

METER NEWS

Issue Number 192 Oct 2016



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Meter of the Month

Duncan James has found this DM60 model frank that appears to be bi-coloured – with the company logo and return address blocks printed in black – see full image below:



However, at this stage, it must be said that some caution might be needed. In the past (on pages 162-6 & 175-5), your editor reported PB858175 that appeared to have a return address in green ink but the original report turned out to be a perfectly aligned handstamp and this could again be the case here. Furthermore, the DM60 is a low-throughput entry-level machine and is, perhaps, unlikely to have been modified to print in colour.

However, your editor is keeping an open mind and would be pleased to receive any similar reports of bi-coloured PB2-series franks.

Editorial

My congratulations go to Jan Lannoye in Belgium for his recent award-winning displays on meter franking. His large display (80 pages) entitled “The octagonal franking machine prints in Belgium before 1945”, won a Silver award in the Postal History category at the Belgian National Competition Westfila at Roeselare, in June 2016. His small display (16 pages), entitled “From Paid to franking machine”, was entered at last year’s Couviphil Exhibition and this won a Large Silver.

Jan has recently updated his web site at <http://www.frankeermachinearchief.be/> which, I must say, is very impressive! Both of the award winning displays can be viewed by clicking on the PHOTO’S tab.

Acknowledgements

My thanks go to Jim Ashby, Jon Aitchison, Patrick Awcock, Michael Dobbs, Peter Huss, Mike Jackson, Duncan James, Jan Lannoye, Peter Mantell, Robert Petts, and Roy Richardson for their recent reports, communications or contributions.

Latest Numbers

Below is the list of 'latest numbers' as at the end of October 2016 – with updates shown in red. Please could I have the next reports by the 28th November - thanks.

In the list below, the part of the serial number that directly relates to the model is underlined. Entries with hyphen separators in the date indicate 'Design J' (matrix) format.

Frama (UK)

Matrix F2, F4, F6	<u>F1004166</u>	14.10.16	Reported by DJ
Matrix F12 etc.	<u>FR2002806</u>	17-08-16	See MN 190

Francotyp-Postalia

Centormail 240/300	<u>FC5110729</u>	18-11-15	See MN 181
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6116668</u>	22-09-16	Reported by PM
PostBase Mini	<u>FP7115331</u>	26-10-16	Reported by AN

Neopost

IS-330	<u>N1053555</u>	19.08.16	See MN 190
IS-350	<u>N1182853</u>	29.04.16	See MN 187
Various upgraded	<u>N1240763</u>	15.06.16	See MN 188
IN-360 / IS-280c	<u>NE6011034</u>	22-09-16	See MN 191
IS-420c / 440c	<u>NE8011942</u>	04-10-16	Reported by PM
IN-600	<u>NE8500708</u>	20-10-16	Reported by PM See below
IN-700 / IS-6000c	<u>NE9000578</u>	08-09-16	See MN 191

Pitney Bowes

DM160i/220i	<u>PB179211</u>	07-10-16	Reported by PM
DM60 (model K722)	<u>PB2021170</u>	04-10-16	Reported by PM
DM50, 55	<u>PB313502</u>	16.09.16	See MN 191
DM50, 55	<u>PB368735</u>	11.04.16	See MN 188
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB5575414</u>	20-10-16	Reported by PM
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB558222</u>	19-10-16	Reported by PM
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB620832</u>	01.06.16	See MN 188
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB6628348</u>	21-10-16	Reported by PM
DM 110i	<u>PB885463</u>	23.09.16	Reported by PM

Advanced Mail Codes

AAGX-JZ	NE8009481	24-02-16	See MN 186
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Erratum

The IN-600 report on page 191-2 should have read 'NE8500407' (and not 'NE8500701'). My apologies for this error.

