

PETE'S POST AND THE DEREGULATION OF NEW ZEALAND'S POSTAL SERVICE

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Deregulation of Government services has been a common theme in the 1980s and 1990s and debate on the deregulation of postal services is still continuing, particularly in Europe. New Zealand has been at the forefront of postal deregulation. On 1 April 1998, the New Zealand Post's monopoly on the carriage of standard letters was removed with the Postal Services Act 1998 coming into force.

This Act allows any company or individual to carry letters for profit, so long as they are registered as a "postal operator" by the Ministry of Economic Development. It only regulates the carriage of letters and there are no restrictions on the carriage of parcels or courier packages (items for which the delivery charge is greater than 80c to a New Zealand address are not regarded as letters for the purposes of the Act).

Postal operators:

have the right to detain, open and examine postal articles which have been posted in contravention of certain legislation and to open postal articles in order to effect their delivery;

have the right to erect public letterboxes;

have an exemption from liability arising from the loss or delay of letters.

must be registered and provide samples of a 'postal identifier', a name, logo, stamp, postmark or other label or mark which can be as simple as a rubber stamp bearing the name of the postal operator.

must identify mail accepted by them by marking each postal article with that operator's postal identifier;

must, if they cease business as a postal operator, remove all public letterboxes and deliver all postal articles in their possession.

Only a postal operator designated as a Universal Postal Union (UPU) administration for New Zealand is allowed to issue official New Zealand stamps - i.e. a stamp bearing the words "New Zealand" (or any abbreviation) unless "New Zealand" is part of the postal operator's name. It is an offence punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 for anyone other than a UPU-designated operator to issue stamps bearing the words "New Zealand" in any other form. Under the Postal Services Act, New Zealand Post Limited has the sole right to UPU designation for a period of five years following the commencement of the Act (i.e. until 1 April 2003).

Over 30 postal operators are currently registered. Of these a number are clearly carrying large quantities of commercial mail and have issued adhesive stamps and in some cases postal stationery. The following table lists registered postal operators, their date of initial registration and the date they ceased to be registered. The postal operators are a diverse group including established courier companies, New Zealand Post and one of its subsidiaries as well as smaller operators.

Operator	Registration Date	Date Registration Ceased
<u>Admail Limited</u>	11 January 1999	
<u>Airwaves Corporation Limited</u>	3 March 1999	
Bell, Peter (t/a Pete's Post)	30 July 1998	31 March 1999
<u>CBD Mail Management Limited</u>	7 March 2000	
<u>Chatham Islands Postal Service Limited</u>	15 February 2000	

Capital Philately

<u>Circular Distributors Ltd</u>	13 November 2000	
<u>Clark, Harold Alan (t/a Pamflet Post)</u>	2 August 2001	
Dagelet, John	30 July 1998	19 October 1999
<u>DE & KD Tuson Ltd (t/a QuikPost Waihi)</u>	9 August 1999	
<u>Dunstan Mail</u>	9 December 1998	
<u>Fastway Post New Zealand Limited</u>	30 June 1998	
<u>French, Warren Michael (t/a Smart Post)</u>	19 May 2000	9 November 2000
<u>Go Postal Ltd</u>	12 August 1999	
<u>Gray, Trudi Ann (t/a Tui Deliveries)</u>	25 August 1999	
Hennessy, Robert John	1 November 1999	9 November 2000
<u>Hometown Post</u>	15 April 2002	
<u>Huntley, Brad Alan (t/a G Post)</u>	20 April 2001	
<u>Jones, Daimen (t/a Superior Post)</u>	16 March 1999	
<u>KiwiMail Group Limited</u>	23 February 2000	
<u>Local Post Kaikoura</u>	25 June 1998	
<u>Luijk, Joanne Lynette (t/a Zero Post)</u>	13 June 2000	
<u>Mailboxes Limited</u>	27 January 2002	
<u>Masterpost Limited</u>	9 November 1998	
Mount Post	2 October 1998	24 November 1998
National Mail New Zealand Limited	18 November 1998	12 February 2001
<u>National Mail New Zealand Limited</u>	3 May 2001	
<u>New Zealand Document Exchange Limited t/a DX Mail</u>	29 April 1998	
<u>New Zealand Post Limited</u> (deemed to be registered by s. 63 of the Postal Services Act 1998)	1 April 1998	
<u>Nye, Kim Barbara (t/a Destination Post Services)</u>	12 April 1999	
<u>Pete's Post Limited</u>	31 March 1999	
<u>Pitney Bowes NZ Ltd</u>	15 November 2000	
<u>Posties Choice New Zealand Limited</u>	17 July 1998	
Presort Limited	20 July 1998	21 May 1999
<u>Quantum Post</u>	30 September 1998	
<u>Quick Post</u>	12 August 1998	
<u>Rural Couriers Society Limited (Coural)</u>	9 October 1998	
<u>SelectPost New Zealand Limited</u>	5 May 1998	
Smart Post	1 September 1998	19 May 2000
<u>Smith, Graham Neville (t/a Gisborne Mail)</u>	21 January 2000	
<u>Standard Post Canterbury Ltd</u>	4 August 1999	
<u>Sutherland, Larry Douglas and Frances Jean Sutherland (t/a Todays Post)</u>	29 July 1999	16 November 2000
Universal Mail New Zealand Ltd	31 August 2001	24 October 2001
<u>Whitten, Bendall and Megan Whitten (t/a Palmy Post)</u>	17 March 1999	
<u>Wind, Luwe (t/a EKO)</u>	10 February 1999	
Zero Post	21 December 1998	13 June 2000

