

Settlement Reached on DBCS Door Change/Work Assignment Dispute

The Maintenance Division reached agreement June 8, 2012 with the Postal Service on the dispute in case Q00T-4Q-C 07011178.

That dispute challenged the Service's May 22, 2006 issuance of Maintenance Work Order (MWO) 014-06 titled *DBCS-EC Stacker Left-Hand Panel Latch Replacement*. The purpose of the MWO was to provide for the replacement of the existing lock and latch on the rear panel doors of the DBCS-EC with a "Dish Handle" latch. The dispute came about because the MWO stated, "The replacement Latch, Dish Handle enables the Mail Processor/Operator to open the DBCS-EC machine stacker panel doors." The MWO states the support for such a modification was Engineering Change Order Number EC7178.

The APWU position in this case is that MWO 014-06 was never sent to the APWU as required by Article 19. Instead, the APWU received reports from the field of this MWO and its purpose. We contended the real purpose of the MWO was to direct employees of other bargaining units, the "Mail Processor/Operator", to perform work being done by Maintenance Craft employees. Our position included that this work involved access to the interior of the machine through the rear panel doors for the clearing of jams. Live circuitry and energized components are present when the DBCS-EC is accessed through the rear panel doors. This presents significant safety and health issues, including lockout-tagout procedures, and is contrary to other MMOs on safety (e.g. - MMO 088-00, *Safety Procedures for Clearing Jams in the Delivery Barcode Sorters and DIOSS Machines*).

The Step 4 settlement provides that the issue is moot at the headquarters level stating that, "*This alleged directive is no longer in effect*". Any local grievance held pending the outcome of this dispute is remanded to the grievance-arbitration procedure for resolution including regional level arbitration if necessary.

Please contact your Maintenance NBA or Maintenance Division headquarter officers, Steve Raymer; Gary Kloefer; Greg See or Idowu Balogun, for any questions regarding this settlement.


Steven G. Raymer
Director, Maintenance Division
APWU AFL-CIO

Mr. Steven Raymer
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American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
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Washington DC 20005-4128

RE: Q00T-4Q-C 07011178
HQTT200610
Class Action
Washington DC 20260-4100

Dear Steven:

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

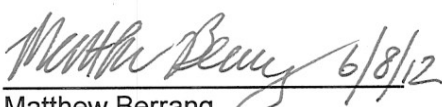
This issue in this case is whether the Postal Service violated Articles 1, 5, 7, 14, 19 and 38 of the National Agreement when it issued Maintenance Work Order (MWO) 014-06, titled DBCS-EC Stacker Left-Hand Panel Latch Replacement. The Union claims that the intent of this MWO is an attempt to shift work from the maintenance craft to the clerk craft.

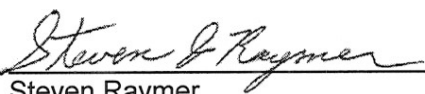
The Union allegedly claims that directives were given to clerks to perform work that the Union claims is solely maintenance work. This alleged directive is no longer in effect and therefore the issue is moot.

Based on the above statement, this case is resolved and shall be administratively closed.

Accordingly, the parties agree that any case held pending this national dispute will be processed in accordance with Article 15 of the National Agreement. Cases that were scheduled for regional arbitration will be returned to the same stage of arbitration in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding entitled "Step 4 Procedures". This settlement is without prejudice to either parties' position in any pending or future dispute over this MWO.

Sincerely,


Matthew Berrang
Labor Relations Specialist
Contract Administration (APWU)


Steven Raymer
Director, Maintenance Craft
American Postal Worker's Union, AFL-CIO

June 8, 2012