Latest Number Images

Contributor's initials and other details are shown in the bottom left of each image.

eppendorf
Eppendorf UK Limited
Eppendorf House
Gateway 1000 Whittle Way
Arlington Business Park
Stevenage SG1 2FP

STEVENAGE
14.10.16

GREAT BRITAIN
0224
F1004166
POSTAGE PAID

DJ

**SOUTHERNS**
SOLICITORS
Return Address :
Mackenzie House
66 - 68 Bank Parade
Burnley
Lancashire
BB11 1UB

Delivered by
Royal Mail

22-09-16
£0.37 FP6116668

2
Letter

PM - FP6116668 [Item 0001831]

Mangar
HEALTH

Delivered by
Royal Mail

26-10-16
£0.37 FP7115331

2
Letter

AN - FP7115331 [Item 0002130]

**BLM**
Return Address
King's House
42 King Street West
Manchester M3 2NU

Delivered by
Royal Mail

04-10-16
£0.51 NE8011942

1
Letter

PM - NE8011942 [Item 0031367]

Return Address
Meiko UK Limited
393 Edinburgh Avenue
Slough
SL1 4UF

Delivered by
Royal Mail

20-10-16
£0.37 NE8500708

2
Letter

PM - NE8500708 [Item 0000106]

Latest Number Images continued

Delivered by
07-10-16
£0.37 PB179211



2
Letter

PM - PB179211 [Item 0001603]

Delivered by
04-10-16
£0.37 PB2021170



2
Letter

PM - PB2021170 [Item 0000096]

Return Address
NHS Highlands
L & I Hospital
Oban
PA34 4HH

Delivered by
20-10-16
£0.64 PB5575414



2
L Letter
100g

PM - PB5575414 [Item 0000684]

Delivered by
19-10-16
£0.37 PB558222





2
Letter

PM - PB558222 [Item 0000322]

Return Address
Newman RC College
Broadway
Chadderton Oldham
OL9 9QY

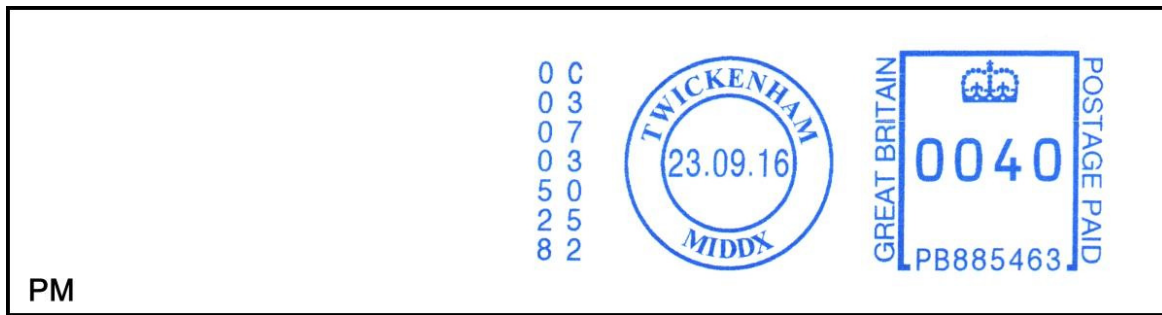
Delivered by
21-10-16
£0.51 PB6628348



1
Letter

PM - PB6628348 [Item 0002302]

Latest Number Images continued



Dead Series Update

Peter Mantell reports a small increase to the N5 series (model IS5000/6000):



Printing Errors

Peter Mantell reports two interesting printing errors. The first is on a Neopost IS-400 series machine where the top half of the Royal Mail cruciform logo has slipped to the left on the upper printer.



The second is on a Neopost IS-460 frank. At first glance it looks smudged, but off to the right is a small 'POSTAG' along with a very compressed crown. Within the frank itself, the ghost numerals '053' of the postage and the '3213' of the serial can be seen.



