April 2001 issue. All have the black line but the white background varies depending on the nature of the package material. All have UCC 128 barcodes of 27 characters with a module of 3,7 or 3,8 pixels. The table below indicates that the sizes are uniform within a few pixels and all measure 67 x 22 mm. using the plastic rule.

		Width pixels / mm.	Height pixels / mm.
0,5 kg	0105412885004533**21**102841979	791 / 66,97 [67]	261 / 22,1 [22]
0,5 kg.	0105412885004533**21**102980233	796 / 67,39 [67]	267 / 22,61 [22]
01 kg.	0105412885004540**21**101594717	796 / 67,39 [67]	264 / 22,35 [22]
02 kg.	0105412885004557**21**100362292	789 / 66,80 [67]	264 / 22,35 [22]
02 kg.	0105412885004557**21**101529206	788 / 66,72 [67]	262 / 22,18 [22]
03 kg.	0105412885004564**21**100243076	792 / 67,06 [67]	264 / 22,35 [22]
03 kg.	0105412885004564**21**100432829	790 / 66,89 [67]	259 / 21,93 [22]
03 kg.	0105412885004564**21**101560915	788 / 66,72 [67]	263 / 22,27 [22]
03 kg.	0105412885004564**21**101724132	790 / 66,89 [67]	261 / 22,1 [22]
04 kg.	0105412885004571**21**100271388	792 / 67,06 [67]	268 / 22,69 [22]

The initial 14 human readable numbers "01054128850045" are the same as those seen on registration labels, the next 2 numbers appear unique to the weight class. The 2-number sequence is followed by "21" again typical of registration labels and then a 9-digit serial number, 3 digits less than those of registration labels. The 4-number sequences are not sequential 33, 40, 57, 64 and 71 the equivalents in the registration labels are either "19" or "26".

A label without pre-franking was also issued for returned items the only example seen is unused and shown below at 75% actual.

The label has a UCC 128 barcode of 27 characters with a module of 3,7 pixels and dimensions the same as the pre-paid items.

Rectangle   X=188 pixels or 15,92 [16] mm., Y=1296 pixels or 109,73 [111] mm.,
            Width=790 pixels or 66,89 [67] mm., Height=265 pixels or 22,44 [22] mm.

Text 01054128850046721100667959

The final digit "6" of the initial 14 human readable numbers "01054128850046" is a departure from those seen on registration and pre-paid, kilopost labels where the number is "5".

The barcode number is reproduced sideways in a box on the left edge of the receipt portion 01054128850046721 – 100667959.

A label without pre-franking was also issued for machine franked items. 17 unused examples are held with sequential numbering 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 515, 516, 517, 518 and 519. An example is shown below at 75% actual. The final 2 digits "60" of the initial 14 human readable numbers "01054128850060" is a departure from those seen on registration and pre-paid, kilopost labels.

The label has a UCC 128 barcode of 27 characters with a module of 3,8 pixels. The width of the barcode is the same as the pre-paid items, but the height is less 17 mm. instead of 22 mm.
Rectangle   X=198 pixels or 16,76 [17] mm.,   Y=869 pixels or 73,58 [74] mm.,
              Width=792 pixels or 67,06 [67] mm.,   Height=203 pixels or 17,19 [17] mm.
Text 010541288500 6001 21 102020511

Also held is a label without pre-franking apparently for use for machine franked items but without a barcode. The reverse of the label is the same as the barcoded label with details of the method of use:

Instructions
• Write the recipient's address or stick an address label on the space provided.
• Stick the franking sticker in the place provided on the parcel seal.
• Cut the bottom part of the seal and keep it carefully,
• Stick the part of the stamp with the franking sticker on the largest surface of your package.

Also, a note:
The packages sent by De Post-La Poste are subject to the General Transport Conditions in force at the time of shipment.

Both the label with and without a barcode have an EAN-13 barcode with the same number 5412885006001
EAN13 Length 13, Module 3.8 pixels, Text 5412885006001

Rectangle   X=721 pixels or 61,04 [61] mm.,   Y=1851 pixels or 156,72 [157] mm.,
Width=364 pixels or 30,82 [31] mm.,   Height=124 pixels or 10,50 [10] mm.

9.4.2   Kilopost Nt'l, (National) 27 characters starting JJBEA

Five examples of this Tri-lingual French dominant Kilopost Nt'l (National) label are held. The first one illustrated below was used on a parcel and the remainder are complete blank forms each with a detachable receipt.

This, and the barcodes on unused items, decode as Code 128 with a Length of 27 characters and a Module of 5,0 pixels. Text JJBEA3000000000000005557212.
Rectangle   X=323 pixels or 27,35 [27,5] mm.,   Y=169 pixels or 14,31 [14] mm.,
Width=1108 pixels or 93,81 [93,5] mm., Height=132 pixels or 11.18 [11] mm.

As printed on the label the human readable text beneath the barcode has the numerical element "3000000000000005557212" in a slightly smaller text than the alphabetic "JJBEA". The human readable text is printed centrally under the barcode.

There is an identification number on the left side of the 132 x 75 mm. label:

KFP - 001 OIP – 2500000011757.

Four examples of the blank forms are held. There are two sizes 210 x 75 mm. and 210 x 100 mm. The small sized, 210 x 75 mm. version of a complete blank form is shown above. It has a different identification number KNTL-001 2500000011757 to the used example but is the only example with this identification seen. The identification number on the others is the same as that on the used example KFP - 001 OIP – 2500000011757.

The barcode on the KNTL-001 2500000011757 example as shown above, deciphers as:

Rectangle   X=154 pixels or 13,04 [13] mm.,   Y=1033 pixels or 87,46 [87] mm.,
                Width=139 pixels or 11,77 [11] mm.,   Height=1112 pixels or 94,15 [94] mm.

Text JJBEA30000000000000010499758

The deciphered and human readable number is repeated on the receipt element of the blank form as K Nt'l ┊ JJBEA30000000000 ┊00 ┊010 ┊499 ┊758.

The other 4 labels use broadly the same format.

The format of the reverse side of this form is the same as the one illustrated below but the text is very slightly different reading:

"Always paste a Kilopost Intl barcode on your Kilopost shipments. Want to know if your shipment has arrived? You will soon see our WebTracker: www.post.be/webtracker. In accordance with our terms and conditions, any possible claim may be brought within 6 months of the day of the deposit on presentation of this receipt.".

The reverse of the other forms translates as:

"Always paste a Kilopost Int'l barcode on your Kilopost shipments. Want to know if your shipment has arrived? Since February 2006, you can look up our webtracker: www.post.be/webtracker. In accordance with our terms and conditions, any possible claim may be brought within 6 months of the day of the deposit on presentation of this receipt.".

The used item comes with a "Blaster" with a date in 2007.

4030 31.7.07-16 KILOPOST € 4,30 LIEGE FALCHENA/ LIEGE FALCHENA
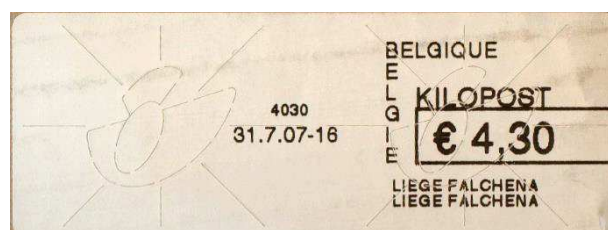
The February 2006 date for the webtracker introduction and the date printed on the "Blaster" indicate the period when the service was used.

The barcode of the smaller 210 x 75 mm. version with the KFP - 001 OIP – 2500000011757 identification number deciphers as: Text JJBEA3000000000000008655113
Rectangle   X=314 pixels or 26,59 [27,5] mm.,   Y=161 pixels or 13,63 [14] mm.
             Width=1112 pixels or 94,15 [94] mm.,   Height=137 pixels or 11.6 [11+] mm.

In the larger 210 x 100 mm. version as shown above, which also has the identification number KFP – 100 OIP – 2500000011757, the human readable text is printed immediately beneath the start of the barcode and not centrally as in the smaller versions. The barcode deciphers as: Text JJBEA3000000000000002575944

Rectangle   X=287 pixels or 24,3 [24+] mm.,   Y=237 pixels or 20,07 [20+] mm.
             Width=1113 pixels or 94,23 [94] mm.,   Height=142 pixels or 12,02 [11] mm.
In summary the 5 examples are:
JJBEA3000000000000002575944 Large format KFP – 100 OIP - 2500000011757
JJBEA3000000000000005557212 Small format KFP – 100 OIP – 2500000011757 USED
JJBEA3000000000000005589837 Small format KFP – 100 OIP – 2500000011757
JJBEA3000000000000008655113 Small format KFP – 100 OIP - 2500000011757
JJBEA3000000000000010499758 Small format KNTL-100 2500000011757

9.4.3   <u>TAXIPOST 18 characters starting 3232.</u>

The transition from KILOPOST to TAXIPOST appears to be after 14th July 2008. The La Poste/De Post brochure "Tarifs standard à la pièce" in force from 1st August 2007 cites rates for internal Kilopost as: 2kg @ 4,30€, 5kg @ 8,60€, 10kg @ 12,90€, 20kg @ 17,20€ and 30kg @ 21,50€. The brochure with the same title in force from 14th July 2008 cites rates for Taxipost 24h (J+1) with size constraints and prices for various weights up to 2kg. For a different set of dimensional requirements and weights 0-2kg, 2-10kg and 10-30kg the 14th July 2008 brochure also cites rates for Taxipost secur (J+1), Taxipost paypack (J+1) and Taxipost lls (J+2), (J+1) means Day + 1 etc. The brochure information suggests these services were available from 1st May 2008 as from that date parcels could be franked and paid for online at www.taxipost.be.

The earliest example seen of a waybill, perhaps label is a better term, is headed with the La Poste/De Post logo as well as the TAXIPOST legend. It has the advantage of including an "end of validity" date 31/12/2010 and a what seems to be an item or form number "20001" on top of a pedestal in the form of a "T". The form and text of these labels remains fairly constant up to the present date.

Trilingual text Valable jusqu'au / Geldig tot / Gültig bis   Valid until **31 12 2010**
A coller sur votre paquet Te kleven op uw packet Auf das Paket zu kleben

To stick on your package

Expéditeur / Afzender / Absender :   Sender
PAQUET-PAKKET-PAKET   PACKET
Valable <mark>jusque</mark>   Geldig tot   Gültig bis   Valid until 2 kg
Barcode 323281030106921000
Poids Extra   Extra Gewicht   Zusatzgewicht   Additional weight

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The additional weight text appears twice in separate boxes possibly providing space for the fixing of adhesive packet stamps to make up the charge for the added weight.

BELGIQUE - BELGIE - BELGIEN

On the side at 90 degrees:

20001   Destinataire / Geadresseerde / Empfänger   Recipient

Boxes to be completed for the postcode, CP / PC / PLZ, and the town, Ville / Stad / Ort are indicated at the bottom of the recipient's address box.

Barcode is Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 3232810301069210000,

Rectangle   X=435 pixels or 36,83 [36,5] mm.,   Y=452 pixels or 38,27 [40] mm.,
              Width=667 pixels or 56,39 [56,5] mm.   Height=168 pixels or 14,22 [14] mm.

Comparing the above 20002 series label with the 20001 series, the logo and TAXIPOST are now silver instead of white on a red background. "National – Nationaal" has been added to the end date block. The box below the logo is now divided with an exclamation mark "!" in the right rectangle thus formed. BELGIQUE-BELGIE-BELGIEN has been added at the bottom of the recipient's address box.

Barcode is Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 3232810881195110115,

Rectangle   X=421 pixels or 35,64 [35] mm.,   Y=478 pixels or 40,47 [40] mm.,
              Width=670 pixels or 56,73 [56,5] mm.,   Height=171 pixels or 14,48 [14+] mm.

The barcode dimensions are similar, but not the same, as those for the 20001 series.

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TAXIPOST   Valable jusqu'au / Geldig tot / Gültig bis: 31/12/2013   TAXIPOST   A coller sur votre paquet
Te kleven op uw pakket
Auf das Paket zu kleben

PROD. 45-2011

▼ Expéditeur / Afzender / Absender :

König E
Rue Bronchain, 56
6180 Courcelles
BELGIQUE - BELGIE - BELGIEN

Valable jusque
Geldig tot
Gültig bis

2 kg

PAQUET NATIONAL - NATIONAAL PAKKET - NATIONALES PAKET

P   3232811146161001008

Poids Extra
Extra Gewicht
Zusatzgewicht

Destinataire /
Geadresseerde /
Empfänger

M⁰ᵘʳ Van Damme Jean Pierre
Polderhoeklaan, 27

20003

8 3 1 0   B R U G G E
CP / PC / PLZ   Ville / Stad / Ort

Poids Extra
Extra Gewicht
Zusatzgewicht

uniquement pour des envois en Belgique - uitsluitend voor verzendingen in België - Nur für Sendungen in Belgien

Comparing the above 20003 series label with the 20002 series. The end date has changed to 31/12/2013. What looks like a Printing Reference PROD. 45-2011 has been added at right angles to the side of the box containing the silver logo and TAXIPOST. The box division is gone as is the exclamation mark. National – Nationaal is removed from the end-date block with a boxed white on red logo and white on blue TAXIPOST added to the right. Beneath the left-hand, silver logo and TAXIPOST box, the boxed text becomes "PAQUET NATIONAL-NATIONAL PAKKET-NATIONALES PAKET". A tri-lingual, "uniquement pour des envois en Belgique – uitsluitend voor zending in België – Nur für Sendungen inj Belgien", only for shipments in Belgium note has been added to the base of the address box.

Barcode is Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 323281146161001008,
Rectangle   X=426 pixels or 36,07 [36] mm.,   Y=472 pixels or 39,96 [40] mm.,
       Width=670 pixels or 56,73 [56,5] mm.,   Height=167 pixels or 14,14 [14] mm.
The barcode dimensions are similar as those for the 20001 and 20002 series.

A later version of the form has an error in the attempt to make it trilingual. The text at right angled on the bottom left indicates the Recipient. This text reads Geadresseerde in Dutch, Google translates this as Consignee or Addressee, then Bestemmeling also Dutch translating as Addressee and finally Empfanger in German translating as Receiver or Recipient. The number on top of the pedestal in the form of a "T" is illegible.

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Geldig tot |Valable jusqu'au |Gültig bis Valid until **12/01/2019**
Geldig tot |Valable jusquae |Gultig bis Valid until 10 kg
Extra Gewicht Poids Extra Zusatzgewicht Additional weight
Barcode Code 128C Length 18 characters, Module 4,4 pixels, Text 323287035304491000
Rectangle   X=711 pixels or 60,2 [62] mm.,   Y=533 pixels or 45,13 45] mm.,
            Width=594 pixels or 50,29 [50] mm.,   Height=164 pixels or 13,89 [13,5] mm.
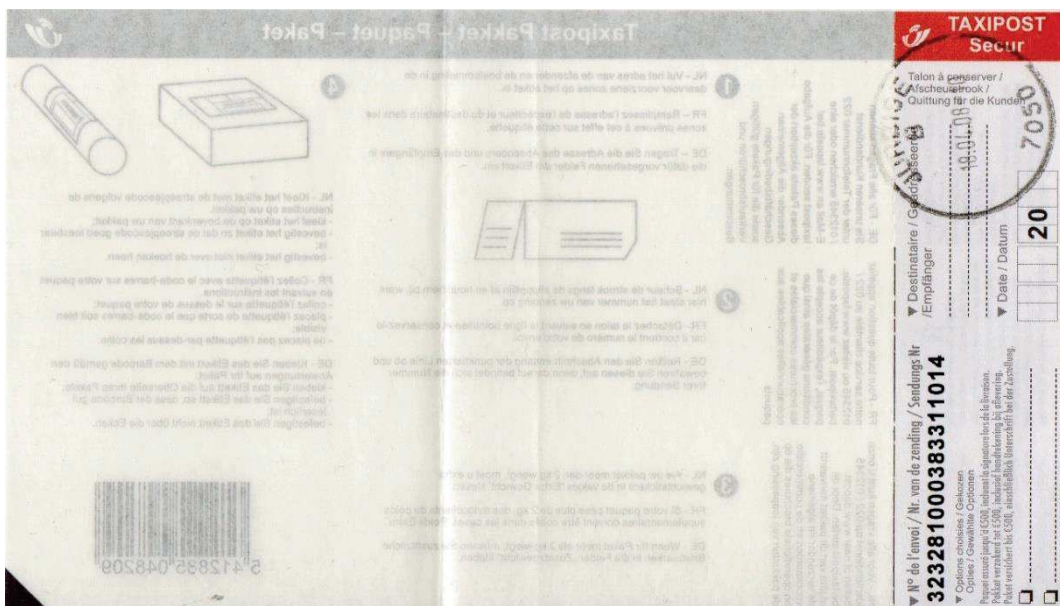
The form is associated with a S03 barcoded label. This type of label is discussed in Section 11.

