

Mr. James W. Lingberg
Director
Maintenance Division
American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street NW
Washington, DC 20005-4128

RE: D94T-1D-C 97010513
Dipeitro, R.
Columbia, SC 29292-9511

Dear Jim:

Recently, we met to discuss the aforementioned grievance at the fourth step of the contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this case is whether the Postal Service violated the National Agreement in its assignment of duties and responsibilities for maintenance employees.

The functional purpose of the Maintenance Mechanic, PS-5 provides that they independently perform semiskilled preventive, corrective, and predictive maintenance tasks associated with the upkeep and operation of various types of mail processing, buildings and building equipment, customer service and delivery equipment.

- The parties agree that the aforementioned language includes automated mail processing equipment.

The functional purpose of the Maintenance Mechanic MPE, PS-7 states that they perform involved trouble-shooting and complex maintenance work throughout the system of mail processing equipment; performs preventive maintenance inspections of mail processing equipment, building and building equipment.

- The parties agree that Mechanic MPE, PS-7 may use a computer as a menu driven test device to:
 - a) Determine the operational status of the equipment and its electro/mechanical components;
 - b) Isolate mechanical and/or electrical malfunctions and verify the results of corrective actions.

The functional purpose of the Electronics Technician, PS-9 states that they independently perform a full range of diagnostic, preventive maintenance, alignment and calibration, and overhaul tasks, on both hardware and software on a variety of mail processing, customer service, and building equipment and systems, applying advanced technical knowledge to solve complex problems.

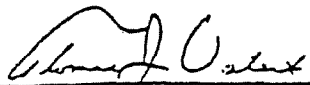
- The parties agree that the functional purpose of the Electronics Technician, PS-9 includes operational maintenance assignments. For the purpose of determining staffing in accordance with Maintenance Management Order (MMO) 028-97, eighty percent (80%) of the maintenance operational maintenance work hours associated with automated equipment will be used to staff Electronic Technician, PS-9 positions.¹

Accordingly, we agree to remand this case to Step 3 for application of the aforementioned language. The parties will determine the fact circumstances and, if appropriate, a remedy.

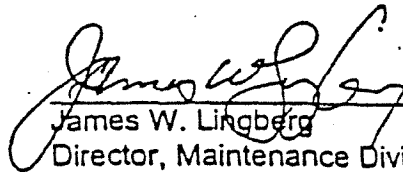
Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to remand this issue.

Time limits at this level were extended by mutual consent.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Valenti
Labor Relations Specialist
Contract Administration
(APWU/NPMHU)



James W. Lingberg
Director, Maintenance Division
American Postal Workers Union,
AFL-CIO

Date: July 2, 1998

¹ Automated mail processing equipment is identified for this agreement as equipment which reads addresses or bar codes and sorts either letter or flat mail for either delivery or transportation to another office. This will also include the Advanced Facer/Canceler System.