Recent Interesting Items

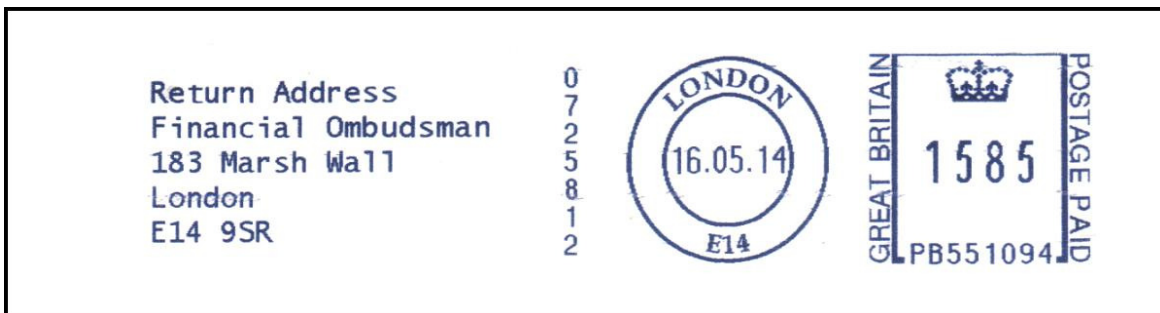
Further to page 191-7, Peter Mantell reports another NE85-series frank with the slogan 'Mail makes you think!'. The serial number is NE8500036 which is the lowest number seen for this new series. With two of these slogans seen in such a short space of time, it is possible that these machines come delivered with this slogan set as a default.



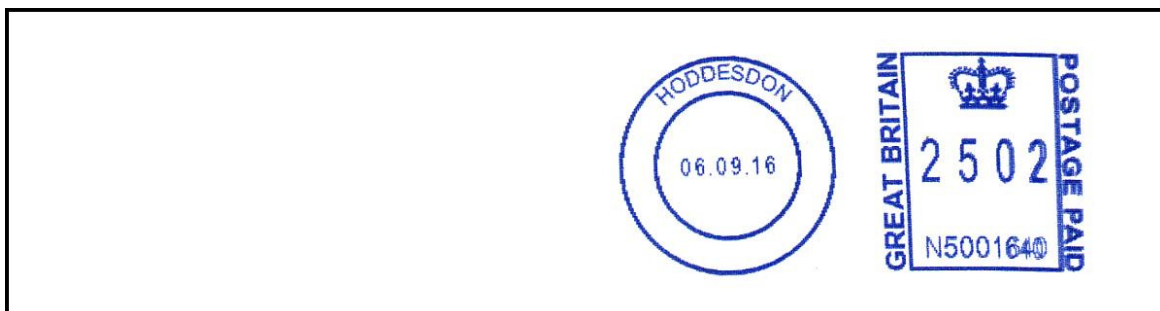
Further to page 191-8 and earlier, Duncan James reports another frank that incorporates a QR code. The pattern in this case decodes as <http://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/castle-graphics>.



Duncan James reports two Design H meters that have been franked with a high postage. The first has £15.85 and is thought to be for a 5kg Medium Parcel.



The second has £25.02 and is thought to be for a 10kg Special Delivery parcel.



Mailmark™ News

Duncan James reports the first sighting of a Signed For '1 L Letter 750g' frank (Class 7, Mail Type 2103):



Duncan also reports this '1 Medium Parcel' 1kg frank at Tariff rate 8:

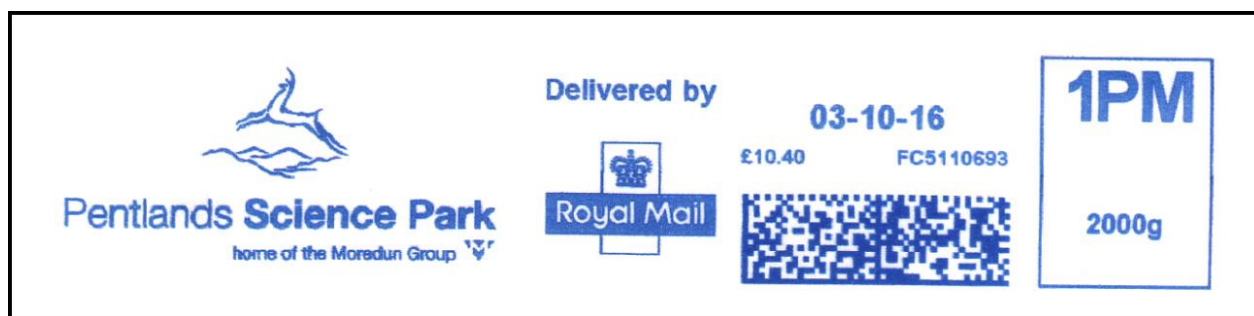


The above reports enable the '1st Class ready reckoner table' to be updated (highlighted in red):