        The backing paper with receipt number 323281000383311014 from an earlier TAXIPOST Secur is shown below. The cancellation is a JURBISE B **18.04.08-10** 7050 Single-ring.
The barcode on the backing paper is Code EAN 13 Length 13 characters, Module 3,1 pixels, Text 5 412885 048209
Rectangle   X=1575 pixels or 133,35 mm.,   Y=914 pixels or 77,39 mm.,
            Width=298 pixels or 25,23 mm.,   Height=145 pixels or 12,28 mm.
A translation of the text is provided in Appendix 3.

9.4.4 BPACK text 18 characters starting 3232

In the absence of tariff brochures for 2011 & 2012, I was unable to establish the date of change from TAXIPOST to BPACK. The tariff brochure dated 1st January 2011 cites prices for the TAXIPOST services listed in Section 9.4.3 above whilst tariff information held for 2014 cites BPACK. Assuming the Printing Reference PROD. 45-2011 implies the date of printing then TAXIPOST was still the service being offered. However, a Printing Reference PROD. 47-2011 and an item or label number "30005" on top of the pedestal in the form of a "T" has been seen for a BPACK SECUR label.

9.4.4.1 BPACK SECUR labels

A selection of pre-paid parcel labels was introduced by bpost under the BPACK service. Not having any monetary value indicated, the labels have a weight limitation and a limited period of validity. The first example shown is BPACK SECUR. The service includes compensation up to € 500, signature by the recipient and a Track & Trace facility via the bpost website.

30005 Printing Reference PROD. 47-2011 BPACK SECUR
Te kleven op uw packet A coller sur votre paquet Auf das Paket zu kleben
                                        To stick on your package
Geldig tot | Valable jusqu'au | Gültig bis   Valid until **31 12 2014**
Afzender | Expéditeur | Absender   Sender
Nationaal pakket | Paquet national | Nationales Paket National package
België | Belgique | Belgien
Geldig tot |Valable jusqu'à |Gultig bis   Valid until 2 kg
Extra Gewicht Poids Extra Zusatzgewicht   Additional weight
Geadresseerde Dutch Addressee Destinataire Frech Addressee Empfänger German Recipient

Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 323281083173021014
Rectangle   X=448 pixels or 37,93 [37,5] mm.,   Y=481 pixels or 40,72 [40] mm.,
             Width=669 pixels or 56,64 [56,5] mm.,   Height=166 pixels or 14,05 [14] mm.

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A second example of a 30005 label with a different Printing Reference PROD. 09-2013 and with an extra weight adhesive stamp is shown below.
Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 33281095919451018.
Rectangle   X=433 pixels or 36,66 [36] mm.,   Y=466 pixels or 39,45 [39] mm.,
              Width=667 pixels or 56,47 [56] mm.,   Height=167 pixels or 14,14 [14] mm.

A third example of a 30005 BPACK SECUR label is held with a different Printing Reference PROD. 17-2014 with a limited period of validity notice 31.12.2015.
The barcode text is 33281110425291010.

What seemed odd at first, an almost identical BPACK SECUR label is held in which the limited period of validity notice "Geldig tot | Valable jusqu'au | Gültig bis" is missing. The item or form number "30005" on top of the pedestal in the form of a "T" is the same but the Printing Reference is different PROD. 50-2415.

Barcode is Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 323281115784011015
Rectangle   X=435 pixels or 36,83 [36,5] mm.,   Y=457 pixels or 38,69 [38] mm.,
            Width=669 pixels or 56,64 [56,5] mm.,   Height=171 pixels or 14,48 [14] mm.

A much later bpack Secur label is held with a significantly different layout but similar text content. As with the previous example it is not time limited despite having no monetary value indicated. The item or form number is the same as the 2 examples above, "30005", but the Printing Reference is different PROD. 23-2417.

The Label is cancelled BORGLOON **12.01.18-00** 3840 Single-ring to 2900 Schoten
Barcode is Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5,0 pixels, Text 323281135937851013,
Rectangle   X=432 pixels or 36,58 mm.,   Y=441 pixels or 37,34 mm.,
            Width=671 pixels or 56,81 mm.,   Height=166 pixels or 14,05 mm.

9.4.4.2   BPACK 24H Boxes and Labels

A selection of pre-paid parcel boxes and labels was introduced by bpost. A brochure dated February 2006 indicates a service known as "postpac". The term "postpac" was not new having appeared on an adhesive stamp COB 2934 Youth Philately - The "Quivoila" family issued on 18th September 2000. The "postpac" service is mentioned in Reference 4 as being introduced on 4th July 2005 with 3 sizes of box and an envelope.
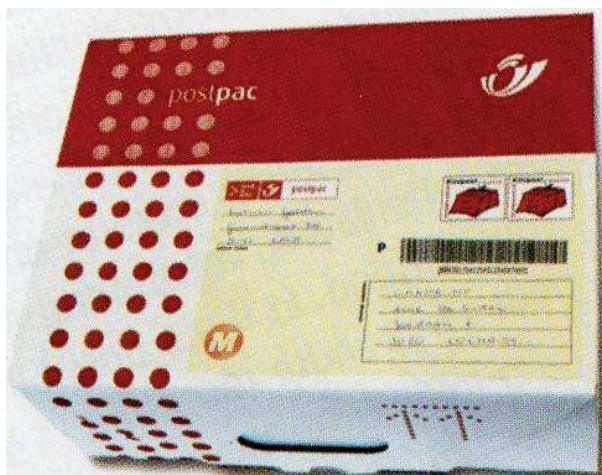
Box S up to 2 kg
Box M up to 5 kg
Box L up to 5 kg
Envelope F

The box shown is an illustration taken from the La Poste, French language brochure "J'envoie un colis en Belgique" published in February 2006. The box label has two stamps COB Ki19 of the 2005 Kilopost issue sold in booklets of 5 stamps.

Tariff details for 1st January 2011 provide prices for 3 sizes of box for items up to 1 kilogram in weight.

Taxipost 24h Mini 1: (DVD format):   138×195×24mm.
Taxipost 24h Mini 2: (A5 format):   175×225×24mm.
Taxipost 24h Mini 3: (A4 format):   215×297×24mm.

To date I have not seen or held any of these items, but they probably include 18-character barcodes possibly Code UCC 128 or Code 128.

The "guide pratique pour les envois du particulier" dated 1st January 2012 cites and illustrates the BPACK 24H MINI as illustrated below. These have the same dimensions as the TAXIPOST versions. Also cited but not illustrated are pre-franked labels for BPACK 24H, BPACK SECUR, and BPACK PAY@HOME (Weight up to 2 kg.). With an option to purchase additional 2 kg. stamps up to 10 kg. Also, a pre-franked label for BPACK MAXI (Between 10 and 30 kg.).

One example of BPACK 24H MINI is held and illustrated below.

Code 128 Length 18 characters, Module 5.0 pixels, Text 323207991748771415,
Rectangle   X=471 pixels or 39,88 [40] mm.,   Y=446 pixels or 37,76 [38,5] mm.,
            Width=672 pixels or 56,90 [56,5] mm.,   Height=174 pixels or 14,73 [14] mm.
The human readable text is reproduced on the receipt label at the right side. Presumably, the label was removeable. Instructions for use are included on the reverse and the reverse includes a Quick Response code reading http://www.bpost.be/bpack.

QR code Length 25 characters, Module 7,1 pixels,
Rectangle   Width=198 pixels or 16,76 [16,5] mm.,   Height=197 pixels or 16,68 [16,5] mm.
There is an EAN-13 barcode on the side of the box with text 5 412885 064841. This number is consistent with items produced around July 2010

Length 13 characters, Module 3,1 pixels,
Rectangle X=40 pixels or 3,39 mm., Y=3 pixels or 0,25 mm.,
Width=295 pixels or 24,97 [25] mm., Height=193 pixels or 16,34 [16] mm.

9.4.5   Customer Generated Parcel Labels

        The indicator that a label has been customer generated is the length of the text encoded being 24 characters. This means that the first two examples shown are customer or private printings. They were the first items acquired, more for the machine frankings than the linear barcodes. The first label shown below has text hidden beneath a machine franked label. The hidden text reads:

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Machine à affranchir/Frankeermachine
Frankeer hier uw packet/Affranchissez ici votre paquet

The TAXIPOST logo is also hidden by the machine franking.
At the bottom of the label attention is also drawn to the website www.taxipost.be.
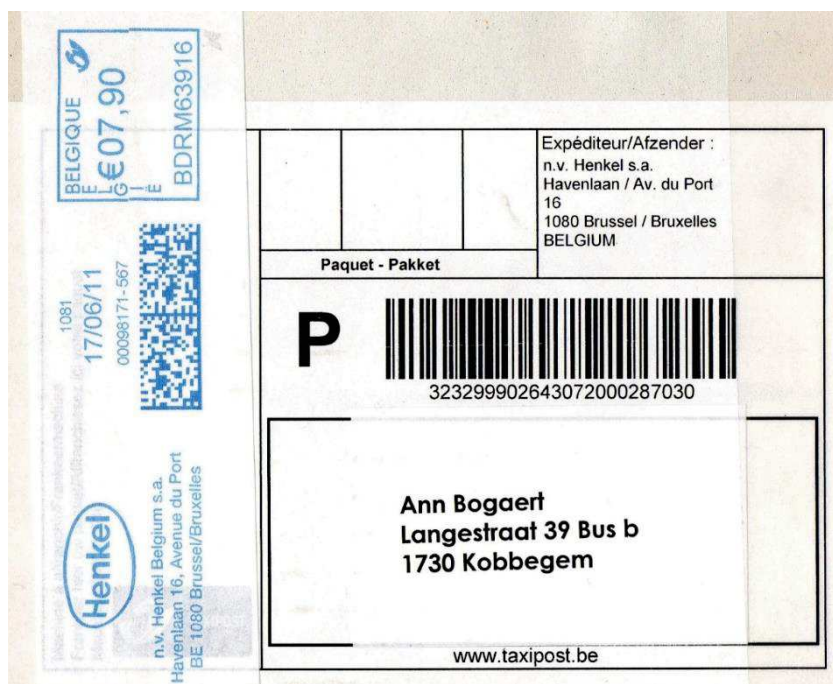
The machine franking is Henkel n.v. Henkel Belgium s.a. Havenlaan 16, Avenue du Port BE1080 Brussel/Bruxelles 1081 17/06/11 00098171-567 €07,90 BDRM63916. This is a Neopost "IS-480" (digital) franking similar to the one shown in Section 5.1.3.7.
The barcode is Code 128 Length 24 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Text 323299902643072000287030.
Rectangle on the label
      X=805 pixels or 68,16 mm.,   Y=642 pixels or 54,36 mm.,
      Width=728 pixels or 61,64 [61,5] mm.,   Height=169 pixels or 14,31 mm.

For comparison a similar label is shown below.

When held in front of a bright light the label has the TAXIPOST logo replaced by ⏣bpost and the link to the website is now www.bpost.be/bpack.
The franking is 4031 12/11/14 02311077-01B "Data Matrix" €006,50 BEGM29U57
And the data matrix decodes as:

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BEA001BEGM29U57000337163240311211140370065016A8023110770296375891015B
The barcode is Code 128 Length 24 characters, Module 4,4 pixels,
Text 323299902623975001801030.
The barcode dimensions are almost the same as the previous example:
Width=729 pixels or 61,72 [61,5] mm., Height=172 pixels or 14,56 [14] mm.

The only difference appears to be the web site www.bpost.be.bpack instead of www.taxipost.be and the ✔ bpost logo replacing the TAXIPOST logo in the text beneath the franking label.

For illustrative purposes in the remainder of this section I modified a label held in my collection as shown below to explain the layout of Customer Generated Parcel Labels where the delivery involves bpost. This format is mandated by the recently discovered Reference 5. "This document describes the different aspects of the integration of bpost and its bpack products in customer systems". Consequently, the bpost logo is quite often incorporated in the label. No previous issue of the reference, nor any broadly equivalent document, has been seen. From the examples of labels held or seen there is wide variation in the content, but the general layout conforms with the reference. Reference 5 states "The primary barcode used by bpost is Code 128C barcode". This makes sense as Code 128C encodes purely numerical sequences efficiently. With hindsight it is perhaps unfortunate that the label I chose for my modification employs Code 128B, but it makes no difference to the modification's illustrative function.

Section 4.1 explains the difference between Code 128A, Code 128B and Code 128C. There is a full listing of the bar/space patterns on Wikipedia.

Barcode is Code128B Length 24 characters, Module 4,0 pixels,
Text 3232105336900121344744050,
Rectangle X=432 pixels or 36,58 [37] mm.,   Y=391 pixels or 33,10 [33] mm.,
Width=711 pixels or 60,2 [60] mm., Height=166 pixels or 14,05 [14] mm.

The barcode always contains 24 numeric characters. Reference 5 indicates that there are four groups of numbers encoded by the barcode these are:
A 4-digit identifier always 3232
A 6-digit account ID 105336
A unique 11-digit parcel number 90012134474
VAS code 050 bpack Easy Retour
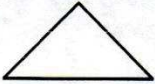
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There are 3 boxes for the VAS zone that may be completed to indicate the additional service or left blank for a simple parcel. The box on the left would hold a logo for the additional service, the centre box a triangle with a barcode beneath indicating COD. An exclamation mark "!" in the box on the right seems to draw attention to the additional service logo. I have not seen a label with any of these marks. A listing of the VAS code is included in Appendix F.2.4 of Reference 5.

Beneath the VAS is a product indicator, Paquet-Pakket now probably Paquet-Pakket-Paket or Envoi contre Remboursement – Verrekenzending.

Additional text is sometimes seen beneath and or to the side of the Recipients Address zone. The label shown below is possibly an extreme example of this additional text.

Sender's address Unigro P/A Noorderlaan 396, 2099 Antwerpen X, Belgique

Start Delimiter 11010011100 indicates Code 128C Length 24 characters, Module 4,9 pixels,

Rectangle   X=519 pixels or 43,94 [44] mm.,   Y=342 pixels or 28,96 [29] mm.,
              Width=816 pixels or 69,09 [69] mm.,   Height=125 pixels or 10,58 [10] mm.

Text 32329995151995663860030 the same as that below the barcode.

Code Interleaved 2 of 5 Length 16 characters, Module 4,2 pixels,

Rectangle   X=228 pixels or 19.30 [19] mm.,   Y=1007 pixels or 85,26 [85] mm,
              Width=558 pixels or 47,24 [47] mm.,   Height=98 pixels or 8,3 [8] mm.,

Text 2679956638600620 the same as that alongside the barcode.

The text 1/ 1 BA-00029-007 is not reflected in the barcodes.

The text in the recipients address zone, 000-1294111-34, is possibly related to the recipients but the number is not reflected in the barcodes.

Text to the right of the barcode reads:

Date et lieu de création de l'étiquette |Datum & plaats creatie etiket:

Date and place of creation of the label

24/05/2020- ……. Poids | Gewicht: Weight 1 kg Contenu | Inhoud: ……. Contents 1/1

Text at right angles on the left side of the label reads:

Exclusivement soumis aux conditions générales en vigueur et la Convention CMR. 1

Uitsluitend onderworpen aan onze huidige Algemene Voorwaarden en het CMR-Verdrag. 1

bpost Rue de l'Evêque |Bisschopsstraat 26 – 1000 Bruxelles |Brussel

Exclusively subject to the general conditions in force and the CMR Convention. 1
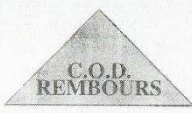
Code 128C Length 24 characters, Module 3,9 pixels, Text 323211623959953335590030

Rectangle X=364 pixels or 30,82 [31] mm., Y=328 pixels or 27,77 [27,5] mm.,
Width=655 pixels or 55,46 [55] mm., Height=147 pixels or 12,45 [12,5] mm.

The text to the right of the recipient's address box "B 10 B" is a pre-sorting code for postcodes between 1000 and 1299. In this case 1040 for Brussels. Pre-sorting codes are listed in Part C.4.3.3.1.8.2 of Reference 5.

The function of the number beneath the recipient's address box, 68445319, is not known nor obvious in Reference 5.

Note   United Nations CMR Convention (Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road) of 1956 relates to legal issues concerning transportation of cargo by road. It was ratified by most European states in September 2019.

The illustration above is an item from a student's exercise provided by the POSTACADEMY. It is possibly a private/customer printed label for a Kilopost National item as it has 27 characters starting JJBEA. From a period around 2007 it does exhibit some of the features mentioned above and included in Reference 5 in particular the COD information. The human readable cod text "9561005580", confirmed by deciphering, starts with the last 4 digits of the barcode number "99321099561" and the COD amount of *55,80€*. The P.C.R. (Postal Cheque Rekening) or Postal Cheque Account number appears twice enabling payment for the parcel service and perhaps for payment by the recipient.

