



Mr. Gary Kloepper  
Assistant Director "A"  
Maintenance Division  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
1300 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005-4128

RE: Q00C-4Q-C 04008803  
HQT200319  
Class Action  
Washington DC 20260

Dear Mr. Kloepper:

Recently, we met to discuss the above captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.


The issue in this grievance is whether the Postal Service violated the National Agreement when it made the decision to subcontract the installation of the Low Cost Tray Sorter.


After reviewing this matter the parties agreed that no national interpretive issue is fairly represented in this case. The Postal Service in concluding its discussions with the union on the Low Cost Tray Sorter indicated that it was not a national contract, and with this understanding the parties agreed that the installation of the Low Cost Tray Sorter was not a national contract. Therefore, whether there was a violation of the National Agreement must be determined locally based on the application of the particular fact circumstances involved.

Without prejudice to the parties' position regarding subcontracting and grievance time limits on this specific issue, we agree to remand this issue to the parties at the local level and or Step 3 for processing or to be scheduled for regional arbitration if appropriate. Any grievances filed based on this decision shall not be ruled as untimely.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this decision as your acknowledgement of agreement to remand this issue and to withdraw the union's unfair labor practice charge regarding the information request for the Low Cost Tray Sorter from the National Labor Relation Board.

Sincerely,

  
Rodney J. Lambson  
Labor Relations Specialist  
Contract Administration

  
Gary Kloepper  
Assistant Director "A"  
Maintenance Division  
American Postal Workers Union,  
AFL-CIO

Date: 6/2/04

## USPS DISPATCH:

## LOW COST TRAY SORTERS

UPDATED :11/15/02

SEQ	MHPR #	AREA	FACILITY	TYPE	% COMP	NOTES	HRS
1	991657	WE	Portland PDC #1	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
2	991657	WE	Portland PDC #2	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
3	991657	WE	Portland PDC #3	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
4	991657	WE	Seattle PDC	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
5	991657	PA	Long Beach PDC #1	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
6	991657	PA	Long Beach PDC #2	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
7	991657	WE	Boise PDC	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
8	991657	WE	Seattle AMC	RC	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
	991657	WE	Seattle AMC	MOD	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
9	200209	NE	Springfield BMC #1	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
10	200209	NE	Springfield BMC #2	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
11	200209	NE	Springfield BMC #3	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
12	200215	WE	Denver AMC	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
13	200216	WE	Denver P&DC #1	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
14	200239	WE	Albuquerque AMC	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
15	200248	WE	Salt Lake City PDC #1	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
16	200270	WE	Phoenix P&DC	IL	Y	complete	W.E. Purchase n/a
17	200402	WE	Las Vegas P&DC #1	RC	2-Feb	complete	
18	200438	WE	Tulsa P&DC #1	IL	2-Feb	complete	
19	200404	WE	Salt Lake City PDC #2	RC	27-Mar	complete	
20	200233	WE	Anchorage PDC/AMC	IL	16-Apr	complete	
21	200405	WE	Spokane PDC	IL	1-May	complete	
22	200297	WE	Billings PDC	RC	5-May	complete	
23	200246	WE	Phoenix PMPPC	IL	21-May	complete	
24	200401	WE	CO. Springs PDC	RC	5-Jun	complete	
	200400	WE	Boise PDC	MOD	14-Jun	complete	
25	200448	NE	Boston PDC #1	RC	30-Jul	complete	
	991657	WE	Seattle PDC	MOD	31-Jul	complete	
26	200382	NY	Morgan Station PDC	RC	20-Aug	complete	FY03
27	200510	NE	Portland, ME PDC #1	IL	13-Sep	complete	3,677
28	200403	WE	Phoenix Rio Solado	RC	16-Sep	complete	10,088
29	200230	WE	Denver P&DC #2	IL	17-Sep	complete	4,940
30	200402	WE	Denver PDC #3	IL	24-Sep	complete	4,992
31	200439	SW	Ft Worth PDC #1	IL	26-Sep	complete	5,918
32	200504	SW	Ft Worth PDC #2	IL	25-Sep	complete	3,067
33	200505	SW	Ft Worth PDC #3	IL	19-Sep	complete	2,917
34	200200	SW	Shreveport PDC	IL	22-Oct	complete	2,639
35	200560	WE	Kansas City, MO BMC	IL	22-Oct	complete	6,015
36	200493	SW	San Antonio PDC #1	IL	5-Nov	complete	4,004