Tariff 8	Tariff 6	Tariff 3	Interpretation	Class	Mail Type
£0.51	£0.51	£0.49	1 Letter	1	0001
£0.63	£0.63	£0.60	1 Advanced	8	1403
£0.79	£0.78	£0.74	1 L Letter 100g	1	0101
£0.79	n/s	n/s	1 L Letter PP Reply (100g)	3	3003
£1.10	£1.09	£1.04	1 L Letter 250g	1	0102
£1.46	£1.43	£1.38	1 L Letter 500g	1	0103
£1.61	£1.61	£1.59	(SF) 1 Letter	7	1100
£1.89	£1.88	n/s	(SF) 1 L Letter	7	2100
£2.06	£2.02	n/s	1 L Letter 750g	1	0104
£2.20	£2.19	n/s	(SF) 1 L Letter (250g)	7	2101
£2.66	n/s	n/s	(SF) 1 L Letter (500g)	7	2102
£3.07	£3.00	£2.90	1 Small Parcel (1kg)	1	1111
£3.16	n/s	n/s	(SF) 1 L Letter (750g)	7	2103
£4.17	£4.10	n/s	(SF) 1 Small Parcel (1kg)	7	3100
£4.87	£4.80	£4.80	1 Medium Parcel (1kg)	1	0301
£5.22	n/s	n/s	1 Small Parcel (2kg)	1	1112
£5.97	n/s	n/s	(SF) 1 Medium Parcel (1kg)	7	4100
n/s	£15.85	£15.85	1 Medium Parcel (5kg)	1	0303

Mailmark™ News continued

Duncan James reports this Special Delivery '1PM 2000g' frank at Tariff rate 8:

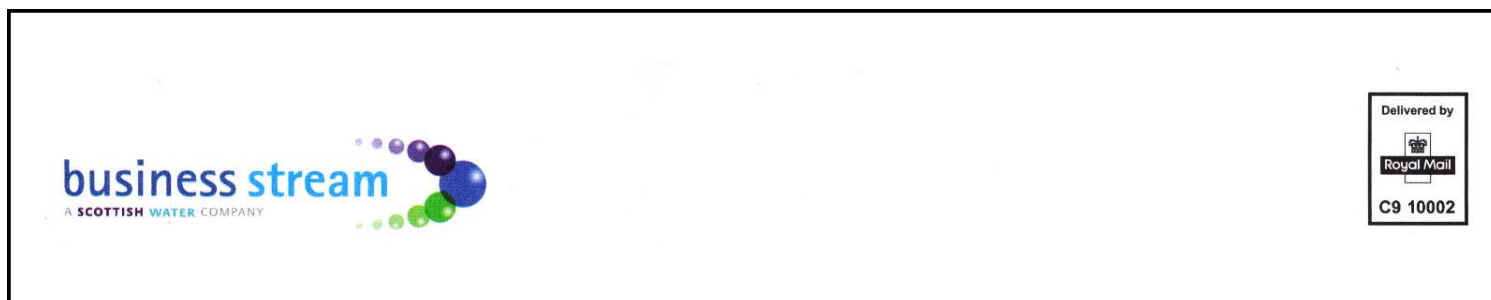


This report enables the 'Special Delivery Ready Reckoner' table to be updated. The only ever '9AM' version to have been reported (at Tariff rate 1, shown on page 162-4) is also added to this table.