The COD barcode is Code 128 Length 10 characters, Module 5,1 pixels, Text 9561005580,
Rectangle   X=683 pixels or 57,83 mm.,   Y=529 pixels or 44,79 mm.,
               Width=458 pixels or 38,78 [39] mm.,   Height=111 pixels or 9,4 [9+] mm.
The parcel barcode is Code 128 Length 27 characters, Module 5,5 pixels,
Text JJBEA3126000338399321099561,
Rectangle   X=872 pixels or 73,83 mm.,   Y=930 pixels or 78,74 mm.,
               Width=1228 pixels or 104,97 [104] mm., Height=126 pixels or 10,69 [10] mm.
The barcode at right angles on the left is Type Codabar, the only example seen, and its purpose is unknown.
Length 18 characters, Rotation Left, Module 5,3 pixels, Text 123456789123456789
Rectangle   X=181 pixels or 15,32 mm.,   Y=811 pixels or 68,66 mm.,
               Width=216 pixels or 18,29 [18] mm.,   Height=1087 pixels or 92,03 [92] mm.

Reference 5 recommends the dimensions of the barcode for 600 and 1200 dpi printers. "An X-dimension of 0.381 mm produces an identification barcode of 63.627 mm in length. The barcode height must be exactly 14 mm.". The X-dimension equates to the "module" employed throughout this study being identified by **inlite**, using 3 pixels or 0,264 mm. at 300 dpi resolution. The dimensions of the 24-character barcodes held are tabulated below.

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Module 3,9 pixels, 32321162395995333590030 Width=655 pixels or 55,46 [55] mm., Height=147 pixels or 12,45 [12,5] mm.
Module 4,0 pixels, 32321053369001213474050 Width=711 pixels or 60,2 [60] mm., Height=166 pixels or 14,05 [14] mm.
Module 4,1 pixels, 3232106420599668833254030 Width=691 pixels or 58,50 [58] mm., Height=161 pixels or 13,63 [13,5] mm.
Module 4.3 pixels, 32329990265111900064803 Width=727 pixels or 61,55 [61+] mm., Height=174 pixels or 14,73 [14] mm.
Module 4,4 pixels, 32321197820000442186403 Width=731 pixels or 61,89 [61,5] mm., Height=162 pixels or 13,72 [14] mm.
Module 4,4 pixels, 3232001179110023434930303 Width=740 pixels or 62,65 [62] mm., Height=166 pixels or 14,05 [14] mm.
Module 4,4 pixels, 3232052090800000156830303 Width=730 pixels or 61,81 [62] mm., Height=169 pixels or 14,31 [14] mm.
Module 4,4 pixels, 3232700277799485206860303   "Collect & Stamp" service Width=737 pixels or 62,4 [62] mm., Height=171 pixels or 14,48 [14] mm.
Module 4,5 pixels, 3232005178000003875430503 Width=743 pixels or 62,90 [63] mm., Height=167 pixels or 14,14 [14] mm.
Module 4,5 pixels, 32321019195995929918903 Width=746 pixels or 63,16 [63] mm., Height=172 pixels or 14,56 [14,5] mm.
Module 4,7 pixels, 32329990997995191755603   "Collect & Stamp" service Width=788 pixels or 66,72 mm. [66,5] , Height=169 pixels or 14,31 [14] mm.
Module 4,7 pixels, 32329990997995155445003   Taxipost Service Width=791 pixels or 66,97 [67] mm., Height=172 pixels or 14,56 [14] mm.
Module 5,5 pixels, 32329976680000257023303 Width=914 pixels or 77,39 [77] mm., Height=167 pixels or 14,14 [14] mm.
Module 5,7 pixels, 32320464405990843330504 Width=957 pixels or 81,03 [81] mm., Height=195 pixels or 16,51 [16] mm.

The size difference was confirmed by measurement and visually as shown below. There is obviously wide variation in the dimensions of barcodes on privately printed labels.

Module 5,7 pixels, Text 32320464405990843330504

Module 3,9 pixels, Text 32321162395995333590030

9.4.6   Code 39 UPU Standard S10 Label

UPU S10 standard defines a system for assigning 13-character identifiers for international parcels. The identifier consists of a 2-letter service indicator code CA to CY for Parcel Post, an 8-digit identification number, a check-digit calculated from the 8 digits and a two-letter ISO country code "BE" for Belgium. The Code 128 barcode representation is preferred but the post office chose to use Code 39. The validity of the check digit can be established using an algorithm or with the UPU S10 check digit validation tool.

Code 39 Length 13 characters,
Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle X=237 pixels or 20,07 mm.,
Y=1601 pixels or 135,55 mm.,
Width=789 pixels or 66,80 mm.,
Height=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.
EE 381 771 858 BE

Code 39 Length 13 characters,
Module 2,8 pixels,
Rectangle X=220 pixels or 18,63 mm.,
Y=1610 pixels or 136,31 mm.,
Width=716 pixels or 60,62 mm.,
Height=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.
EE391304206BE

The two examples of KILOPOST INT'L, BPI 01 forms shown above differ in the text in the top half of the form immediately above the 3-line box with Bestemmeling / Destinataire to the left of this box. They also differ in the format of the human readable element of the barcode as well as the module and width of the barcode itself. EMS EA to EZ

The relevant text of the left form reads:

Gelieve dit nummer te gebruiken bij contact met onze klantendienst.

Veuillez utiliser ce numéro lors des contacts avec notre Services Clientèle.

That translates as: Please use this number when contacting our Customer Services.

The text of the right form reads:

Kilopost Internationaal is een Non Prior en een niet opgevolgde dienst.

Gelieve dit afgiftebewijs te bewaren voor eventuele opzoekingen.

Kilopost International est un service Non Prior et non suivi.

Veuillez conserver le récépissé pour des recherches éventuelles.

That translates as:

Kilopost International is a Non Prior and unsupervised/untracked service.
Please keep the receipt for possible research.

The example above, seen on a POSTACADEMY item, has the advantage of being dated 11th June 2007. The till receipt on the right is identified by a barcode of the Global Trade Item Number (GTIN-13) type deciphered as "2960007026008" of length 13 characters and module of 5,0 pixels. This and other POSTACADEMY receipts are the only examples seen. There are 4 types of GTIN code. Details can be found on Wikipedia. A GTIN-13 code is a subset of EAN-13 and is coded in the same way as shown below and contains the same 4 information groups.

GTIN
Width=474 pixels or 40,13 [40] mm.,
Height=123 pixels or 10,41 mm. [10,5] mm.

EAN-13 format

The till receipt number is Code 128 reading "786700000013". The exercise also included the application of a CN 22 customs declaration form.

The KILOPOST INT'L form barcodes meet Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool. However, the EE service indicator in Standard 10 applies to the Express Mail Service (EMS), EA to EZ being permitted. The Standard 10 service indicator that applies to parcel post should be CE.

The traditional waybill style of the example below also incorporates the text BELGIAN POST INTERNATIONAL and the De Post–La Poste logo but the barcode meets the Standard 10 format CE for parcel post.

This example of a waybill, used for an international parcel, has the advantage that it is dated, employing a postal vignette or "Blaster". Using my personal notation this is:

8400 **11.9.09-8** PP DAGBLADH WENDY/PP DAGBLADH WENDY € 26,00 KILOPOST.

Only one type of "Blaster" employed a barcode. This is discussed in Section 12.

This form has at least 4 pages with the first 3 being numbered. The final, un-numbered sheet is fixed to the parcel, there is no evidence of a fifth sheet between Sheet 3 and the adhered sheet. Sheets 2 and 3 have the same text as Sheet 1 apart from the barcode rectangle and the area for fixing the postal vignette. In Sheets 2 and 3 the barcode rectangle has an EPG logo ![EPG], the text "▼ No de l'envoi / Nummer van de zending CE 314501314 BE" and KILOPOST INT'L in the vignette area.

The sheet stuck to the parcel contains:

![logo] INT'L "▼ No de l'envoi / Nummer van de zending CE 314501314 BE".

Using a strong light, a barcode preceded by "P" can be seen hidden by the Code 39 label. The hidden barcode type is visually not Code 39. Until 1st January 2010, and the change of name to bpost, labels employed Code UCC 128 barcodes. To encode CE314501314BE Code 128A or Code 128B would be required as Code 128C only encodes pairs of numbers. That the hidden barcode is GS1-128 (UCC/EAN 128) seems most likely, although the one generated below doesn't match the barcode beneath the label. Of course, the hidden barcode might represent an unknown, purely numeric sequence.
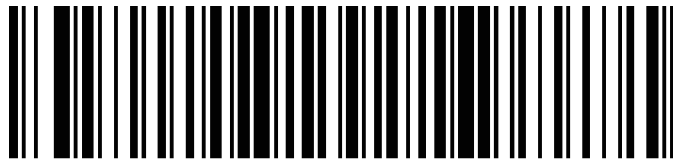
CE314501314BE

GS1-128 (UCC/EAN 128) barcode

A second barcoded 67 x 25 mm. label, shown below right was fixed to the parcel mirroring the parcel weight on the main waybill.

Code128B Length 15 characters,
Module 3,0 pixels, Text G   4.25 kg
Rectangle:
X=45 pixels or 3,81 mm.,
Y=91 pixels or 7,70 mm.,
Width=595 pixels or 50,38 mm.,
Height=123 pixels or 10,41 mm.

The 85 x 58 mm. label shown above was fixed over original barcode.
Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,8 pixels, Text CE314501314BE
The text number has a valid check digit using the UPU S10 check digit validation tool.
Rectangle   X=119 pixels or 10,08 [10] mm.,   Y=273 pixels or 23,11 [25] mm.,
Possibly the difference in the "Y" dimension was caused by the **inlite** decoder measuring to the top of the underlying barcode.
          Width=672 pixels or 56,90 [56,5] mm.,   Height=293 pixels or 24,81 [25] mm.

The charge, 26 euro, is as indicated under TAXIPOST INTERNATIONAL in the bpost tariff leaflet of 01.01.2009.

9.4.6.2   BPACK WORLD

This waybill has some of the characteristics of the previous example but is less meanable to examination. There appear to be three pages with very similar format and text. As with the previous example there appears to be a barcode preceded by "P" hidden by the Code 39 label. The hidden barcode type is visually not Code 39. It looks like a series of wide bars. Perhaps an attempt to obliterate the initial barcode.
The form is franked with a "Blaster" 1090 **10.12.20-14** JETTE FERDINAND LENOIR/JETTE FERDINAND LENOIR € 16,40 BPACK WLD SUR 0-5KG.

NOTE: When introduced in May 2002 it was expected that the postal vignettes or "Blasters" would not receive a cancellation as they included place, date and time information. The "killer" aspect of cancellation was neglected and there were attempts to re-use the labels. The Post Office re-designed the labels and from February 2004 printed their logo twice on each label with cuts or "guillochis". Attempts to peel the label caused it to fragment. There were subsequent changes to the "guillochis" this is the third type.

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Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,8 pixels, Text CE395974609BE
This has a valid check digit with the UPU S10 check digit validation tool.
Rectangle   X=115 pixels or 9,74 [9,9] mm.,   Y=305 pixels or 25,82 [25] mm.,
                Width=675 pixels or 57,15 [56,5] mm.,   Height=291 pixels or 24,64 [24] mm.
The barcode at right angles on the bottom right is:
Code 128B Length 9 characters, Rotation left, Module 2,9 pixels, Text G 1.64 kg
Rectangle   X=897 pixels or 75,95]78] mm.,   Y=256 pixels or 21,68 [21,5] mm.,
                Width=60 pixels or 5,08 [5] mm.,   Height=389 pixels or 32,94 [33] mm.

Attached to the side of the waybill is a 150 x 10 mm., French label.

Top barcode Code 128 Length 13 characters,
Module 4,4 pixels, Text 8K02299820338
Rectangle
X=70 pixels or 5,93 [6] mm.,
Y=474 pixels or 40,13 [40] mm.,
Width=599 pixels or 50,63 [50] mm.,
Height=385 pixels or 32,59 [32,5] mm.

Bottom barcode Code 128 Length 13 characters,
Module 4,4 pixels,
Text 8K1112908423250200000031
Rectangle
X=115 pixels or 9,74 [9,5] mm.,
Y=1297 pixels or 109,81 [110] mm.,
Width=987 pixels or 83,57 [83] mm.,
Height=326 pixels or 27,60 [27] mm.

The waybill shown above dated 5th January 2016 has 3 x BPACK WORLD LIGHT adhesive stamps from Booklet Bpack Light. The stamps are Non Value Indicated, Catalogue BE Ki.B14 and were issued in 2015.
The barcode is Code 39 Length 13, Module 2.8 pixels, Text CE360696309BE
Valid check digit using the UPU on-line, check digit validation tool.
Rectangle   X=1492 pixels or 126,32 mm.,   Y=1417 pixels or 119,97 mm.,
            Width 675 pixels or 57,15 [56,5] mm.,   Height 296 pixels or 25,06 [25] mm.
The barcode at right angles on the bottom right is:
Barcode Code 128 Length 9, Module 3,0 pixels, Rotation Left, Text G0.47
Rectangle   X=2271 pixels or 192,28 mm.,   Y=1362 pixels or 115.32 mm.,
            Width=62 pixels or 5,25 mm.,   Height=400 pixels or 33,87 mm.

This envelope was purchased on 20th August 2012. Originally sent, but undated from the bpost depot at Rue J. Wauters 53 – 5580 Jemelle. The 101 x 101 mm. label was fixed to an undated P.B.– P.P. B-400, postage paid, DL envelope with a printing reference on the reverse R492 bis – ERP 2500000002525 and sealed with a blank label. This might be considered to be registered as the barcode is preceded by "R".

The barcode is Code 128 has a length of 30 characters, module of 3,7 pixels,

Rectangle   X=304 pixels or 25,74 mm.,   Y=554 pixels or 46,91 mm.,
                      Width 731 pixels or 61,89 [62] mm.,   Height 113 pixels or 9,57 [9+] mm.

Text 01054128850045262160 0475362037.

Except for the early labels with "19" instead of "26" the first 18 numbers are the same as those on barcoded registration labels for internal use. The second series of 12 numbers starts "600" which has also been seen on the eShop label shown below that also has 30 characters. Although in this case the first 18 numbers are slightly different "0105412885011128 21". The sequence 11128 is the same as that seen on the anomalous yellow, number label in Section 8.13.6 (Registration Labels for use by the Postal Authority).

The barcode, preceded by "SI", is Code 128, with a module of 4,4 pixels,
Rectangle Width=888 pixels or 75,18 [75] mm. Height=127 pixels or 10,75 [10,5] mm.
The text is 01054128850111282**1600**743222526.

The 105 x 74 mm. label was fixed to an undated P.B.– P.P. B-400, postage paid DL envelope
with a printing reference on the reverse R492 bis – ERP 2500000002525 sealed on the reverse
with a bilingual 105 x 70 mm label as shown below.
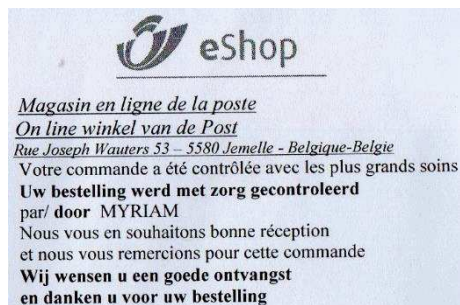
On-line shop of the post.
Rue Joseph Wauters 53 – 5580 Jemelle – Belgique-Belgie
Your order was checked with care by MYRIAM
We wish you a good reception and thank you for your order

The Paquet – Pakket style, 100 x 100 mm. label as shown below was fixed to an undated
P.B.– P.P. B-400, postage paid, DL envelope with a R492 bis – ERP 2500000002525, printing
reference, on the reverse. It was sealed on the reverse with a bilingual 103 x 73 mm label. The
label has the same text as the previous example with the checkers name changed from
"MYRIAM" to "Alexandra".
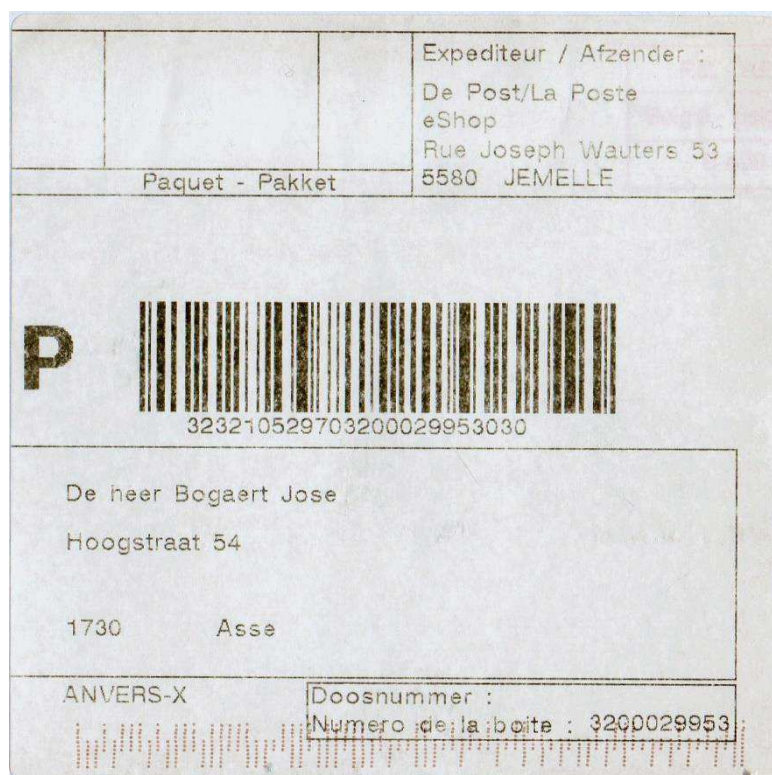
The barcode, preceded by "P", is Code 128, with a module of 4,4 pixels with a rectangle
Width=742 pixels or 62,82 [62] mm. Height=176 pixels or 14,90 [14,5] mm.
The text is 3232105297032000299953030 the first 4 digits "3232" apparently mandated on
parcel labels. An element of the text number is reproduced as the Box number
(Doosnummer/Numero de la boite) "3200029953". There is a 75 bar, A UPU S18 4-State
barcode at the bottom of the label.