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37	200438	SW	San Antonio PDC #2	IL	6-Nov	complete		5,734
38	200500	SW	Houston PDC #1	IL	6-Nov	complete		2,852
39	200501	SW	Houston PDC #2	RC	6-Nov	complete		5,072
40	200502	SW	Houston PDC #3	IL	7-Nov	complete		3,487
41	200469	SW	No. Texas PDC #1	IL	12-Nov	complete		4,569
42	200470	SW	No. Texas PDC #2	IL	12-Nov	complete		3,357
43	200558	WE	Des Moines, IA PDC#1	IL	6-Nov	complete		22,048
44	200559	WE	Des Moines, IA PDC#2	IL	50%	in fabrication	est 1/21	13,416
45	200562	WE	Omaha, NB PDC #1	IL	50%	in fabrication	est 1/21	10,900
46	200563	WE	Omaha, NB PDC #2	RC	85%	in assembly	est 12/5	8,351
47	200564	WE	Omaha, NB PDC #3	IL	85%	in assembly	est 12/5	5,222
48	200566	WE	Salt Lake City, UT ASF	IL	65%	in fabrication	est 11/26	4,732
49	200565	WE	Reno, NV PDC	IL	15%	in fabrication	est 1/12	4,160
50	200530	EA	Harrisburg, PA PDC	UIL	17-Oct	complete		5,207
51	200444	NY	Mid-Hudson, NY PDC	IL	90%	IHAT only	on hold	1,763
52	200567	WE	Springfield, MO PDC	IL	4-Nov	complete		2,132
53	200471	SW	No. Texas PDC #3	IL	13-Nov	complete		4,493
54	200468	PA	Los Angeles PDC #1	IL	95%	in assembly	est 11/19	4,628
55	200507	SW	No. Houston PDC #1	IL	40%	in fabrication		3,357
56	200508	SW	No. Houston PDC #2	RC	40%	in fabrication		5,681
57	200509	SW	No. Houston PDC #3	IL	40%	in fabrication		3,254
58	200561	WE	Minneapolis, MN PDC	IL	40%	in fabrication		8,580
59	200557	WE	St. Paul, MN PDC	IL	25%	in fabrication		3,744
60	200451	GL	Detroit PDC #1	IL	12-Nov	complete		7,040
61	200453	GL	Detroit PDC #2	IL	12-Nov	complete		10,650
62	200453	GL	Detroit PDC #3	IL	13-Nov	complete		10,650
63	200447	NE	Boston, MA PDC #2	RC	15%	in fabrication	est 1/15	8,249
64	200503	NE	Buffalo, NY PDC #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared		17,221
65	200589	NE	Buffalo, NY PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		3,477
66	200590	NE	Manchester NH PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		3,520
67	200591	NE	Manchester NH PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		3,520
68	200487	SE	West Palm Beach, FL	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		2,430
69	200481	PA	Marina del Ray PDC	RC	75%	in assembly	est 11/26	4,472
70	200575	SW	Dallas, TX PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		5,098
71	200522	SW	Dallas, TX PDC #3	IL	0%	on hold		3,791
72	200258	GL	Carol Stream PDC #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared		8,435
73	200758	GL	Madison, WI PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		2,386
74	200579	GL	Madison, WI PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		2,803
75	200583	GL	Fox Valley PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared		7,001
76	200584	GL	Fox Valley PDC #2	RC	0%	proposal being prepared		6,144