Tariff 8	Tariff 6	Tariff 3	Tariff 1	Interpretation	Class	Mail Type
£6.20	£6.20	£6.15	n/s	(SD) 1PM 100g (£500 comp.)	3	0100
£6.85	£6.85	n/s	n/s	(SD) 1PM 500g (£500 comp.)	3	0101
£10.40	£10.40	n/s	n/s	(SD) 1PM 2000g (£500 comp.)	3	0104
£11.40	n/s	n/s	n/s	(SD) 1PM 2000g (£1000 comp.)	3	0108
n/s	n/s	n/s	£16.32	(SD) 9AM 100g (£50 comp)	3	5000

Coloured Slogans

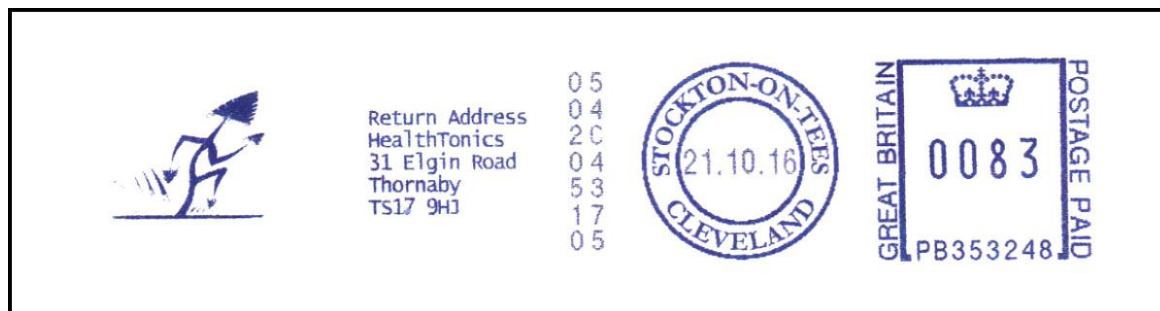
Peter Mantell has found this coloured slogan from 'Business Stream' (Scottish Water Company) in both 'meter' and 'PPI' versions.



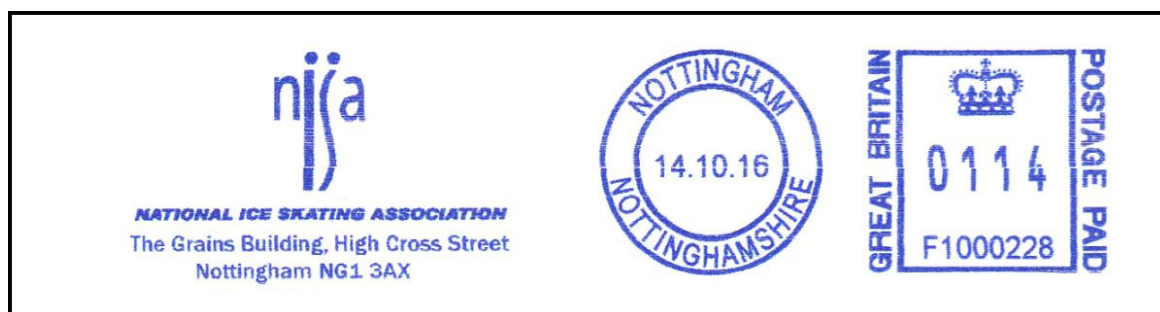
It is likely that these were produced by the same franking machine, but we cannot be certain of that and, indeed, it is possible that the PPI item may have been pre-printed.

Meter Thematics

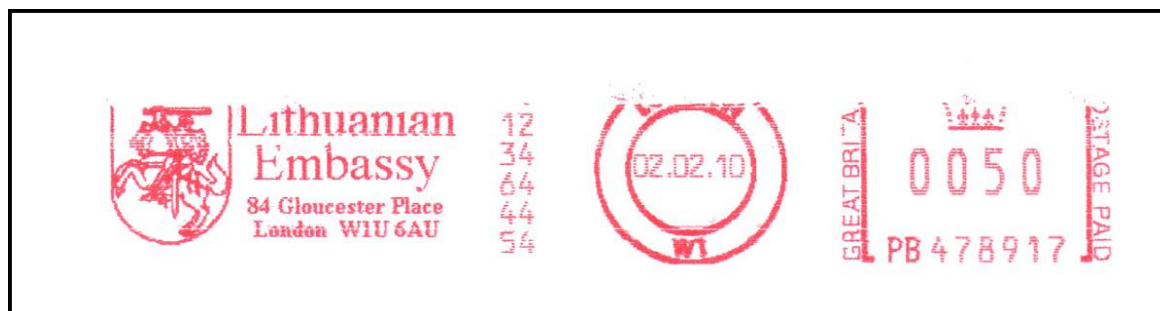
Duncan James sends this unusual design from a company called HealthTonics based in Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland.