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10. Barcodes deciphered as starting "JJBEA"

The UPU Standard S18 for the ID-tagging of letter mail items requires that a 4-State barcode employed to meet this standard must be either 57 or 75 bars in length and always start with a "J". This might explain the inclusion of "J" in Belgian barcodes starting "JJBEA". The number of numeric characters following "JJBEA" provides a means of classification.

10.1 "JJBEA" 13-Character Barcodes

Typically, these involve pre-paid items, IMUTILE D'AFFRANCHIR in French or ONNODIG TE FRANKEREN in Dutch. The barcode forms part of the addressee. Of the examples seen the first 3 digits appear to be 815.

Code 128B Length 13 characters, Module 3,1 pixels, Text JJBEA81532713,
Rectangle   X=999 pixels or 84,58 mm.,   Y=389 pixels or 32,94 mm.,
             Width=456 pixels or 38,61 mm.,   Height=76 pixels or 6,43 mm.

Barcode Code 128B Length 13 characters, Module 4,1 pixels, Text JJBEA81531504
Rectangle   X=1224 pixels or 103,63 mm.,   Y=576 pixels or 48,77 mm.,
             Width 597 pixels or 50,55 [50,5] mm.,   Height 75 pixels or 6,35 [6,5] mm.
There is a French language variant with the successive number JJBEA81531505.

Other examples seen:
Module 4,2 pixels, Text JJBEA81522647,
        X = 808 pixels or = 68,41 [72] mm.,   Y = 660 pixels or 55,88 [56] mm.,
        Width 605 pixels or 51,22 [51] mm.,   Height 106 pixels or 8,98 [9] mm.
Module 4,0 pixels, Text JJBEA81534275,
Rectangle   X = 1112 pixels or 94,15 [94] mm.,   Y = 588 pixels or 49,78 [49,5] mm.,
             Width 582 pixels or 49,28 [49] mm.   Height 94 pixels or 7,96 [8] mm.

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Free postage is sometimes indicated with an imprint stamp.

Code 128B Module 4,4 pixels, Text JJBEA81530301,

Rectangle   X=915 pixels or 77,47 [78] mm.,   Y=375 pixels or 31,75 [32] mm.,
                Width=791 pixels or 66,97 [67] mm.,   Height=103 pixels or 8,72 [8] mm.

There is a Dutch language variant with the preceding number JJBEA81530300.

10.2   "JJBEA" 19-character barcodes and data matrices
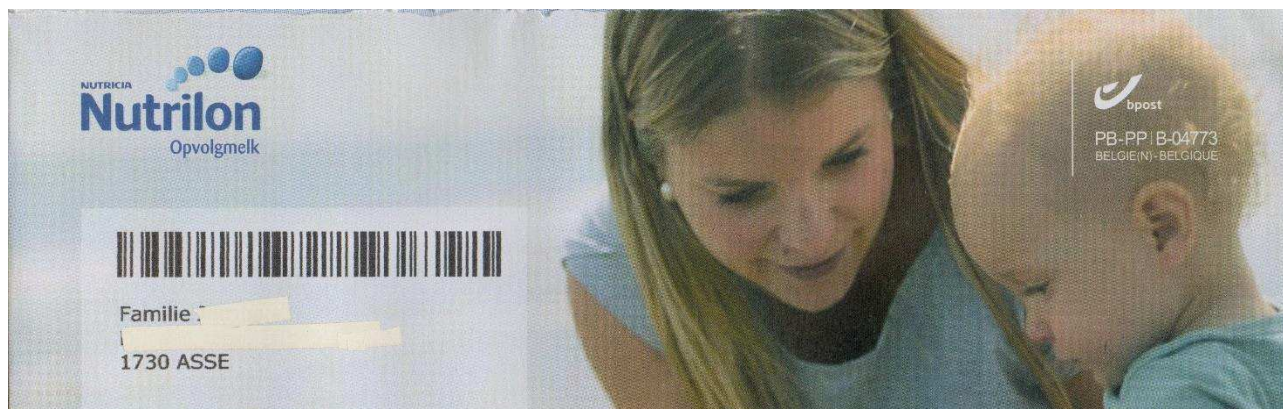
Only a single undated example held.

Top of Nutrilion large envelope franked PB-PP │ B-04773 BELGIE(N)- BELGIQUE

Code 128 Length 19 characters, Module 4,5 pixels, Text JJBEA10000653727674

Rectangle   X=227 pixels or 19.22 [19,5] mm.,   Y=461 pixels or 39,03 [39] mm.,
                Width=799 pixels or 67,65 [67+] mm.,   Height=96 pixels or 8,13 [8] mm.

10.3   "JJBEA" 20-character barcodes and data matrices

10.3.1   "JJBEA" On adhesive postage stamps

There are 20 characters encoded in the Data Matrix on adhesives. See Section 5.3.

Text on King Philippe booklet stamps	JJBEA601900 then 9 digits
Text on King Philippe stamp from sheets	JJBEA601910XXXXXXXXX
Text on Condolences stamp	JJBEA601920XXXXXXXXX
Text on Personalized stamp	JJBEA601930XXXXXXXXX

The initial 300 used King Philippe stamps examined was increased to over 400 examples of which only 168 were decipherable. Of these only 8 numbers had the sheet stamp format JJBEA601910. Of the booklet stamps the lowest number was JJBEA601900058461900 and the highest JJBEA601902202264859.

10.3.2　20-character "JJBEA" Re-address Labels

104 x 36 mm. re-address label applied in conjunction with an insufficient or incorrect address barcoded label type S08 on a DL Window dated 19/02/2020.
"Barcode" JJBEA610000000367951 PRIOR 1030 – Res-101 / 133
IC VERZEKERING HANDELSSTRAAT 72 1040 ETTERBEEK
Code 128B Length 20 characters, Module 3,5 pixels, Text JJBEA610000000367951
Rectangle　　X=66 pixels or 5,59 [9] mm.,　　　　Y=110 pixels or 9,31 [9+] mm.,
　　　　　　　Width=663 pixels or 56,13 [56] mm.,　　Height=72 pixels or 6,1 [6] mm.
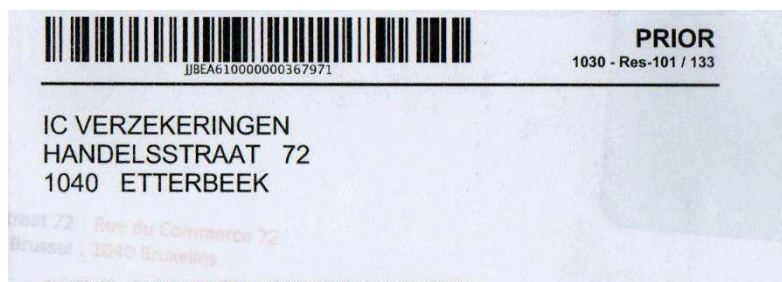
A second label is shown above with an additional barcode fragment at the bottom. The numeric element is almost sequential.
Code 128B Length 20 characters, Module 3,5 pixels,　Text JJBEA610000000367971
Rectangle　　X=59 pixels or 5 mm.,　　　　　　　Y=10 pixels or 0,85 mm.,
　　　　　　　Width=662 pixels or 56,05 mm.,　　　Height=71 pixels or 6,01 mm.
Part barcode Code 128B Length 20 characters, Module 3,5 pixels,
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　Text JJBEA610000000367973
Rectangle　　X=58 pixels or 4,91 mm.,　　　　　　Y=422 pixels or 35,73 mm.,
　　　　　　　Width=662 pixels or 56,05 mm.,　　　Height=9 pixels or 0,76 mm.

A similarly addressed example is shown further below with a 23-character barcode. See Section 10.3.5.3.

10.3.3　"JJBEA" 20-character Barcodes on Blasters

On 17th June 2019 bpost introduced the application of a barcode into the design of the "Blaster". This was unsuccessful and soon withdrawn. The only example held is described in Section 12 with barcode text JJBEA640000000079043.

10.3.4　"JJBEA" 21-character barcodes TBC-POST

A small number of this type have been seen and appear to be related to customer numbers rather than a number linked to the addressee. All the barcodes deciphered are listed below and are of Code 128 and module around 3,6 pixels.

JJBEA1198430000062983	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843000090989	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843000104655	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843000062978	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020027445	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020286045	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020268479	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020272261	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020279572	Blancheporte
JJBEA119843020306767	3/SUISSES
JJBEA119843020052002	DL envelope

Cancelled www.TBC-POST.com TBC **1 2 -10- 2015** Zaventem 1 PO-2013-001-LIF Single-ring.
80 x 35 mm. label with address to:
3/ S U I S S E S "Barcode" JJBEA1198430200306767 BP 30000 7700 MOUSCRON
Barcode Code 128 Length 21 characters, Module 3,6 pixels, Text JJBEA1198430200306767,
Barcode rectangle deciphered on envelope:

    X=923 pixels or 78,15 mm.,   Y=872 pixels or 73,83 mm.,
    Width = 686 pixels or 58,06 [58] mm.,   Height = 93 pixels or 7,87 [7+] mm.

Cancelled www.TBC-POST.com TBC **1 2 -10- 2015** Zaventem 1 PO-2013-001-LIF Single-ring.
80 x 35 mm. label with address to:
"Barcode" JJBEA1198430200273076 Blancheporte BP 30100 7700 MOUSCRON
Barcode Code 128 Length 21 characters, Module 3,6 pixels, Text JJBEA1198430200273076,
Barcode rectangle deciphered on envelope:

    X=760 pixels or 64,35 mm.,   Y=794 pixels or 67,23 mm.,
    Width = 686 pixels or 58,06 [58] mm.,   Height = 98 pixels or 8,3 [7+] mm.

Curtailed and reduced image of a DL envelope franked TBC-POST with a barcode and dated 06.02.15.
Barcode Code 128B Length 9 characters, Module 4,9 pixels, Text 105506483
Barcode rectangle deciphered on envelope:

      X=895 pixels or 75,78 mm.,   Y=50 pixels or 4,23 mm.,
      Width=495 pixels or 41,91 mm.,   Height=131 pixels or 11.09 mm.

The 80 x 35 mm. label is the address to:
"Barcode" JJBEA1198430200052002, Tele ……… 2100 DEURNE.
Barcode Code 128 Length 21 characters, Module 3,6 pixels, Text JBEA11984302200052002,
Barcode rectangle deciphered on envelope:

      X=1379 pixels or 116,76 mm.,   Y=657 pixels or 55,63 mm,
      Width=688 pixels or 58,25 mm.,   Height=105 pixels or 8,89 mm.

NOTE: A large quantity of envelopes have been seen with a combination of one of several Types of TBC-POST franking and a Code 128 barcode all barcodes having 9 digits starting "10……." and a module around 4,9 pixels. There seemed little advantage in tabulating them.

10.3.5   "JJBEA" 23-character barcodes and data matrices

10.3.5.1   "JJBEA" Encoded in data matrices

The data matrices associated with "Collect & Stamp" and "Collect & Send", see Section 5.2, have 23 characters, "JJBEA" followed by 18 numbers. "20010099" for the first 8-digits followed by a 10-digit serial number until the years 2019/2020. Thereafter 6-digits "200101" followed by a 12-digit serial number.

10.3.5.2   "JJBEA" Occasional Use of 23-character Data Matrices see Section 5.4.

The first item illustrated in Section 5.4 is part of a DL, postage paid envelope with both a data matrix and a barcode in the address zone of the envelope.
Barcode 128 Length 23 characters, text JJBEA129941000027940967
      Width 777 pixels = 65,79 [65] mm.,   Height 75 pixels = 6,35 [6] mm.
The text below the barcode is 00038838 000120 ●■ B-W3-S4
The Data Matrix of Length 6 characters, Module 6,2 pixels, reads 038845
Rectangle   X=2217 pixels or 187,71 mm.,   Y=568 pixels or48,09 mm.,
             Width=62 pixels or 5,25 mm.,   Height=62 pixels or 5,25 mm.

The second item illustrated in Section 5.4 is a DL, postage paid window with an 80 x 10 mm. label. This is probably related to the 112 x 40 mm. labels mentioned in Section 10.4 and the subject of the next section.

Code 128 Length 23 characters, Module 4,1 pixels, Text JJBEA129955681028451965

Rectangle	X=539 pixels or 45,64 mm.,	Y=473 pixels or 40,05 mm.,
	Width = 820 pixels or 69,43 [69] mm.	Height = 76 pixels or 6,43 [6] mm.

10.3.5.3   23-character "JJBEA" Re-address Labels

Several examples have been seen with "12995561", "12995563" and "12995568" as the first 8 digits following "JJBEA".

DL envelope franked |bpost PB-PP |B-08959 BELGIE(N)BELGIQUE, with a 112 x 40 mm re-address label to: "Barcode" JJBEA129955610053100071 IC Verzekeringen Handelsstraat 72 1040 ETTERBEEK. An address seen previously with a 20-character barcode see Section 10.3.2. Barcode Code 128B Length 23 characters, Module 2,9 pixels,

Rectangle	X=205 pixels or 17,36 [17] mm.,	Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm.,
	Width=840 pixels or 71,12 [71] mm.,	Height=103 pixels or 8,72 [9] mm.

10.3.5.4   27-character Kilopost Nt'l barcodes

Section 9.4.2 discussed the 5 examples held with 27-charactrer numbers.

JJBEA300000000000000002575944
JJBEA300000000000000005557212
JJBEA300000000000000005589837
JJBEA300000000000000008655113
JJBEA300000000000000010499758

See also Postage Paid, parcel label in Section 4.3 Length 27 characters dated 17/3/2008., Text JJBEA3070500338899383559481. The label also has an Interleaved 2 of 5 barcode.

11.   Post Office labels associated with delivery problems.

Until the end of the 20th century a large variety of small self-adhesive labels or cachets were fixed to the envelope to explain to the customer why delivery of an item had been delayed or the item returned to sender. The post office then introduced a single label that predated or reflected the format and content of the UPU RETURN CN 15 label. The CN 15 label was subsequently made mandatory for international mail. The RETURN CN 15 label in pink with a minimum size of 52 x 52 mm. employs check boxes to define the reasons necessitating return of the item and the return date. The reasons cited being: Unknown, Gone Away, Insufficient Address, Refused and Unclaimed. The information should be in French, but the designated operator may add the translation, in its own language. The Belgian post office equivalent was numbered 143A (shown below left) with a bilingual text printed so either language was readable by rotating the label through 180 degrees. Pink, black and white and

monolingual versions were produced as well as labels with fewer reasons. The most recent label of this type seen in 2001 is un-numbered and shown below on the right.

11.1 S04 Return to Sender

At some time after 2001 La Poste/De Post introduced a barcoded equivalent but with the "passed away" reason removed. The labels are 60 x 43 mm. in sheets of 25 labels (5 x 5) identified as 143 - Code ERP 2500000011768. The label is red with white text apart from the barcode and La Poste/De Post logo which are black and white. The barcode is Code 39 with length 3 characters, module 6,0 pixels and encodes the text S04.

Several other labels of a similar type have been seen all with barcodes encoding a text with a "S" prefix namely S03, S05 (S05 is yellow), S08, S09, S011 S012 and S29. These are illustrated below with appropriate barcode details. All barcodes are Code 39 and encode 3 characters. Form S04 is bilingual with the languages inverted relative to one another. In the other forms "S" both languages are in the same orientation. Probably by chance, the majority I have seen have the Dutch version on the right but examples of the French language on the right have been seen and probably exist for all forms. The X and Y dimensions of the barcodes will differ depending on the orientation of the label. Of these labels S05 and S29 are not represented in the earlier non-barcoded form 143 or the barcoded form S04. Some of these labels are seen to evolve as regards format and most involve a single reason selected from the S04 list. Form S03 is more complex as it involves a second barcode and is addressed separately.

Many of these labels are seen with the post office logo blacked out after the change of name in January 2010. I have not seen such an example for the S04. This is not surprising as the "S" series of labels covers all the reasons in Form S04 apart from VERHUISD/DEMENAGE or MOVED. Possibly the "S" series includes such a label it just has not been seen. There are certainly sufficient gaps in the numbering system.

