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Intelligent Barcodes

The Intelligent Mail Barcode (IM barcode) is a 65-bar code for use on mail in the United States. The term "Intelligent Mail" refers to services offered by the United States Postal Service for domestic mail delivery. (IM) is intended to provide greater information and functionality than its predecessors POSTNET and PLANET. Intelligent Mail barcode has also been referred to as One Code Solution and 4-State Customer Barcode abbreviated 4CB, 4-CB or USPS4CB. The complete specification can be found in USPS Document USPS-B-3200E.[1] It effectively incorporates the routing ZIP code and tracking information included in previously used postal barcode standards.

The Postal Service will require use of the Intelligent Mail barcode to qualify for automation prices beginning January 28, 2013.[2] Some of the benefits include improved deliver-ability, new services and increased overall efficiency. Beginning in with the March 2012 code update, the LOCiS software will accommodate the new barcodes on Permit Renewal Notices, Accounts Receivable invoices and of course all applicable U/B correspondence. In anticipation of the new standard, you should apply for a 'Mailer ID' Number. It will be either a 6 or 9 digit number. Applying for a Mailer ID is not a complex process, but as the official IMB transition date draws closer, applications will take longer to process through the USPS. The earlier you apply, the quicker your application will likely be reviewed and fulfilled. Even if you're not yet ready to transition to IMB, it's still in your best interest to prepare for the inevitable changeover soon by getting a Mailer ID for your company. Once you have a MID, whenever your own timetable allows for the formal transition, you'll be ready.



**Learn how LOCiS Intelligent Barcode
Module can help your organization.**

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