

Stand-Up Talk:

Biohazard Detection System

May 30, 2003

The 30-day test of the Biohazard Detection System that was scheduled to begin here at the (Name) Processing and Distribution Center on Monday, June 2, is being postponed temporarily.

While the Biohazard Detection System has been installed on an Advanced Facer Canceller System at 14 test sites around the nation, delay of the testing will provide a better opportunity for the development of guidelines addressing local emergency and public health response at each of the locations.

Over the next several weeks, the Postal Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and public health officials will be meeting to share additional information about the Biohazard Detection System and to develop consistent guidelines for appropriate public health response.

The Postal Service is confident that the Biohazard Detection System will provide prompt and accurate detection and notification of anthrax in the mail. But because local public health officials would respond if anthrax is detected, it's important that all organizations involved will have the information they need so that the most effective response is in place.

We'll be sharing more information with you as we move closer to testing.