11.2   S05   FORWARDING TO (ADDRESS OR POST OFFICE)

Opnieuw aanbieden op / A représenter le Represent on Re-offer / Represent on
Doorzending naar (adres of postkantoor) / Transfert vers (adresse ou bureau de poste)
Forwarding to (Address or Post Office)
The labels are 60 x 43 mm. in sheets of 25 labels (5 x 5) identified as:
 141 - Code ERP 2500000011767.

Module 5.8 pixels,
Vertical strip of 5 Average Module 5,94 pixels.
Average X=190,8 pixels or 16,15 mm.,
Average Width=501,2 pixels or 42,43 mm.,
Average Height=75 pixels or 6,35 mm.

Module 5.8 pixels,
Rectangle X=134 pixels or 11.35 mm.,
Y=41 pixels or 3,47 mm.,
Width=430 pixels or 36,41 [36+] mm.,
Height=99 pixels or 8,38 [8+] mm.
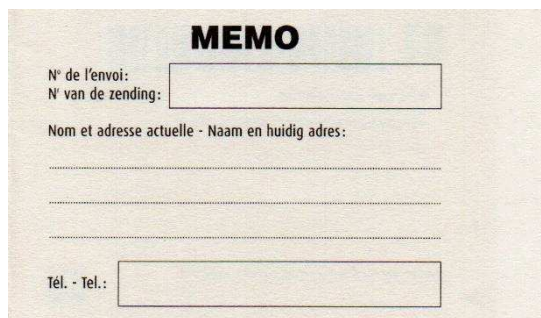
Reverse of the label.

11.3   S08   INSUFFICIENT OR INCORRECT ADDRESS.

ADRES ONVOLLEDIG/ ONJUIST ADRESSE INSUFFISANTE/ INCORRECTE

55 by 22 mm. label

Module 6,3 pixels,
Rectangle X=115 pixels or 9,74 [9,5] mm.,
Y=57 pixels or 4,83 [5,5] mm.,
Width=429 pixels or 36,32 [36] mm.,
Height=97 pixels or 8,21 [8] mm.

Module 4,5 pixels,
Rectangle X = 148 pixels or 12,53 [12,8] mm.,
Y = 71 pixels or 6,01 [6] mm.,
Width = 346 pixels or 29,29 [29] mm.,
Height = 59 pixels or 5 [5] mm.

The presence of "Internationale ROE □ International ROE" suggests that this type of label could be used internationally. The example shown below has labels from a DL window franked by a Neopost "IS-6000" meter to the Netherlands on 4th March 2020.
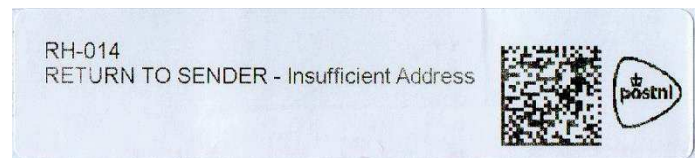
Dutch Label Data Matrix Length 51 characters, Module 6,0 pixels,

Rectangle　　X = 763 pixels or 64,6 [64,5] mm.,　　　　Y = 59 pixels or 5 [4,8] mm.,
　　　　　　　Width = 157 pixels or 13,29 [13] mm.,　　Height = 154 pixels or 13,04 [13] mm.

In another example what is presumably the correct address has been added by the addition of the label shown below.

The internal DL Window franked by a Neopost "IS-6000" meter dated 19th February 2020 shown above has a 104 x 36 mm. re-address label applied in conjunction with the S08 label.

"Barcode" JJBEA610000000367951 PRIOR 1030 – Res-101 / 133

IC VERZEKERING HANDELSSTRAAT 72 1040 ETTERBEEK

Code 128 Length 20 characters, Module 3,5 pixels, Text JJBEA610000000367951

Rectangle　　X=66 pixels or 5,59 [9] mm.,　　　　　　Y=110 pixels or 9,31 [9+] mm.,
　　　　　　　Width=663 pixels or 56,13 [56] mm.,　　Height=72 pixels or 6,1 [6] mm.

The S08 label is Module 4,5 pixels,

Rectangle　　X=156 pixels or 13,21 mm.,　　　　　　Y=70 pixels or 5,93 mm.,
　　　　　　　Width=345 pixels or 29,21 mm.,　　　　Height=58 pixels or 4,91 mm.

　　　A second identical cover has been seen.

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11.4   S09   GEWEIGERD REFUSE REFUSED

The labels are 60 x 43 mm. in sheets of 25 labels (5 x 5) identified as:
143B (GEWEIGERD-REFUSE) – Code ERP 2500000012403.

Vertical strip of 4 labels Module 6,3 pixels.
Average X=216 pixels or 18,29 mm.,
Average Width=459 pixels or 38,86 mm.,
Average Height=97 pixels or 8,21 mm.

Measurement without edge strip
X=124 pixels or 10,50 [11] mm.,
Y=4 pixels or 0,34 [0,4] mm.,
Width=459 pixels or 38,86 [39] mm.,
Height=99 pixels or 8,38 [8+] mm.

To date no examples have been seen used.

11.5   S11 DOES NOT RECEIVE/NO LONGER RECEIVES MAIL AT ADDRESS INDICATED

ONTVANGT DE   BRIEFWISSELING NIET (MEER)   OP HET AANGEDUIDE ADRES
NE RECOIT PAS   PLUS LE COURRIER   A L'ADRESSE INDIQUEE

Module 6,0 pixels,
X=127 pixels or 10,75 [10,5] mm.,
Y=41 pixels or 3,47 [3,5] mm.,
Width=460 pixels or 38,95 [39] mm.,
Height=98 pixels or 8,3 [8,5] mm.

Module 5,8 pixels,
X = 148 pixels or 12,53 [12] mm.,
Y = 38 pixels or 3,22 [3] mm.
Width = 437 pixels or 37 [37] mm.
Height = 99 pixels or 8,38 [8,5] mm.

The printing with the bpost logo is quite different to that with the La Poste/De Post logo although the spaces for the La Poste/De Post logo has been blacked out.

11.6 <u>S12</u>   NIET AFGEHAALD NOT TAKEN AWAY NON RECLAME NOT CLAIMED

The initial printing of the 60 x 43 mm. labels, shown below has an edge strip and were printed in sheets of 25 labels (5 x 5) identified as:143A (NF) - Code ERP 2500000012406.

First design with the De Post–La Poste logo.
Vertical strip of 5 Average Module 6,26 pixels.
Average X = 182 pixels 15,41 [15] mm.
Average Width=460,2 pixels 38,96 [39] mm.
Average Height=98,6 pixels 8,35 [8] mm.

Third design with the bpost logo.
Vertical strip of 5 Average Module 4,3 pixels.
Average X=322,8 pixels 27,33 [27+] mm.
Average Width=345,2 pixels 29,23 [29] mm.
Average Height=107,8 pixels 9,13 [9] mm.

The second design, shown left, has a different font and barcode size with the bpost pictorial logo alongside the barcode and with the spaces for the La Poste/De Post logo blacked out.
Module 6.0 pixels,
X = 133 pixels or 11.26 [11] mm.,
Y = 24 pixels or 2,03 [2] mm.,
Width = 438 pixels or 37,08 [37] mm.
Height = 100 pixels or 8,47 [8+] mm.

The current label is smaller, 55 by 22 mm., and without the space for the post code. The logo now includes bpost.
Module 4,5 pixels,
X = 155 pixels or 13,12 [13] mm.,
Y = 78 pixels or 6,60 [6,5] mm.,
Width = 344 pixels or 29,13 [29] mm.,
Height = 56 pixels or 4,74 [4,5] mm.

11.7   S29   INSUFFICIENTLY FRANKED SENDING

ENVOI INSUFFISAMMENT AFFRANCHI
ZENDING ONVOLDOIENDE GEFRANKEN

These do not appear to be regularly used as on 1st August 1998 the collection of postage due was abandoned. Underpaid mail was returned to the sender with a black on yellow label "Insuffisamment Affranchi/Onvoldoend Gefrankeerd" and a polite note suggesting that if the item were correctly franked it would be delivered. Where the sender was unknown the recipient would be invited to collect the item on payment of a fee. Examples seen show this system was still in operation in 2019.
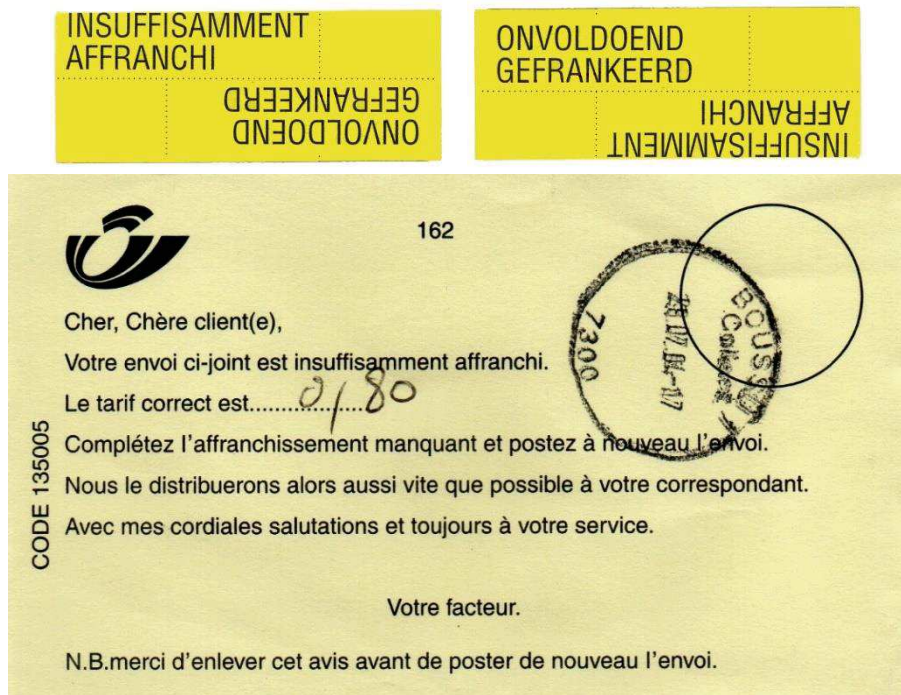
Dear Customer, Your enclosed shipment is insufficiently prepaid.
The correct price is ……
Fill in the missing postage and re-mail the item.
We will then distribute it as quickly as possible to your correspondent.
With cordial greetings and always at your service.
Your postman.
N.B. Please remove this notice before posting the shipment again.

Two examples of the S29 have been seen both 60 x 43 mm. and with the La Poste/De Post logo blacked out. One includes the bpost website address as "info : www.bpost.be" beneath the post code boxes and the other does not. Both types seen on items dated 2015.

Module 5,4,
Rectangle
X=159 pixels or 13,46 [13,5] mm.,
Y=44 pixels or 3,73 [3] mm.,
Width=405 pixels or 34,29 [34] mm.,
Height=97 pixels or 8,21 [8+] mm.

Module 5,1 pixels,
Rectangle
X=153 pixels or 12,94 [13] mm.,
Y=37 pixels or 3,13 [3] mm.,
Width=404 pixels or 34,21 [34] mm.,
Height=94 pixels or 7,96 [8] mm.

11.8 Unable to deliver notice and S03 label

These notices appear to relate to registered mail, both local and incoming overseas, also court mail, pensions and packages are included. The earliest seen notices are certainly copies of constructs for use in the POSTACADEMY as both the notice and the S03 label have an identification number PON-071 that has not been seen other than on POSTACADEMY items.

The item shown is the central label from a vertical strip of 3 items. Two such vertical strips are held with different manuscript completion of the box beneath the left barcode. The two visible barcodes on each item are deciphered below. A third barcode is hidden by the large arrow with the text Klient = Mandataire Official (Client = Mandatory Official).

Barcode bottom right Code 39 Length 3, Module 3,5 pixels, Text S03

Details of all 3 forms in the strip are given below.

Rectangle	X=1832 pixels or 155,11 [155] mm.,	Y=1022 pixels or 86,53 [86] mm.,
	Width=259 pixels or 21,93 [22] mm.,	Height=46 pixels or 3,89 [4] mm.
Rectangle	X=1837 pixels or 155,53 [155+] mm.,	Y=2185 pixels or 185 [185] mm.,
	Width=259 pixels or 21,93 [22] mm.,	Height=45 pixels or 3,81 [4] mm.
Rectangle	X=1843 pixels or 156,04 [155,5] mm.,	Y=3348 pixels or 283,46 [283] mm.,
	Width=259 pixels or 21,93 [22] mm.,	Height=43 pixels or 3,56 [3,5] mm.

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Code UCC 128 Length 30, Module 3,3 pixels,

Rectangle	X=38 pixels or 3,22 [3] mm.,	Y=614 pixels or 51,99 [52] mm.,
	Width=688 pixels or 58,25 [58] mm.,	Height=103 pixels or 8,72 [8] mm.
	Text 010541288500452621400059649083	
Rectangle	X=40 pixels or 3,39 [3] mm.,	Y=1775 pixels or 148,59 [150] mm,
	Width=689 pixels or 58,34 [58] mm.,	Height=106 pixels or 8,97 [8] mm.
	Text 010541288500452621400059649085	
Rectangle	X=48 pixels or 4,06 [3+] mm.,	Y=2939 pixels or 248,84 [248] mm.,
	Width=689 pixels or 58,34 [58] mm.,	Height=106 pixels or 8,97 [8] mm.
	Text 010541288500452621400059649087	

The functional example shown above confirms that the S03 label is removed and fixed to the item in question. The text translates as:

We have a shipment for you! La Poste offers you several solutions to obtain this (see back)
This XX / XX / 200X, your postman Willy came to your home with a NATIONAL REGISTERED.
This will be at your disposal from + 1 / XX / 200X u until + 15 / XX / 200X at the office of:
CHARLEROI 1 SQUARE DES MARTYRS. 6000 Charleroi
Details of the office opening hours.
Shipment number: 452621400059639533
Keep this number if you choose a transfer or representation (see back)
"Barcode" UCC 128 Length 30, Module 3,0 pixels, Text 010541288500452621400059639533

Rectangle	X=180 pixels or 15,21 [15+] mm.,	Y=619 pixels or 52,41 [52] mm.,
	Width=631 pixels or 53,42 [52+] mm.,	Height=82 pixels or 6,94 [7] mm.

    It is possible that the left barcode on the PON-071 and the box below are removeable self-adhesive labels that could be the applied to a form of the type shown below.

    The 150 x 10 mm. forms are POSTACADEMY constructs headed "Envoi enregistré" or Registered shipment. That shown on the left is identified as 1060 T bis – Code ERP 2500000002430 and that on the right as1060 T bis – (code 317850). Both have similar printed barcodes with human readable text 010541288500452621400059639541.

The left form barcode is Code 128, Length 30 characters, Module 3,1 pixels,

Rectangle on form	X=606 pixels or 51,31 mm.,	Y=644 pixels or 54,53 mm.,
	Width=655 pixels or 55,46 [53] mm.,	Height=92 pixels or 7,79 [7,5] mm.

The right form barcode is Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 3,2 pixels,

Rectangle on form	X=614 pixels or 51,99 mm.,	Y=663 pixels or 56,13 mm.,

Width 630 pixels or 53,35 [53] mm.,   Height 86 pixels or 7,28 [7,5] mm.
The registration label on the PON-071 has a UCC-128 barcode that on the form is Code 128.

The POSTACADEMY construct below illustrates how the system worked.

The basic envelope depicts a 77 x 38 mm. style registration label (See Section10.5) for an item employing the AR, Avis de Reception (Acknowledgement of Receipt) service, franked with a "Blaster" label. The barcode text is 01054128850**04526**21**400059639541** with a manuscript note to the right *"→ Scanner"* which suggests that a scanner is used to print the barcode on the S03 label.

The form S03 on the envelope above has a different number to that on the registration label 010541288500452621400059639533. This is probably an error made when producing the construct. A correct example could have been illustrated but the manuscript *"→ Scanner"* justifies the inclusion of this example.

Other similar items held, as shown left, employ a registration label number that matches that on the S03.

The third label is a facsimile of the S05 type. See Section 11.1.

A similar PON-071 is shown above for a parcel. The removable self-adhesive barcode on the left has been replaced with the number 28-character JJBEA30260003383993295534701. This is not a regular packet number, the 28-character number seems unique. The box below this number has been removed. This may be explained by the note on the reverse of a later form which states "Bring the following documents: This message + your identity card (not necessary for a package)".

The form did evolve with a barcode being placed above the S03 label on the right and a box reintroduced below the shipment number. The box offered a structured space for the completion in handwriting of the details and signature of the person collecting the item. For the Dutch language variant shown above, the barcode is confirmed as Standard 10 by employing the UPU online check digit validation tool. Such a barcode might be applied to an item coming from overseas. Possibly one without its own barcoded registration label.

Barcode Code 128 Length 13 characters, Module 4,5 pixels, Text RR161078275BE
Rectangle   X=2651 pixels or 224,45 mm.,   Y=586 pixels or 49,61 mm.,
              Width=701 59,35 [59] mm.,   Height=82 pixels or 6,94 [7] mm.

