

The EMA Wednesday Report

Wednesday, April 8

Good Morning/Good Afternoon:

Here is the 3rd Wednesday report and don't forget the web briefing on the Thursday, April 9.

The EMA Government Affairs team will provide a CARES Act Briefing this week. The purpose of the call is to interpret the CARES Act Bill and to discuss small business provisions, and other topics that impact the mailing industry as it relates to COVID-19. The details for the call are below.

Conference Call Details:

Thursday, April 9, 2020

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm eastern

Conference Number: 1-605-475-5603

Passcode: 799675

Latest from USPS... Here is the latest from the two meetings we took part in this week and on Monday.

Friday Meeting

- The industry acknowledged the mailing industries petition to roll back CASS Cycle 0 because there is not enough staff within the mailing companies to implement. The USPS will get back to us on that issue.
- Mailers have petitioned the Board of Governors and the Postal Regulatory Commission to delay the five-year rate and regulatory review increase and institute a five percent across the board decrease to get the mailing industry moving again. The USPS reported that it would take these ideas under consideration with the Governors.
- The USPS stated that they would release the immediate volume impact on mail, which is in the Monday report below.
- There are significant disruptions to incoming and outgoing international mail and packages. The International mail group is sorting through each of these.
- We were informed that letter mail was being delayed in NYC. This was not the result of the USPS delivery schedule, but rather personnel handling mail delivery within apartments from mailrooms. The New York City government has been made aware of this problem.
- As reported last week, there are still delivery problems with closed stores and restaurants. The USPS will hold mail for 30-days and not the normal 15 days. The USPS will inform business owners on where to pick up their mail if they want it right away.

Monday Report

- Service alerts are being sent out daily by the USPS. We will keep you updated on the latest.
- Total mail volume is down 25 percent, Flats are down 25 percent and there has been an increase in total packages produced and delivered by 25 percent. EMA will release its first poll of the envelope business on Thursday. It is confidential so please return it quickly.
- It will take some time for postal volume to recover. The USPS is not ceasing operations in July; it has not yet released a post July financial plan, but its plan is to continue operations.

Latest from the American Forest and Paper Association

- There will be a COVID IV bill that will come up within the next three weeks. Congress is working on the components of that bill. EMA is working with our colleagues on several postal provisions. It is too early to tell what will be in the bill and what will not. There is a definite need for additional funding for hard-hit industries.
- There could be shortages of some paper-based materials as the industry ramps up production after increasing production orders. Some raw materials are still in short supply, tissue and towels are running at 120 percent of capacity.
- Most of the essential industries challenges are apparently being solved. We don't know if there will be a third list.

Key Web Links...

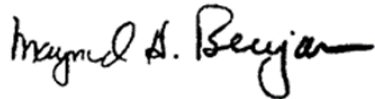
The EMA website is your single source for information on what everyone in the graphic arts industry is doing right now. Please visit www.envelope.org/COVID-19 regularly for updates. We have also added a Question and Answer document on the Paycheck Protection Plan and other updates, so please consult the website.

Legislative Briefings

There is a COVID IV Bill that is slowly being written. We will fill you in on the details during the call.

In closing, please keep you and your family safe. Keep up the good work and stay well.

Until Next Time,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maynard A. Benjamin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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