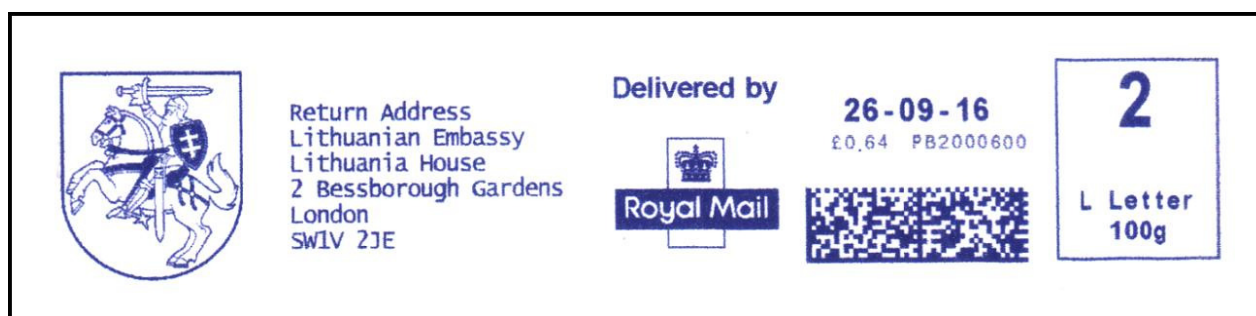
Duncan James sends this 'Sports' thematic from the National Ice Skating Association, based in Nottingham.



Duncan also sends these two heraldic thematics from the Lithuanian Embassy in London, showing a knight in armour on horseback. The first is a Design H frank in red ink from February 2010, meter serial PB478917, that has a London W1U return address:

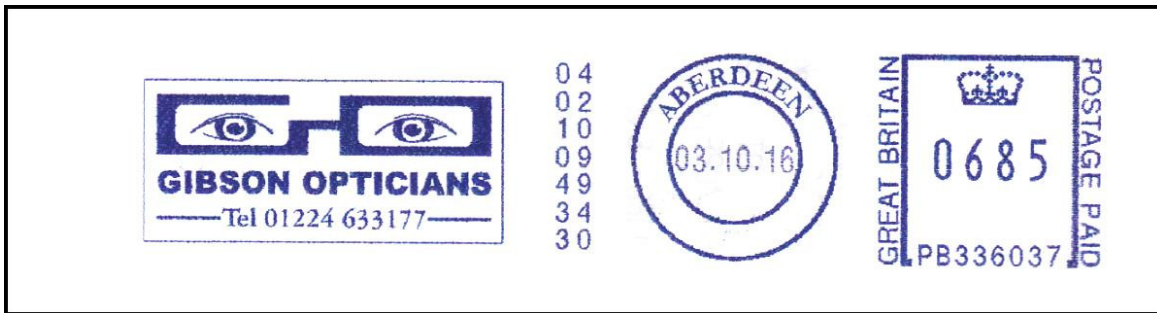


The second is a Design J frank in blue ink dated September 2016, meter serial PB2000600, that has a London SW1V return address:



Meter Thematics continued

Duncan James has also found this spectacular (excuse the pun!) slogan from Gibson Opticians in Aberdeen.



Peter Mantell has found these two animal thematics. The fist is from Shenley Brook End school in Milton Keynes, showing a badger (and a school tie).



The second is from a company called Dragon Infrastructure Solutions – a supplier of electricity and gas connections, based in Northampton.



Roy Richardson sends this frank depicting an interesting old building in London SW19. Some research reveals that the building is the former Methodist church in Wimbledon - which was built c1905 and has now been modernised and converted to offices. It receives my Meter Thematic of the Month award.