The variant above is French monolingual and applies to a registered item received from Germany. The barcode is confirmed as Standard 10 by employing the check digit validation tool with a number ending in "DE" as appropriate to a German origin.
Code 128 Length 13 characters, Module 4,5 pixels, Text RT258133655DE
Rectangle   X=1705 pixels or 144,36 [144,5] mm.,   Y=579 pixels or 48,94 [49] mm.,
              Width=704 pixels or 59,61 59+] mm.,   Height=87 pixels or 7,37 [7] mm.

The variant above is French/Dutch bilingual and related to an internal registered item.
Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 3,4 pixels, Text 010541288500452621900042432497

Rectangle   X=1692 pixels or 143,26 [143] mm.,   Y=568 pixels or 48,09 [49,5] mm.,
                      Width=723 pixels or 61,21 [61+] mm.,   Height=74 pixels or 6,27 [6] mm.

The reverse of the form shown above is typical, and a translation of the text is provided in Appendix 4.

The form evolved further with the introduction of a tear off, S03 label.

Slightly different versions of this form have been seen.

Hello, I came by on 05.06.18 and will lay aside your PACKAGE in:
Post Office: ASSE: STATIONSSTRAAT 26A 1730 ASSE
Available from 06.06.18, from 11:00 to 20.06.18 according to the opening hours:
Details of the office opening hours.
❶ Pick up your package with this message.
❷ Or ask someone else to pick up your package with this message.
❸ Or request a new offer via www.bpost.be/nieuweaanbieding
Name + first name Date + Time: Signature: ....
Responsponsible processor (access rights / rectification): bpost NV. Data available for sender.
Kind regards, your mailman.
Barcode Code 128 Length 24 characters, Rotation none, Module 3.9 pixels,
Rectangle   X=1337,   Y=486,
                      Width 696 pixels or 58,93 [58,5] mm.,   Height 98 pixels or 8,3 [8] mm.
Text 323200074941112123001040

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The S03 label is interpreted as:

⬤ Ring the bell, note offer time and wait:

Res-530 "Barcode"

Post Office ASSE

Bericht gelaten op : Message left on 05.06.18 Terugzenden op Returned on : 06/06/2012

"Barcode" 11/61

"Barcode" is Code 128 Length 3 characters, Rotation right, Module 2.9 pixels, Text S03

Rectangle   X=2375 pixels or 201,08 mm.,   Y=754 pixels or 63,83 mm.,

               Width 60 pixels or 5,08 [5] mm.,   Height 197 pixels or 16,68 [16,5] mm.

Barcode Code 128 Length 24 characters, Rotation right, Module 2.5 pixels,

Rectangle   X=2130 pixels or 180,34 mm.,   Y=624 pixels or 52,83 mm.,

               Width 42 pixels 3+ [5] mm.,   Height 442 pixels or 37,42 [37] mm.

Text 323200074941112123001040.

11.9   Original S03 labels

There appears to be at least 4 types of this label with some features dependent on the accurate positioning of the printing of the front of the PON-071 style document. This is particularly true of the right edging line of the rectangle containing the cost information. Often this line cuts into the La Poste/De Post logo, on other labels it is absent. In the earliest form the "Message left on" text precedes the Code 39 barcode and there is a red "peel off here" arrow in the bottom right corner. The text REG-014 precedes the S03 label, the number varies but has no obvious link to the rest of the label's contents. "Reg" is a common alternative for the alphabetic text. An anomalous "Rbe" has been seen on an incoming registered item from Spain

In the second form the arrow is replaced with a number, in the case below the number is 1/9. The "Message left on" ("Avis déposé le :" or "Bericht gelaten op :") text is level with and closer to the logo and the barcode is Code 128.

In the third form the "Message left on" text is moved to a position underneath the barcode. The barcode is Code 128.

In the fourth variant the La Poste/De Post logo is replaced with a red triangle. The Code 128 barcode is narrower and positioned at the top of the label. There is much variation in the height of the barcode. Examples are held with the vertical line passing through the triangle.

Code 39 S03   Code 128 S03

The three examples from OLEN shown below illustrate some of the differences and the dates might indicate the timescale of the changes. Interestingly the last two labels shown have a typographical error in the spelling of aangeduid that is spelt aangeduld in error, an error seen elsewhere.

S03 dated 30/01/08 another example is held dated 29/11/07
Code 39 Length 3 Module 3,6 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle   X = 306 pixels or 25,91 [26] mm.,   Y = 383 pixels or 32,43 [33] mm.,
                     Width = 263 pixels or 22,27 [22] mm.,   Height = 48 pixels or 4,06 [4] mm.
Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,4 pixels, Text 010541288500452621200053498758,
Rectangle   X = 81 pixels or 6,86 [7] mm.,   Y = 85 pixels or 7,2 [7] mm.,
                     Width = 677 pixels or 57,19 [57] mm.,   Height = 52 pixels or 4,40 [4] mm.
S03 dated 26/05/08
Code 128 Length 3, Module 5,1 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle   X = 223 pixels or 18,88 mm.   Y = 403 pixels or 34,12 mm.
                     Width = 347 pixels or 29,38 mm.   Height = 71 pixels or 6,01 mm.
Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,4 pixels, Text 010541288500452621400075338134,
Rectangle   X = 68 pixels or 5,76 mm.   Y = 74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
                     Width = 724 pixels or 61,3 mm.   Height = 47 pixels or 3,98 mm.
S03 dated 14/10/08
Code 128 Length 3, Module 5,1 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle   X = 244 pixels or 20,66 mm.   Y = 326 pixels or 27,60 mm.
                     Width = 346 pixels or 29,29 mm.   Height = 70 pixels or 5,93 mm.
Code 128 Length 30, Module 3,4 pixels, Text 010541288500452621200059045823,
Rectangle X = 89 pixels or 7,54 mm.,   Y = 0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
                     Width = 724 pixels or 61,3 mm.,
                     Height = 23 pixels or 1,95 mm.

Further examples are reviewed in detail below.

Earliest Dutch Version 24/03/06

NOTE : Official mail U.V. mail hence no registration label on the cover

ST-KRUIS
Afwezig Absent
□ Geen lasthebber aangeduid
   Not the agent indicated
□ Niet bestelbaar Not deliverable
□ Terugzenden op : 13/04/2007 Returned on :
REG-004 Barcode
Barcode Code 39 Length 3 characters,
Module 3,6 pixels,

Rectangle X=310 pixels or 26,25 mm.,
             Y=391 pixels or 33,10 mm.,
             Width=264 pixels or 22,35 mm.,
             Height=50 pixels or 4,23 mm.
Text S03.

Bericht gelaten op : 28/03/07 Message left on :
Barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters,
Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle X=83 pixels or 7,03 mm.,
             Y=93 pixels or 7,87 mm.,
             Width=679 pixels or 57,49 mm.,
             Height=57 pixels or 4,83 mm.
Text 010541288500451921900000380249

Earliest French Version

Avis déposé le : 22/02/07 Advice deposited on
Barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters,
Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle X=83 pixels or 7,03 mm.,
         Y=112 pixels or 9,48 mm.,
         Width=675 pixels or 57,15 mm.,
         Height=51 pixels or 4,32 mm.
Text 010541288500452621200041650256
HERMEE
☐ Absent Absent
☐ Pas de mandataire désigné
   Not the designated agent
☐ Non distribuable Not deliverable
Retour le :12/03/2007 Returned on :
REG-004

77 mm. (Max 83) x 38 mm.
 Registration label
Barcode UCC 128 Length 30,
Module 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle X=219 pixels or 18,54 mm.,
         Y=237 pixels or 20,07 mm.,
         Width=526 pixels or 44,53 mm.,
         Height=161 pixels or 13,63 mm.
Text 010541288500452621 200 041 650 256

Barcode Code 39 Length 3, Module 3,6 pixels,
Rectangle X=306 pixels or 25,91 mm.,
         Y=410 pixels or 34,71 mm.,
         Width=262 pixels or 22,18 mm.,
         Height=48 pixels or 4,06 mm.
Text S03

Third French Version

Barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters,
Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle X=112 pixels or 9,48 mm.,
         Y=11 pixels or 0,93 mm.,
         Width=728 pixels or 61,64 mm.,
         Height=88 pixels or 7,45 mm.
Text 010541288500452621300060806495
Avis déposé le : 11/03/2009
PLAIS DU FRAIS
☐ Absent
☐ Pas de mandataire désigné
☐ Non distribuable
Retour le : 27/03/2009
REG-028   Barcode   17/32
Code 128 Length 3, Module 5.1 pixels,
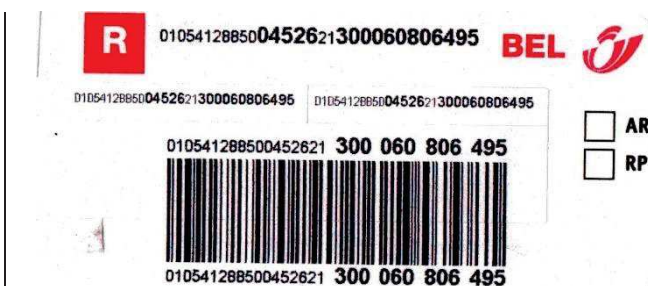
77 (Max 83) x 38 mm Registration label
Barcode UCC 128 Length 30 characters,
Module 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle X=203 pixels or 17,19 mm.,
         Y=229 pixels or 19.39 mm.,
         Width=529 pixels or 44,79 mm.,
         Height=168 pixels or 14,22 mm.
Text 010541288500452621 300 060 806 495

 Rectangle on label
         X=267 pixels or 22,61 mm.,
         Y=400 pixels or 33,87 mm.,
         Width=349 pixels or 29,55 mm.,
         Height=72 pixels or 6,1 mm.
 Text S03.

Third Dutch Version

Barcode Code 128 Length 30,
Module 3,4 pixels,
Rectangle X=107 pixels or 9,06 mm.,
        Y=2 pixels or 0,17 mm.,
        Width=727 pixels or 61,55 mm.,
        Height=75 pixels or 6,35 mm.
Text 1054128850045262111 0019600292
Bericht gelaten op : 13/11/2009

Q8 RUISBROEK
Afwezig
□ Geen lasthebber aangeduid
□ Niet bestelbaar
□ Terugzenden op : 01/12/2009
REG-023   Barcode   4/12
Barcode Code 128 Length 3,
Module 5.1 pixels,

93 x 17 mm. 110 Series Registration Label
Barcode Code UCC128 Length 30,
Module 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle X=307 pixels or 25,99 mm.,
        Y=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
        Width=529 pixels or 44,79 mm.,
        Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
Text 010541288500452621 110 019 600 292

Rectangle on label
        X=262 pixels or 22,18 mm.,
        Y=380 pixels or 32,17 mm.,
        Width=349 pixels or 29,55 mm.,
        Height=70 pixels or 5,93 mm.
Text S03.

Fourth Dutch Version

Belgian Code 128 Length 13,
Module 4.5 pixels, Text RR767114658ES
Rectangle X=81 pixels or 6,86 mm.,
        Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm.,
        Width=701 pixels or 59,35 mm.,
        Height=35 pixels or 2,96 mm.
Code 128 Length 3, Module 5,1 pixels,
Rectangle X=225 pixels or 19.05 mm.,
        Y=339 pixels or 28,70 mm.,
        Width=347 pixels or 29,38 mm.,
        Height=74 pixels or 6,27 mm.
Text S03.

Spanish Barcode Code 39 Length 13,
Module 2.5 pixels,
Rectangle X=84 pixels or 7,11 mm.,
        Y=162 pixels or 13,72 mm.,
        Width=714 pixels or 60,45 mm.,
        Height=120 pixels or 10,16 mm.,
Text RR767114658ES
This meets UPU Standard 10 using check digit validation tool.

010541288500452621 220 080 630 954

Code 128 Length 30, Module 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle X=326 pixels or 27,60 mm.,
        Y=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
        Width=501 pixels or 42,42 mm.,
        Height=87 pixels or 7,37 mm.
Text 010541288500452621 220 080 630 954.

Avis déposé le : 09/11/2011
ESSO TIVOLI
☐ Absent
☐ Pas de mandataire désigné
☐ Non distribuable
Retour le : 25/11/2011
Reg-014
11/23

Code 128 Length 3, Module 5,1 pixels,
Rectangle X=254 pixels 21,51 mm.,
        Y=345 pixels 29,21 mm.,
        Width=349 pixels 29,55 mm.,
        Height=71 pixels 6,01 mm.
Text S03

Barcode 128 Length 30,
Module 3.4 pixels,
Rectangle X=99 pixels 8,38 mm.,
        Y=1 pixels or 0,08 mm.,
        Width=727 pixels 61,55 mm.,
        Height=41 pixels or 3,47 mm.
010541288500452621220080630954.

Below is an example of a bilingual French/Dutch label. Post Point (Point Poste or Postpunt)
On piece the S03 label reads
Code 128 Length 3, Module 5,1 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle   X=1214 pixels or 102,79 mm.,   Y=1044 pixels or 88,39 mm.,
        Width=351 pixels or 29,72 mm.,   Height=88 pixels or 7,45 mm.
Code 128 Length 24, Module 4,0 pixels, Text 323200072024810153868030
Rectangle   X=1085 pixels or 91,86 mm.,   Y=705 pixels or 59,69 mm.,
        Width=713 pixels or 60,37 mm.,   Height=68 pixels or 5,76 mm.
Packet barcode Code 128 Length 24, Module 3,0 pixels, Text 323200072024810153868030
Rectangle   X=605 pixels or 51,22 mm.,   Y=451 pixels or 38,18 mm.,
        Width=501 pixels or 42,42 mm.,   Height=155 pixels or 13,12 mm.

The Benhur Express post point operates in the Benhur Express grocery store at 45-47, Avenue
Du Roi Albert, 1120 Neder-Over-Heembeek.

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11.10 Current S03 labels

The current version is radically different with instructions to the postman:
Sonner, noter l'heure de passage et attendre Ring, note the time of passage and wait
Aanbellen, aanbiedingsuur noteren en wachten Ring the bell, note the offer hour and wait
The type of "post office" is defined. The only information provided is Avis déposé le or Bericht gelaten op Notice left on plus the date and Retour le / Terugzenden op Return (to sender) on plus the date. The barcode identifying the postal item is now at the bottom and has no human readable text beneath. The S03 barcode is now at the top with a 6-character alphanumeric series to the left of the S03 barcode. The 3 alphabetic characters are generally "Reg" or "Res". The numeric series that replaced the arrow is in the same format, one or two digits followed by a backslash and then another one or two digits.

Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle on envelope X=411, Y=809,
Width = 602 pixels or 50,97 [50] mm.,
Height = 116 pixels or 9,82 [7] mm
Text on both barcodes
010541288500452621220294024547

Res-513
Bureau de Poste PERUWELZ
Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03
Rectangle on envelope
X=1452, Y=321,
Width = 198 pixels or 16,76 [16] mm.,
Height = 61 pixels or 5,16 [4+] mm.
Message left on **29.07.19**
Returned on **14.08.19**   3/16
Module 2,1 pixels,
Rectangle on envelope
X=1319, Y=586,
Width = 450 pixels 38,1 [38+] mm.,
Height = 40 pixels 3,39 [3] mm.

Reg-513 Postkantoor ASSE
Module 2.9 pixels, Text S03
Rectangle X=763, Y=46,
Width 197 pixels = 16,68 [16,5] mm.,
Height 62 pixels = 5,25 [5] mm.
Message left on **08.10.18**
Returned on **24.10.18**   2/13
Length 13, Module 2.8 pixels,
Text RR328796914TR as Turkish label
Rectangle X=635, Y=300,
Width 436 pixels = 36,91 [36,5] mm.,
Height 51 pixels = 4,32 [4] mm.
Turkish Barcode Code 39 Length 13,
Module 2.9 pixels,
Rectangle X=53, Y=167,
Width 840 pixels or 71,12 [71] mm.,
Height 122 pixels or 10,33 [10] mm.

Reg-103

Bureau de Poste / Postkantoor
BRUXELLES LIVINGSTONE
Avis déposé le / Bericht gelaten op
10.07.15
Retour le / Terugzenden op 28.07.15

6/17

010541288500452621 220 139 880 653

RP AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG
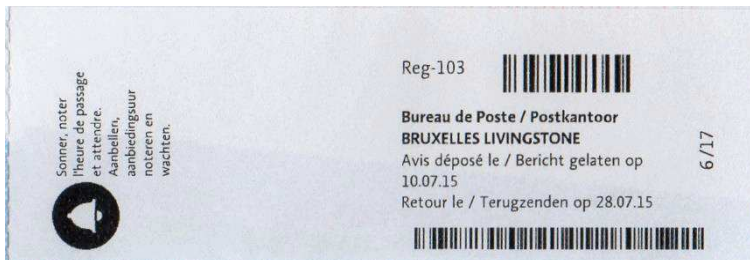
Module 2,5 pixels, Rectangle X=339, Y=2,
Width=500 pixels or 42,33 [42] mm.,
Height=81 pixels or 6,86 [6,5] mm.
Text for both barcodes
01054128850045262**21** 220 139 880 653

Reg-513
Bureau de Poste/Postkantoor
BRUXELLES LIVINGSTONE
Module 2.9 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle X=775, Y=75,
Width=198 pixels 16,76 [16,5] mm.,
Height=60 pixels 5,08 [5] mm.
Message left on" **10.07.15**
Returned on" **28.07.15**   6/17
Module 2.1 pixels,
Rectangle X=638, Y=345,
Width=450 pixels or 38,7 [38] mm.,
Height=35 pixels or 2,96 [2,5] mm.