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77	200585	GL	Grand Rapids PDC #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	9,464
78	200586	GL	Grand Rapids PDC #2	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	18,252
79	200587	GL	So. Suburban PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,590
80	200599	GL	Milwaukee PDC	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	6,529
81	200598	GL	Kalamazoo PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	7,317
82	200623	NE	Rochester PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	5,422
83	200622	NE	Brockton PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	5,408
84	200531	NY	Westchester PDC #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	5,396
85	200609	NY	Morgan Sta PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	5,121
86	200549	NY	NY PPMC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,243
87	200489	PA	San Jose, CA PDC#1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	3,520
88	200489	PA	San Jose, CA PDC#2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,270
89	200518	PA	Industry, CA PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,821
90	200518	PA	Industry, CA PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	2,665
91	200529	PA	Honolulu, HA PDC#1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	1,618
92	200529	PA	Honolulu, HA PDC#2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	2,615
93	200544	PA	San Bernadino PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	2,633
94	200619	PA	Santa Clarita PDC#1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	7,904
95	200619	PA	Santa Clarita PDC#2	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	4,368
96	200472	SE	Knoxville PDC	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	6,899
97	200483	SE	Birmingham, AL PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,128
98	200486	SE	Chattanooga, PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,114
99	200607	SE	Chattanooga, PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	2,670
100	200532	SE	Memphis, TN PDC #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,486
101	200624	SE	Memphis, TN PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	2,819
102	200526	SE	Memphis, TN BMC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,848
103	200528	SE	Jackson, MS PDC	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	5,364
104	200485	SE	Atlanta, GA AMC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,588
105	200538	SW	Little Rock, AR PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,999
106	200520	SW	New Orleans PDC #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	4,561
107	200521	SW	New Orleans PDC #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,963
108	200631	CM	Baltimore, MD PDC	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	6,391
109	200499	EA	Cleveland PDC#1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	8,580
110	200542	GL	Palatine, IL PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	8,468
111	200601	NE	Central MA, PDC	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	3,038
112	200602	NE	Providence, RI PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	4,314
113	200603	NE	Northern Hasp #1	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	1,915
114	200603	NE	Northern Hasp #2	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	1,916
115	200512	NE	Eastern Maine PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	3,822
116	200539	NY	San Juan, PR PDC	IL	0%	proposal being prepared	1,763
117	200464	NY	Dominick V Daniels #1	RC	0%	proposal being prepared	3,520

## LOW COST TRAY SORTERS

**UPDATED :11/15/02**

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## USPS DISPATCH:

## LOW COST TRAY SORTERS

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128	200632	CM	Merrifield, VA PDC		n/a	Developing OSL	
129		CM	Richmond PDC		n/a	Area review, DAR being revised	
130		CM	Frederick, MD PDC		n/a	Area review, DAR being revised	
131		CM	Suburban, MD PDC		n/a	Area review, DAR being revised	
132	200525	EA	Cleveland PDC #2		n/a	Area & MHD review	
133	200555	EA	Cleveland PDC #3		n/a	Area & MHD review	
134	200497	EA	Philadelphia BMC		n/a	Developing OSL	
135	200498	EA	Delaware PDC		n/a	Developing OSL	
136	200610	GL	Gary, IN PDC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	14,914
137	200620	GL	Saginaw, MI PDC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	2,912
138	200621	GL	Indianapolis, IN PDC	RC	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	13,209
139	200420	GL	Carol Stream PDC #2		n/a	Developing OSL	
140	200453	GL	Detroit PDC #4		n/a	Developing OSL	
141	200580	GL	Green Bay, WI PDC			cancelled per G.L.A.O. 9/17/02	
142	200511	NE	Portland ME PDC #2		n/a	Area & MHD review	
143	990433	NE	Rochester PDC #2		n/a	Area & MHD review	
144	200647	NY	Queens, NY PDC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	3,520
145	200427	NY	New York PMPC		n/a	Developing OSL	
146	200534	NY	Newark, NJ AMC		n/a	Developing OSL	
147	200535	NY	No. NJ Metro		n/a	Developing OSL	
148	200547	NY	Western Nassau PDC		n/a	Developing OSL	
149	200548	NY	NJ BMC #1		n/a	Developing OSL	
150	200548	NY	NJ BMC #2		n/a	Developing OSL	
151	200548	NY	NJ BMC #3		n/a	Developing OSL	
152	200570	NY	Monmouth, NY PDC		n/a	Developing OSL	
153	200480	PA	Fresno, CA PDC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	2,697
154	200556	PA	Royal Oaks Surface Hu	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	2,704
155	200523	PA	Oakland, CA PDC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	2,813
156	200592	PA	Los Angeles PDC #2	RC	n/a	Area & MHD review	4,978
157	200482	PA	San Francisco, CA AMC		n/a	Developing OSL	
158	200524	PA	San Francisco, PDC		n/a	Developing OSL	
159	200536	SE	Jacksonville, FL TPA	RC	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	6,397
160	200537	SE	Jacksonville, FL AMC	IL	n/a	in MHD signature Cycle	3,536
161	200494	SE	Atlanta BMC		n/a	Area & MHD review	

