



# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

**Paul V. Hogrogian**  
*National President*

**Michael J. Hora**  
*National Secretary-Treasurer*

**June Harris**  
*Vice President*  
*Central Region*

**John A. Gibson**  
*Vice President*  
*Eastern Region*

**David E. Wilkin**  
*Vice President*  
*Northeastern Region*

**Lawrence B. Sapp**  
*Vice President*  
*Southern Region*

**Don J. Sneesby**  
*Vice President*  
*Western Region*

December 6, 2022

TO: All Local Union Presidents  
National/Regional CAD

FROM: Paul V. Hogrogian, National President *PVH*  
Teresa Harmon, Manager, CAD *TH*  
Thomas Ruther, CAD Representative and NDRC Member *TR*

RE: Union Appeals of USPS Craft Determination for Small  
Delivery Unit Sorter (SDUS) and Single Induction Parcel Sorter (SIPS)

We enclose copies of two separate appeals recently filed by the NPMHU to challenge the Postal Service's November 14, 2022 determination of craft jurisdiction for employees operating the Small Delivery Unit Sorter (SDUS) and Single Induction Parcel Sorter (SIPS). These machines have been deployed in facilities throughout the country and are continuing to be installed.

As set forth in its November 14, 2022 letter, the Postal Service determined that jurisdictional assignments on the SDUS working at the machine, including singulating/separating and facing/feeding packages and sweeping the mail should be given to the Clerk Craft. In that same letter, the Postal Service claims that the SDUS will only be used in Function 4 operations. The NPMHU is disputing this determination, and also questioning the lack of assignment in Function 1 operations.

In that same letter of November 14, 2022, the Postal Service also determined that jurisdictional assignments on the SIPS should be divided somewhat differently between the Mail Handler Craft and the Clerk Craft. The Postal Service has stated that the SIPS will only be used in Function 1 operations. Mail Handlers have been assigned in Function 1 operations to the retrieval and staging of packages and equipment, and to the sweeping of packages (removal of full containers and replacement with empty containers), including "sort plan switch out," and to the transportation of full containers to dispatch.

These jurisdictional determinations present several questions and concerns for which the NPMHU seeks clarification, and discussions will be continuing for at least 60 days before the National Dispute Resolution Committee and, if necessary, in National arbitration.

Should you have any questions about these appeals or implementation of the SDUS and SIPS in any particular facility, please contact the National CAD.

You may disseminate this memorandum and the attached documents as you deem appropriate.

Cc: Mike Hora, National Secretary-Treasurer  
National Executive Board



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December 5, 2022

Shannon Richardson  
USPS Manager, Contract Administration (APWU)  
NDRC Representative  
U.S. Postal Service Headquarters  
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20260

Ron Suslak  
NDRC Representative  
American Postal Workers Union  
1300 L Street, NW  
Washington DC 20005

Re: Jurisdictional Craft Determination for Small Delivery Unit Sorter (SDUS)

Dear Shannon and Ron:

This document responds to the Postal Service letter dated November 14, 2022, which set forth the Postal Service's determination with regard to jurisdictional assignments for the Small Delivery Unit Sorter (SDUS) under Regional Instruction No. 399.

The NPMHU hereby initiates, in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Update MOU dated June 2018, a dispute on this determination. That dispute is whether the USPS decision to assign certain work on the SDUS to the clerk craft is a violation of the principles and practices under RI-399. This includes work directly assigned to the clerk craft and work possibly assigned to the clerk craft through the single or double asterisk.

The NPMHU is prepared to discuss this dispute at the next meeting of the NDRC.

Sincerely,

Thomas Ruther

Cc: Paul Hogrogian, NPMHU National President  
Michael J. Hora, NPMHU National Secretary-Treasurer  
Teresa Harmon, Manager, Contract Administration  
Patrick Devine, USPS  
Lynn Pallas-Barber, APWU



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Washington, DC 20260

Ron Suslak  
NDRC Representative  
American Postal Workers Union  
1300 L Street, NW  
Washington DC 20005

Re: Jurisdictional Determination for Small Induction Package Sorter (SIPS)

Dear Shannon and Ron:

This document responds to the Postal Service letter dated November 14, 2022, which set forth the Postal Service's determination with regard to jurisdictional assignments for the Small Induction Package Sorter (SIPS) under Regional Instruction No. 399. The USPS letter mischaracterizes the SIPS, a machine that is exclusively used to Function 1 facilities, as "essentially the same equipment" as the ADUS and the SDUS, going so far as to mistakenly call the SIPS a "unit sorter" comparable to delivery unit machines.

The NPMHU hereby initiates, in accordance with Paragraph 12 of the Update MOU dated June 2018, a dispute on this determination. That dispute is whether the USPS decision to assign certain work on the SIPS to the clerk craft is a violation of the principles and practices under RI-399. This includes work directly assigned to the clerk craft and work possibly assigned to the clerk craft through the single or double asterisk.

The NPMHU is prepared to discuss this dispute at the next meeting of the NDRC.

Sincerely,

Thomas Ruther

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