Res-503

Post Punt
PRESS SHOP ZELLIK
Bericht gelaten op 15.12.17
Terugzenden op 31.12.17

9/25

010541288500452621 220 242 916 508

RP AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG

Module 4.0 pixels,
Rectangle X=227, Y=10,
Width 799 pixels or 67,65 [67] mm.,
Height 69 pixels or 5,84 [6] mm.
Text for both barcodes
01054128850045262**21** 220 242 916 508

Res-503
Post Punt PRESS SHOP ZELLIK
Message left on 15.12.17
Returned on 31.12.17
Code 128 Length 3,
Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03,
Rectangle X=789, Y=86,
Width 197 pixels or 16,68 [16,5] mm.,
Height 60 pixels or 5,08 [5] mm.
Code 128 Length 30,
Module 2,1 pixels,
Rectangle X=649, Y=353,
Width 451 pixels 38,18 [37,5+] mm.,
Height 36 pixels 3,05 [3] mm.

Reg-017

Point Poste
LIBR DE LA MARLAGNE
Avis déposé le 16.11.15
Retour le 02.12.15

2/8

010541288500452621 220 194 325 230

RP AR AANGETEKENDE ZENDING I RECOMMANDÉ I EINSCHREIBESENDUNG

93 mm x 17 mm rectangular label barcode
Code 128 Length 30, Module 3.8 pixels,
X=243 pixels or 20,57 mm., Y=3 pixels or 0,25 mm.,
Width=751 pixels or 63,58 mm.,
Height=82 pixels or 6,94 mm.
Text both barcodes
010541288500452621220194325230

Reg-017
Point Post LIBR DE LA MARLAGNE
Message left on **16.11.15**
Returned on **02.12.15**   2 /8
Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03
X=758 pixels or 64,18 mm.,
Y=62 pixels or 5,25 mm.,
Width=198 pixels or 16,76 mm.,
Height=61 pixels or 5,16 mm.
Bottom Barcode Code 128 Length 30,
Module 2.1 pixels,
X=619 pixels or 52,32 mm.,
Y=330 pixels or 27,94 mm.,
Width=453 pixels or 38,35 mm.,
Height=37 pixels or 3,13 mm.

At the end of the period covered by this study an apparently anomalous S03 was found. The text encoded in the bottom barcode does not match the registration label nor does it match the data matrix cancellation of the R.P. franking. A similar number structure "21" followed by "900" is seen on the earliest Dutch version of the S03 franked U.V. See Section 11.8. It is possible that this type of number is usual for official mail of this type. A similar number structure is employed on the TBC-Post Registration labels. See Section 8.13.7.2.

Details are provided below for scans of the labels and in the case of the data matrix for the scanned cover.

Registration label Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 4,0 pixels,
Text 010541288500452621 220 244 869 434

Rectangle	X=248 pixels or 21 mm.,	Y=0 pixels,
	Width=798 pixels or 67,56 mm.,	Height=83 pixels or 7,03 mm.

S03 label Code 128 Length 3 characters, Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03

Rectangle	X=766 pixels or 64,85 mm.,	Y=96 pixels or 8,13 mm.,
	Width=199 pixels or 16,85 mm.,	Height=59 pixels or 5 mm.

Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 2,1 pixels,
Text 010541288500452621900089939453

Rectangle	X=628 pixels or 53,17 mm.,	Y=354 pixels or 31,67 mm.,
	Width=453 pixels or 38,35 mm.,	Height=43 pixels or 3,56 mm.

Data Matrix Length 23 characters, Module 10,0 pixels, Text JJBEA200101001425656287

| Rectangle	X=1695 pixels or 143,51 mm.,	Y=89 pixels or 7,54 mm.,
	Width=210 pixels or 17.78 mm.,	Height=200 pixels or 16,93 mm.

11.11 Package version

Top Barcode Code 128 Length 3 characters, Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03

Rectangle	X=768 pixels or 65,02 [65] mm.,	Y=71 pixels or 6,01 [7] mm.,

Width=196 pixels or 16,59 [16,5] mm., Height=62 pixels or 5,25 [5] mm.
Bottom Barcode Code 128 Length 24 characters, Module 2,5 pixels,
Rectangle X=637 pixels or 53,93 mm., Y=335 pixels or 28,36 [30] mm.,
Width=442 pixels or 37,42 [37+] mm., Height=43 pixels or 3,56 [3+] mm.
Text 323211191400006533449030

Als de zending niet in de bus past, aanbellen, uur noteren en wachten
If the shipment does not fit in the box, ring the bell, note the time and waiting time.

A bilingual version was attached to the parcel label illustrated above under Section 9.4.3 "TAXIPOST 18 characters starting 3232" The French version of the postman's instructions "Si l'envoi ne renter pas dans la boîte, sonner, noter l'heure de passage et attendre." Translates more or less the same as the Dutch version. The series that replaced the arrow is different being ID. 86, previous examples are of the form 26/47 as with the Asse label immediately above.
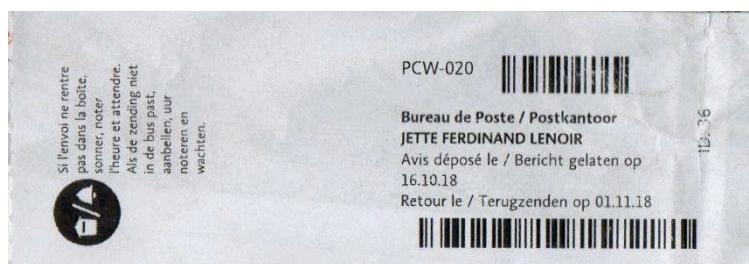
Top Barcode Code 128B Length 3, Module 2,9 pixels, Text S03
Rectangle X=771 pixels or 65,28 [65] mm., Y=69 pixels or 5,84 [6] mm.,
Width=196 pixels or 16,59 [16] mm., Height=60 pixels or 5,08 [5] mm.
Bottom Barcode Code 128B Length 18, Module 3,0 pixels, Text 3232287035304491000
Rectangle X=642 pixels or 54,36 [54] mm, Y=322 pixels or 27,26 [27] mm.,
Width=431 pixels or 36,49 [36,5] mm., Height=48 pixels or 4,06 [4] mm.

12. Barcodes on BLASTER TYPE 8

References 6 & 7 provide a complete record of the "Blaster" labels. On 17th June 2019 bpost introduced the application of a barcode into the design. This was not successful and was soon withdrawn. Below is the only example held.

DL Window franked: King Philippe Definitive.
① (0,72 €) COB 4490 imperf top Ex. Booklet 151 issued 26ᵗʰ January 2015
Blaster Type 8 LESSINES/LESSINES PRIOR **7860** **20.6.19-17** €5,54 PRIOR Barcode 1.
Illegible cancellation.

Barcode Code 128 Length 20 characters, Module 3,0 pixels,
Rectangle   X = 79 pixels or 6,69 [6,5] mm.,   Y = 275 pixels or 23,26 [22,5] mm.,
             Width=755 pixels or 63,92 [63,5] mm.,   Height=76 pixels or 6,43 [6] mm.
Text JJBEA640000000079043
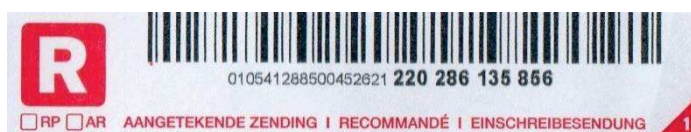
Barcode Code 128 Length 30 characters, Module 4,0 pixels,
Rectangle   X=219 pixels or 18,54 [20] mm.,   Y=0 pixels or 0,00 mm.,
             Width=799 pixels or 67,65 [68] mm.,   Height=83 pixels or 7,03 [7] mm.
Text 01054128850045262**1** **220 286 135 856**

13.   <u>Labels Associated with Customs Declaration post Brexit.</u>

      An unexpected consequence of Brexit was the arrival of a package from Belgium with a barcoded, 71 x 21 mm. customs label on the front and a 147 x 209 mm. CN23 label on the reverse.

The barcode as decoded on the scan is Code 39 Length 13 characters, Module 2,8 pixels,
Text UI 002 289 894 BE,
Rectangle   X=129 pixels or 10,92 [11] mm.,   Y=165 pixels or 13,97 [14] mm.,
             Width=714 pixels or 60,45 [60,5] mm.,   Height=123 pixels or 10,41 [10+] mm.

UI002289894BE complies with Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool.

Franking "Blaster" using my standard notation this is Type 6/WD
2900 **30.6.21-11** SCHOTEN CENTRUM/SCHOTEN CENTRUM € 8,70 BPACK WD LT UE 350G

The UPU Standard S10 indicates that Service Indicators UA–UZ relate to items subject to customs control, i.e. bearing a CN 22 or CN 23. The use of UA–UZ requires bilateral agreement. This suggests that either Royal Mail have concluded agreements with all the postal authorities of the European Union or with the European Union. From a member of the Austrian Philatelic Society I obtained an Austrian CN22 adhered to a letter to this member from the Austrian Services des Postes containing stamps.

The barcode on the label was decoded using **inlite**.

Barcode Code 128 Length 17 characters,
Module 2,9 pixels,
Text UA 01 145 6119 AT

The 13-character sequence UA011456119AT complies with Standard 10 using the UPU check digit validation tool.

Rectangle X=118 pixels or 9,99 [10] mm.,
          Y=0 pixels or 0 [0] mm.,
          Width=634 pixels or 53,67 [53,5] mm.,
          Height=127 pixels or 10,75 [11] mm.

The 17-character length as identified by **inlite** is confusing as are the 4 spaces in the human readable text. In fact, there is no confusion, the spaces are encoded in the barcode as 4 repeated sequences 11011001100 or .

To demonstrate this barcode were generated online with and without the 4 spaces.

14.   <u>Epilogue</u>

I anticipate that this study provides a comprehensive examination of the use of barcodes in the Belgian postal service. I also hope it engenders more interest in modern postal history particularly where this relates to barcodes. A few examples of barcodes from postal authorities other than Belgium are scattered through the text. There are many, many more out there usually at very reasonable prices. Something new comes up every week.

Reference 1 Désiré Acket De Post-mechanisatie in Belgie, Vol I, 1905-1985, 1986.
Désiré Acket De Post-mechanisatie in Belgie, Vol II, Post-1990, 1988.
Reference 2 LES NOUVELLES VIGNETTES POUR LES RECOMMANDES in journal of the
Cercle Hennuyer de Marcohilie et d'Histoire Postale 3 N° 107 September 2007.
Reference 3 POSTCOLLI IN BELGIE by J. Goes
Reference 4 POSTCARDS OF BELGIUM 2009 edition Société Belge De L'Entier Postal
Reference 5 BPACK INTEGRATION MANUAL - version 3.3.20
Marked as confidential but it is available on the Internet
Reference 6 Inventaris van de "Blaster" – loketstroken June 2006 by Jean-Pierre Claus and
Lucien Van Hecke. Published in association with Postzegel- en Hobbyklub
 Ertfila – Ertvelde and subsequently updated on a monthly basis.
Reference 7 2e reeks van refocus tot nieuwe vormgeving June 2009 by Jean-Pierre Claus
And Lucien Van Hecke. Published in association with Postzegel- en
Hobbyklub Ertfila – Ertvelde and subsequently updated on a monthly basis.

AVIS DE PASSAGE BERICHT VAN AANBIEDING NOTICE OF PASSING
NATIONALE AANGETEKENDE ZENDING
ENVOI RECOMMANDE NATIONAL
NATIONALE EINSCHREIBESENDUNG
NATIONAL REGISTERED ITEM
Uw postbode • Votre facteur : ….. Your Postman • Your Postman : …..
is langsgekomen op • s'est présenté le : 08 03 18 om • á : 1137
called by on • presented on: 08 03 18 at • at : 1137 Type QR Data Matrix
Uw Aangetekende zending is beschikbaar vanaf morgen voor 15 dagen bij :
Votre Recommandé est disponible dès demain durant 15 jours à l'adresse :
Your Registered shipment is available from tomorrow for 15 days at :
Taleba Rue de la résistance 2 7600 Péruwelz
Openingsuren Heures d'ouverture
Opening hours Bilingual Dutch & French abbreviations for days of the week 0900-1800
Een andere plaats? Een andere oplossing? Bezoek www.TBC-Post.com en kies:
"AFGIFTE IN TBC-Post PUNT" of "FORMULIER VOLMACHT*" (*zie keerzijde).
Un autre endroit ? Une autre solution ? Rendez-vous sur www.TBC-Post.corn et choisissez :
"DEPOT EN POINT TBC-Post" ou "FORMULAIRE DE PROCURATION*" (*voir verso).
Another place? Another solution? Visit www.TBC-Post.com and choose:
"ISSUE IN TBC Post POINT" or "FORM PROXY *" (* see reverse side).

Geadresseerde van de zending • Destinataire de l'envoi
Consignment recipient
Nº Aangetende zending • Nº Recommandé :
Registered item number
Data Matrix Type QR Text NON-AR
Barcode Code 128 Text 010541288500452621 003 000 028 384
Geleverd • Livré Delivered
Personal details including Volmacht • Procuration nr.: Power of attorney

FORMULIER VOLMACHT POST		FORMULAIRE DE PROCURATION POSTALE

FORMULIER VOLMACHT POST

Vul in en met kopie van de identiteitskaart voor te leggen:

1. Laat iemand anders uw aangetekende zending ontvangen in een TBC-Post Punt.
   a. Aan dit origineel ingevuld (punt 3) document, een kopie toevoegen van de ID van de Opdrachtgever ;
   b. De gevolmachtigde (persoon die volmacht krijgt) moet in het bezit zijn van een officieel IDbewijs (IDkaart, paspoort...) op het moment van de overhandiging van de aangetekende.

2. Wilt u uw aangetekende zending ontvangen in uw brievenbus * ?
Voor uw gemak kunt u eventueel Mijnheer BRUGMA Thierry (CEO van TBC-Post) een volmacht geven; waarbij u kunt kiezen tussen de volgende 2 opties:
[X] a. U geeft volmacht aan TBC-Post om de zending(en) als gewone post in uw brievenbus te deponeren.
[ ] b. U machtigt TBC-Post de aangetekende zending(en) te openen opdat TBC-Post u de ingescande documenten van de zending(en) per e-mail kan opsturen; de zending(en) zal (zullen) daarna als gewone post in uw brievenbus gedeponeerd worden.
⚠ Scan en verstuur dit document (recto/verso + kopie ID kaart) naar het adres: proc@tbc-post.com

3. Vul de nodige informatie hieronder in.
(Voor bedrijven extra documenten nodig, neem contact op met +32 2 828 40 10)
Ik ondergetekende (Naam, Voornaam): ....
geef volmacht aan (Naam, Voornaam): *Brugma Thierry* [(1)] ....
[(1)] Als u een andere gevolmachtigde kiest om uw zending niet in uw brievenbus wilt laten leveren, schrap de melding *BRUGMA Thierry* en vul de naam van de gevolmachtigde in.
om de aangetekende zending vermeld op de voorkant in ontvangst te nemen.
Datum : ..../..../............   Handtekening :

RC @ tbc-post.com

* Punt 2 : Enkel geldig indien u uw aangetekende zending als normale briefwisseling in de brievenbus wenst te ontvangen (volmacht geadresseerd aan Brugma Thierry).
Om uw aanvraag te vervolledigen, dient u een kopie van het bericht van aanbieding toe te voegen, dit document omschrijft alle informaties van uw aangetekende zending, en een kopie van uw identiteitskaart.

17876

TBC-Post • Leuvensesteenweg, 518 • 1930 Zaventem • +32 2 828 40 10 • www.TBC-Post.com

FORMULAIRE DE PROCURATION POSTALE

À remplir et à présenter dûment signé avec copie de la carte d'identité :

1. Autorisez un tiers à réceptionner votre recommandé dans un Point TBC-Post.
   a. Joindre à ce document rempli (point 3) une copie de la carte d'identité du Mandant (destinataire) ;
   b. Le mandataire (personne qui reçoit la procuration) doit être en possession d'une pièce d'identité officielle (carte d'identité, passeport...) au moment de la remise du recommandé.

