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- (71) Applicant: **Pitney Bowes, Inc.**  
**Stamford, CT 06926-0700 (US)**
- (72) Inventors:  
 • **Monsen, Erik**  
**Shelton**  
**CT 06484 (US)**  
 • **Siveyer, Ian A.**  
**Monroe**  
**CT 06468 (US)**
- **Morelli, Marc**  
**Stamford**  
**CT 06903 (US)**  
 • **Igval, Yakup J.**  
**Milford**  
**CT 06460 (US)**  
 • **Sansone, Ronald P.**  
**Weston**  
**CT 06883 (US)**  
 • **Harmon, John**  
**Trumbull**  
**CT 06611 (US)**  
 • **Quine, Douglas B.**  
**Bethel**  
**CT 06801 (US)**
- (74) Representative: **HOFFMANN EITLÉ**  
**Patent- und Rechtsanwälte**  
**Arabellastrasse 4**  
**81925 München (DE)**

(54) **Method for postage evidencing for the payment of terminal dues**

(57) The invention makes it easier for the post office to calculate accurately terminal dues by providing information to the post regarding each piece or parcel of mail that crosses an international border. The invention also makes it easier for the post offices to calculate terminal dues by obtaining fee information from mail that is sent internationally. The foregoing is accomplished by placing an indication on the mail that the fees for delivering the mail have been paid or will be paid by a mailer who has an account with the post office; sorting the mail to find international mail; storing the fees that have been paid or will be paid for international mail; reporting the fees that have been paid for international mail to all participating post offices; and calculating the fees that are to be transferred to participating post offices.

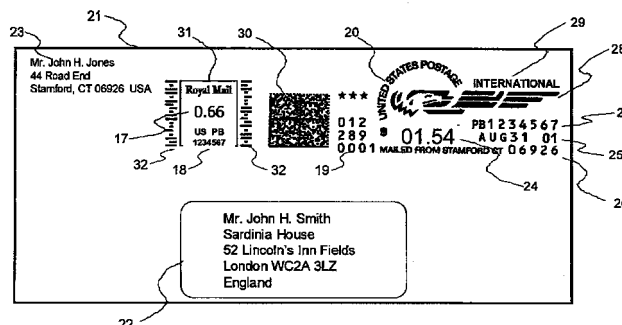


FIGURE 1A



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	"annual review 2002" [Online] January 2003 (2003-01), THE INTERNATIONAL POST CORPORATION, BELGIUM, XP002393696 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://www.postinsight.com/files/IPC_Annual_Review_2002.pdf>	1,2, 8-10, 15-20	INV. G07B17/00
Y	* page 23, paragraph 1 - paragraph 3 *	3-7, 11-14	
A	----- EP 1 313 068 A (PITNEY BOWES INC) 21 May 2003 (2003-05-21)	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)  G07B
Y	* paragraph [0004] * * paragraph [0008] - paragraph [0012] * * paragraph [0015] - paragraph [0018] * * claims; figure 4 *	11-14	
A	----- US 6 130 613 A (EBERHARDT ET AL) 10 October 2000 (2000-10-10)	1	
Y	* column 3, line 17 - line 26 * * column 4, line 15 - line 60 * * column 5, line 66 - column 6, line 30 * * figures 1-4,8 *	3-7	
T	----- "Another step for post liberalisation" [Online] 16 September 1999 (1999-09-16), EUBUSINESS LTD, XP002393702 Retrieved from the Internet: URL:http://www.eubusiness.com/archive/Competition/10159/view?searchterm=terminal%20dues> * the whole document *	1	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>Munich</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>8 August 2006</b>	Examiner <b>Paraf, E</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons ----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 04 02 3193

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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08-08-2006

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