## LOW COST TRAY SORTERS

**UPDATED :11/15/02**

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# Low Cost Tray Sorter Features

## **Commercial power transmission components**

- ◆ Gear motors, bearings, sprockets, etc. which are readily available at power transmission vendors across the country

## **Sorting conveyor**

- ◆ Industry standard 15" between frames belt driven live roller conveyor
- ◆ Conveyor utilizes a pop-out design for the carrying rollers when the sorter is located below 7' – 6" off the floor
- ◆ 1.9" diameter carrying rolls, pressure rolls and return rolls utilize non metallic shafts to reduce noise transmission
- ◆ The drive motor is 208V, 3 phase, 60 cycle

## **Induction conveyor**

- ◆ 24V DC motorized roller conveyor consisting of 30" zones
- ◆ Distribution label scanning zones (leading & trailing edge) and a D & R Tag scanning zone when applicable

## **Three basic types of LCTS designs**

- ◆ Design "A" consists of an induction conveyor, a sorting conveyor with diverters mounted on one side and a run-out discharge conveyor for each diverter.
  - One discharge dedicated for rejects and overflow
  - Overflow is caused by "lane full" conditions on discharge conveyors
- ◆ Design "B" is the same as "A", diverted off both sides of the sorter (This configuration reduces the length of the sorter)
  - One discharge dedicated for rejects and overflow
  - Overflow is caused by "lane full" conditions on discharge conveyors
- ◆ Design "C" is basically the same as type "A", except it has a recirculating line.
  - Recirculates rejects (no-reads, out of scheme, and machine miss-sorts)
  - Overflow caused by a full condition on a discharge lane
  - Motorized roller conveyor or other types of accumulation conveyor

## **Throughput capacity**

- ◆ 30 tubs, trays, (EMM's, MM's, half trays) per minute
- ◆ Maximum sort rate that can be experienced when D & R tags are being processed due to the response time of the Starship interface

## **Diverters**

- ◆ Pneumatic pusher types
- ◆ Operate on 50 to 60 PSI
- ◆ Controlled through 24V DC four way solenoid operated control valves

## **Noise level**

- ◆ Meets the current USPS requirements for the Tray Management Systems

## **Power & air requirements**

- ◆ 30 AMP, 208V for "A" or "B"
- ◆ 40 AMP, 208V for "C"
- ◆ 7 CFM @ 75 PSI in a minimum ¾" pipe.



## LCTS System Support Resources

Description	Old Specification	New Specifications
<b>Zone Control</b>		
Local PLC on Conveyor	X	
Centralized PLC/Remote I/O		X
<b>Sorter Control</b>		
PLC/Computer	X	
Computer with Soft PLC		X
<b>Graphical User Interface (GUI)</b>		
GFX Software	X	
Allan Bradley RS View		X
Visual Presentation	X	X
Audio Presentation		X
Alarm Status	X	X
System Status Color Coding	X	X
<b>Motorized Accumulation Zone Control</b>		
Local Diagnostics (Individual Zone Control Device	X	
Centralized Diagnostics (Graphics)		X
Zone Status (Graphics)		X
On-Demand Elect. Component Look-Up		X
<b>Production Reports</b>		
Volume By Zip	X	X
Volume By Lane	X	X
Volume Of Rejects	X	X
Volume Of Out of Scheme		X
Volume By Lane By Tour	X	X
Volume By Lane By User Defined Time	X	X
30-Day Data Storage	X	
6-Month Data Storage		X
<b>Maintenance Reports:</b>		
<b>Fault Report</b>		
Zones		X
Diversers	X	X
208V Motors	X	X
Lane Full (No. of Occurances & Time)	X	X
Scanner	X	X
<b>Event Log</b>		
Emergency Stop	X	X
Stop Button	X	X
Start Button	X	X
<b>Data Reports</b>		
Table Of Correspondence	X	X
D&R Map	X	X
<b>Data Input</b>		
Multiple TOC's	X	X
Multiple D&R Maps	X	X