2. Vous souhaitez recevoir votre recommandé dans votre boîte aux lettres * ?
Pour votre facilité, vous pouvez mandater Monsieur BRUGMA Thierry (CEO de TBC-Post) ;
en choisissant cette solution, 2 options s'offrent à vous :
[X] a. Vous donnez mandat pour que TBC-Post dépose l'envoi recommandé dans votre boîte aux lettres comme une lettre ordinaire.
[ ] b. Vous autorisez TBC-Post à ouvrir votre envoi recommandé afin que TBC-Post puisse vous l'envoyer par email ; l'envoi recommandé sera ensuite déposé dans votre boîte aux lettres comme une lettre ordinaire.
⚠ Scannez et envoyez ce document (recto/verso + copie carte ID) à l'adresse : proc@tbc-post.com

3. Remplissez ci-dessous les informations obligatoires.
(Pour les entreprises, d'autres documents sont nécessaires, merci de prendre contact au +32 2 828 40 10)
Je soussigné (Nom, Prénom) : ....
donne procuration à (Nom, Prénom) : *Brugma Thierry* [(1)] ....
[(1)] Si vous souhaitez choisir un autre mandataire et ne pas recevoir votre recommandé dans votre boîte aux lettres, veuillez biffer la mention *BRUGMA Thierry* et remplir le nom du mandataire.
pour réceptionner mon recommandé mentionné au recto.
Date : ..../..../............   Signature :

* Point 2 : Valable uniquement si vous souhaitez recevoir votre recommandé dans votre boîte aux lettres comme courrier ordinaire (procuration adressée à Brugma Thierry).
Pour compléter votre démarche, vous devez nous fournir une copie de votre carte d'identité ainsi qu'une copie de la partie recto de cet avis de passage, celle-ci comprend les informations de votre recommandé.

License n° PO-2013-001-LIF

To be completed and presented duly signed with a copy of the identity card:
1. Authorize a third party to receive your registered letter at a TBC-Post Point.
   a. Attach to this completed document (point 3) a copy of the identity card of the Principal recipient
   b. The proxy (person receiving the power of attorney) must be in possession of a document official identity (identity card, passport ...) at the time of delivery of the registered letter.
2. Would you like to receive your registered letter in your mailbox *?
For your convenience, you can mandate Mr. BRUGMA Thierry (CEO of TBC-Post); By choosing this solution, you have 2 options:
⊠ a. You give a mandate for TBC-Post to deposit the registered item in your mailbox like an ordinary letter.
☐ b. You authorize TBC-Post to open your registered item so that TBC-Post can send it to you by email: the registered item will then be deposited in your mailbox like an ordinary letter.
△ Scan and send this document (front/back+copy ID card) to the address: proc@tbc-post.com
3. Fill in the required information below.
(For companies, other documents are necessary, please contact +32 2 828 40 10)
I, the undersigned (Name, First name): ……………….
gives power of attorney to (Name, First name): Brugma Thierry [(1)] ……………….
[(1)] If you wish to choose another representative and not receive your registered letter in your mailbox,
Please delete the note BRUGMA Thierry and fill in the name of the representative.
to receive my registered letter mentioned on the front.
Date : ……… Signature : ……….
* Point 2: Valid only if you wish to receive your registered letter in your mailbox as ordinary mail (proxy addressed to 8 Brugma Thierry).
To complete your process, you must provide us with a copy of your identity card and a copy of the front part of this transit advice note, this includes the information of your registered mail.
TBC-Post • Leuvensesteenweg, 518 • 1930 Zaventem • +32 2 828 40 10 • www. TBC-Post .com
License n° PO-2013-001-LIF

GEBRUIKSAANWIJZING
MODE D'EMPLOI
GEBRAUCHSANWEISUNG
INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

1 Op uw zending aan te brengen
A apposer sur votre envoi
Anbringen auf Ihren Sendung
To be fixed to your shipment

2 Op uw AR-formulier (roze kaart) aan te brengen
A apposer sur votre formulaire AR (carte rose)
Anbringen auf Ihren AR-Formular (rosa Karte)
Affix/Attach on your AR card (pink card)

3 Adres geadresseerde
Adresse destinataire
Adresse Empfänger
Recipient's/Destination address

The text of this post-2010 issue is reproduced in black the equivalent text for the pre 2010 issue is provided next to the post-2010 text in (red).

These instructions and the differences between the pre- and post- 2010 printings are identical to those on the form 201 P0D Int. for international use.

Alle klachten, kunnen, op basis van dit bewijs, ingediend worden tot 1 jaar na de afgiftedatum. Dienst onderworpen aan de algemene voorwaarden inzake de dienstverlening door **bpost** (**DE POST**). Zie postkantoor of **www.bpost.be** (**www.depost.be**) | Toute réclamation peut être introduite durant 1 an, à compter du jour de dépôt, à l'appui de ce récépissé. Service soumix aux conditions générales en matière d'offre de service de **bpost** (**LA POSTE**). Voir bureau de poste ou **www.bpost.be** (**www.laposte.be**) | Eine eventuelle Klage kann anhand dieses Beweises bis zu 1 Jahr nach dem Einlieferungsdatum eingereicht werden. Der Dienst unterliegt den Allgemeinen Bedingungen für Dienstleistungen durch **bpost** (**DIE POST**). Siehe Postamt oder **www.bpost.be** (**www.diepost.be**).

Typically translates as:
A possible complaint can be submitted on the basis of this proof up to 1 year after the issuing date. The service is subject to the general conditions for services by the POST OFFICE. See post office or **www.bpost.be**.
bpost, limited company under public law | Centre Monnaie, 1000 Brussels | VAT BE 0214.596.464 | Legal Entities Register Brussels | Postal Current Account IBAN BE94 0000 0000 1414 | BIC BPOTBEB1

Appendix 2 Barcoded forms 201 PoD with 93 x 17 mm. registration labels

The end section provides details of the address, VAT number and other information.

bpost (**DE POST**)., naamloze vennootschap van publiek recht, Muntcentrum, 1000 Brussel, BTW BE 0214.596.464 RPR Brussel PRC IBAN BE**94** (08) **0000** (**6790**) 0000 **1414** (**1313**) BIC **BPOTBEB1** (**PCHQBEBB**) | **bpost** (**LA POSTE**), société anonyme de droit pubilc Centre Centre Monnaie, 1000 Bruxelles. TVA BE 0214.596.464 RPM Bruxelles CCP IBAN BE**94** (08) **0000** (**6790**) 0000 **1414** (**1313**) BIC **BPOTBEB1** (**PCHQBEBB**) | **bpost** (**DIE POST**), Aktienengesellschaft öffentlichen Rechts, Centre Monnaie 1000 Brüssel MwSt BE 0214.596.464 RJP Brüssel PKK IBAN BE**94** (08) **0000** (**6790**) 0000 **1414** (**1313**) BIC **BPOTBEB1** (**PCHQBEBB**).

Afzender │Expéditeur│ Absender   Sender
Niet verplicht bij een afgifte in een postkantoor/ PostPunt│Facultatif si dépôt dans un burea de poste/Point Poste│Fakultative in Fall einer Aufgabe in einem Postamt/PostPunkt
Optional if depositing in a post office/post point

Abbreviations explained:
Value Added Tax VAT: French Taxe à la Valeur Ajoutée TVA
Dutch Belasting over de Toegevoegde Waarde BTW, German MehrwertSTeuer MwST
Legal Entities Register: French Registre des Personnes Morales RPM,
Dutch Register van RechtsPersonen RPR, German Register der juristischen Personen RJP
Postal Current Account: French Compte Courant Postal CCP,
Dutch Post Courant Rekening PRC , German Postkonto PKK

Appendix 3 Reverse of Taxipost Parcel label.
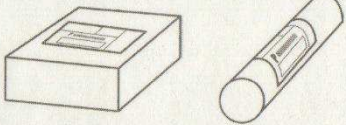
Informatie / Information — **Taxipost Pakket – Paquet – Paket**

❶ NL - Vul het adres van de afzender en de bestemmeling in de daarvoor voorziene zones op het etiket in.

FR – Remplissez l'adresse de l'expéditeur et du destinataire dans les zones prévues à cet effet sur cette étiquette.

DE – Tragen Sie die Adresse des Absenders und des Empfängers in die dafür vorgesehenen Felder am Etikett ein.
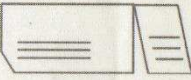
❷ NL - Scheur de strook langs de stippellijn af en houd hem bij, want hier staat het nummer van uw zending op.

FR - Détachez le talon en suivant la ligne pointillée et conservez-le car il contient le numéro de votre envoi.

DE - Reißen Sie den Abschnitt entlang der punktierten Linie ab und bewahren Sie diesen auf, denn darauf befindet sich die Nummer Ihrer Sendung.

❸ NL - Als uw pakket meer dan 2 kg weegt, moet u extra gewichtstickers in de vakjes 'Extra Gewicht' kleven.

FR - Si votre paquet pèse plus de 2 kg, des autocollants de poids supplémentaires doivent être collés dans les cases 'Poids Extra'.

DE - Wenn Ihr Paket mehr als 2 kg wiegt, müssen Sie zusätzliche Briefmarken in die Felder „Zusatzgewicht" kleben.

❹ NL - Kleef het etiket met de streepjescode volgens de instructies op uw pakket.
- kleef het etiket op de bovenkant van uw pakket;
- bevestig het etiket zo dat de streepjescode goed leesbaar is;
- bevestig het etiket niet over de hoeken heen.

FR - Collez l'étiquette avec le code-barres sur votre paquet en suivant les instructions.
- collez l'étiquette sur le dessus de votre paquet;
- placez l'étiquette de sorte que le code-barres soit bien visible;
- ne placez pas l'étiquette par-dessus les coins.

DE - Kleben Sie das Etikett mit dem Barcode gemäß den Anweisungen auf Ihr Paket.
- kleben Sie das Etikett auf die Oberseite Ihres Pakets;
- befestigen Sie das Etikett so, dass der Barcode gut leserlich ist;
- befestigen Sie das Etikett nicht über die Ecken.

5 412885 048209

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❶ NL - Vul het adres van de afzender en de bestemmeling in de daarvoor voorziene zones op het etiket in.
Enter the address of the sender and the recipient in the areas provided on the label.
FR - Remplissez l'adresse de l'expediteur et du destinataire dans les zones prévues à eet effet sur cette etiquette.
Fill in the address of the sender and recipient in the areas provided for this label.
DE - Tragen Sie die Adresse des Absenders und des Empfángers in die dafür vorgesehenen Folder am Etikett ein.
Enter the address of the sender and recipient in the folder provided on the label.

❷ NL - Scheur de strook langs de stippellijn af en houd hem bij, want hier staat het nummer van uw zending op.
Tear off and keep track of the strip along the dotted line as it contains your shipment number.
FR - Détachez le talon en suivant le ligne pointillée et conserven-le car il contient le numero de votre envoi.
Detach the stub following the dotted line and keep it because it contains the number of your shipment.
DE - Reissen Sie den Abschnitt entlang der punktierten Linie ab und bewahren Sie diesen auf, deun darauf befindet sick die Nummer Ihrer Sendung.
Tear off the section along the dotted line and keep it, with the number of your shipment on it.

❸ NL - Als uw pakket meer dan 2 kg weegt, moet u extra gewichtstickers In de vakjes 'Extra Gewicht' kleven.
If your package weighs more than 2 kg, you will need to put additional weight stickers in the 'Extra Weight' boxes.
FR - Si votre paquet pése plus de 2 kg, des autocellants de poids supplémentaires doivent être collés dans les cases 'Poids Extra'.
If your package weighs more than 2 kg, additional weight sealants must be pasted in the

1

'Extra Weight' boxes.

Appendix 3 Reverse of Taxipost Parcel label.

DE - Wenn Ihr Paket mehr als 2 kg wiegt, müssen Sie,zusëtzllche Briefmarken in die Folder „Zusatzgewicht" kleben.
If your package weighs more than 2 kg, you have to put additional stamps in the folder "additional weight".

❹ NL - Kleef het etiket met de streepjescode volgens de instructies op uw pakket. kleef het etiket op de bovenkant van uw pakket; - bevestig het etiket zo dat de streepjescode goed leesbaar is; - bevestig het etiket niet over de hoeken heen.
Stick the barcode label according to the instructions on your package. stick the label on the top of your package; - affix the label in such a way that the barcode is clearly legible; - do not affix the label over the corners.

FR - Collez l'étiquette avec le code-barres sur votre paquet en suivant les instructions. - collez l'étiquette sur le dessus de votre paquet; - placez ('etiquette de sorte que le code-barres soit bien visible; - ne placez pas l'étiquette par-dessus les coins.
Stick the label with the barcode on your package by following the instructions. - stick the label on the top of your package; - place the label so that the barcode is clearly visible; - do not place the label over the corners.

DE - Kleben Sie das Etikett mit den Barcode gemat& den Anweisungen auf Ihr Paket. - kleben Sie das Etikett auf die Oberseite Ihres Pakets; - befestigen Sie das Etikett su, das der Barcode gut leserlich ist; - befestigen Sie das Etikett nicht ober die Ecken.
Stick the label with the barcode on your package according to the instructions. – stick the label on the top of your package; - affix the label so that the barcode is legible; - do not attach the label above the corners.

The text at right angles on the left side:

NL - Wilt u weten of uw pakket goed is aangekomen? Surf naar www.postbe/track en vermeld er het nummer van uw zending. U hebt 7 kalenderdagen in geval van beschadiging of verlies om klacht neer te leggen bij de klantendienst.
Do you want to know if your package has arrived correctly? Surf to www.postbe/track and mention the number of your shipment. You have 7 calendar days in case of damage or loss to file a complaint with the customer service.
NL - Voor alie vragen kunt u onze klantendienst op 022 1012345 bellen of naar www.depost.be/taxipost surfen. Door de afgifte van dit pakket aanvaardt de verzender de algemene voorwaarden en de commerciële en operationele brochures die op de pakketten van toepassing zijn.
For all questions you can call our customer service on 022 1012345 or www.bepost.be/taxipost surfing. By issuing this package, the shipper accepts the general terms and conditions and the commercial and operational brochures that apply to the packages.

FR - Vous souhaitez savoir si votre paquet est bien arrivé? Visitez www.postbe/track et indiquez le numero de votre envoi, Vous disposez de 7 jours calendrier en cas de detértoration ou en cas de perte pour introduire une plainte auprés du service clientéle.
Do you want to know if your package has arrived? Visit www.postbe / track and indicate the number of your shipment. You have 7 calendar days in the event of damage or loss to lodge a complaint with the customer service.

FR - Pour boute question appelez notre service clientèle au 022 012345 ou visitez www.laposte.be/taxipost. Par le dépet de ce paquet, l'expediteur accepte les conditions génerales ainsi que les brochures commerciales et opérationnelles applicables aux paquets.
Appendix 3 Reverse of Taxipost Parcel label.

If you have any questions, call our customer service on 022 012345 or visit www.laposte.be/taxipost. By depositing this package, the sender accepts the general conditions as well as the commercial and operational brochures applicable to the packages.

DE - Möchten Sie wissen, ob Ihr Paket gut angekommen ist? Surfen Sie zu www.post.be/track und geben sie die Nummer Ihrer Sendung eis. Sie haben im Fall eioer Beschedigung oder tm Fall eines Verlustes 7 Kalendertage Zeit, um moe Beschwerde beim Kundendienst einzureichen.
Would you like to know whether your package has arrived safely? Surf to www.post.be/track and enter the number of your shipment. In the event of damage or loss, you have 7 calendar days to file a complaint with customer service.
DE - Für alle Fragen kennen Sie unseren Kundendienst unter der Telefonnummer 022 1 012345 erreichen oder eine E-Mail an wwwlaposte.be/taxipost senden. Fik die Aufgabe dieses Pakets akzeptiert der Absender die Allgemeinen Geschaftsbedingungen sowie die fgr Pakete ggltigen Verkaufsbroschgren und Bestimmungen.
For all questions you can reach our customer service on 022 1 012345 or send an email to wwwlaposte.be/taxipost. For the posting of this parcel, the sender accepts the general terms and conditions as well as the applicable sales brochures and terms for parcels.

Depending on the type of shipment, choose one of the following options to receive your shipment. ➲ see front

OPTION 1 Collection by the addressee. Go to the address stated on the front.

Bring the following documents:

This message + your identity card (not necessary for a package).

OPTION 2 Collection by a third party Fill in this message and give it to an acquaintance. He or she may now collect the shipment in your place.

Bring the following documents:

This message completed and signed, + the identity card of the third party + a copy of your identity card (not necessary for a package).

OPTION 3 Second presentation by your postman at the same address

Have your postman present the shipment a second time.

Call the telephone number 022 012345.

! ● A registered item, a court letter or a declared value item addressed to an organization is subject to special collection rules.

   More information can be found at www.bpost.be/recommande.

● The transport of parcels without a contract or a "parcel" agreement is subject to the provisions of the CMR convention.

Follow your shipment on www.bpost.be/track

Shipment type	Options
REGISTERED MAIL	1/2/3
PACKAGE	1/2/3
COURT LETTER SHIPMENT WITH DECLARED VALUE	1/2
PENSION	1
OTHER	1/2/3