While full details of all of the registered postal operators falls outside of the scope of this article, I discuss some of the operators and provide some examples of commercial mail they have carried.

Pete's Post

Pete's Post is a franchising company registered as a Postal Services Operator. Pete's Post was formed in 1999 to manage an alternative postal network within New Zealand. The directors are Murray and Denise McBeth of New Plymouth. (A postal operator of this name was first registered by Peter Bell on 30 July 1998 and undertook local deliveries in New Plymouth.)

Pete's Post appears to carry considerable quantities of commercial mail, especially mail posted by individuals. Figure 1 shows a publicity brochure for Pete's Post offering two free stamps and illustrating their posting box. Pete's Post stamps are issued in self-adhesive booklets of 10 (Figure 2) and come in a range of stamps depicting landscapes, 35c for local delivery and 40c for national delivery. The stamps are illustrated at www.petespost.co.nz. It also issues pre-stamped envelopes. Figure 3 shows a pre-stamped envelope while Figure 4 shows a 35c New Plymouth local rate stamp used on cover. It also provided a service of 'personalised stamps' which has been utilised by businesses and organisations for advertising. Figures 5-7 show 40c personalised stamps used on cover. All of the covers shown have the stamps cancelled by Pete's Post postmarks.

Pete's Post NP Ltd
Unique, Swift & Reliable

- Free mail pick up
- Free mail bags
- Post Office box clearance
- DX mail inward/outward
- Stamps
- Personalised stamps
- Monthly account
- Pre franked envelopes
- Postage Paid envelopes
- Next day local delivery
- Bulk rate discounts

Try our service with your **FREE** stamps

Place your mail in our distinctive Green & Gold Post Boxes **Ph 06-757 8887**

POSTAGE RATES
35c Local Street Addresses
40c National & PG Boxes & Rural Envelopes

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

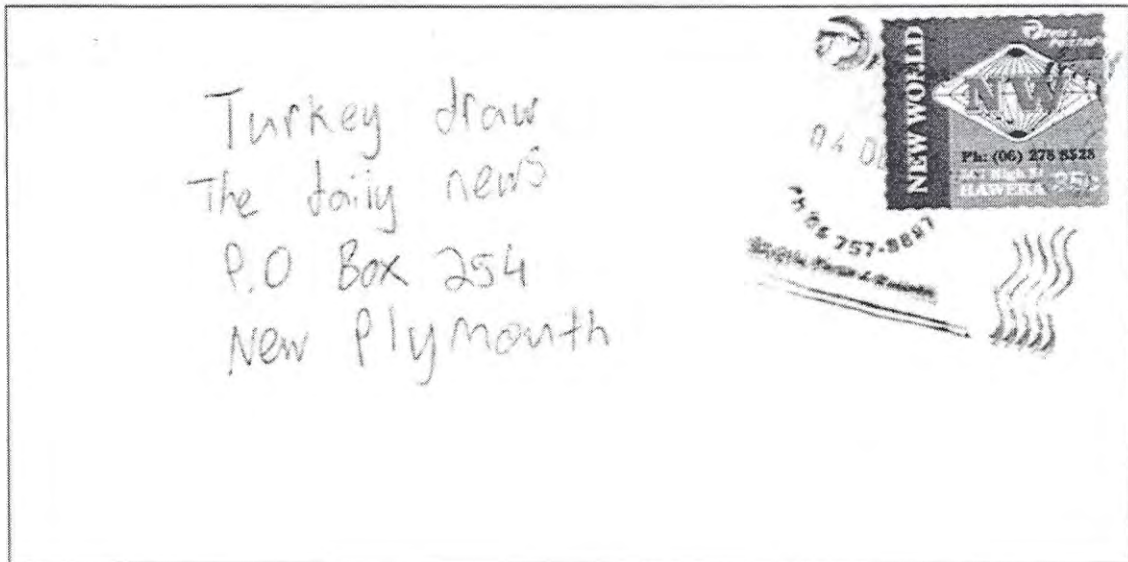


Figure 6