

Requirements for producing WALKSORTED files for mailing

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Introduction

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From 1 April 1997 the Royal Mail introduced WALKSORT. This was an additional code to be added to a postal address to enable mail to be sorted in postman's walks, which are denoted by 8-digit codes.

The first 5 digits of the code are the District, which equates to a postal area, eg N22. The WALKSORT is derived from the full postcode, and may contain several of these, eg N22 1AA, N22 1AB and N22 1DN.

In return for sorting bulk mailing into WALKSORTs and bundling and labelling them, the Royal Mail offers a 40% discount. This is to replace the old postcode sorting discount, and this was reduced from 32% to 16% on 1 April 1997, and will be reduced further to 8% from 1 April 1998, disappearing altogether from 1 April 1999.

ICL CFM Enfield has created a routine that will derive WALKSORTS from the full postcode by referencing a VSAM file which has been built from tapes supplied by the Royal Mail and is refreshed periodically. There are also some standard procedures in place to add WALKSORT to existing print files and to produce the statistics required by the Royal Mail and lists of the WALKSORTed output to assist the mailing room.

The WALKSORT must be added to the address so that it is visible in the bottom right hand corner of the envelope window. This can be done either by adding it to an address line, or getting AFP to position it.

Facilities Available

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1. Z9930

This is a FUNCTION that receives a 7-character postcode and RETURNS an 8-digit WALKSORT.

The following code should be inserted into the calling module:

```
DCL WALKSORT CHAR(8);
```

```
DCL Z9930 EXTERNAL ENTRY RETURNS(CHAR(8));
```

```
WALKSORT = Z9930(POSTCODE);          /* POSTCODE FORMATTED AS OUT4/IN3 */
```

Extra JCL required:

```
//WALKA DD DSN=bV.S.bSW.WALKSORT.A,DISP=OLD      where b = boro
```

2. Z9931

This is an EXTERNAL PROCEDURE that receives an 8-character postcode and converts this to a formatted 7-character postcode (OUT4/IN3).

The following code should be inserted into the calling module:

```
DCL POSTCODE CHAR(7);
```

```
DCL Z9931 EXTERNAL ENTRY;
```

```
CALL Z9931(POSTIN,                    /* POSTIN IS 8-CHAR POSTCODE */  
          POSTCODE);
```

3. Z3100

This is a program which adds WALKSORT to a record on a flat file, either in a pre-determined position or to the end of the record. It requires an input control card containing Z31ppppwww where pppp is the 4-digit offset of the postcode, and www is the offset of the WALKSORT. If www is 9999, it is suffixed to the record. Sample JCL can be found on UAC.L.CNTL - look under Z31*. This is typically used for FOCUS-produced files.

4. Z3150

This program adds OMR marks for striping the envelopes on change of WALKSORT and a result type of Z31A. These are suffixed to the record on a flat file. Sample JCL is on UAC.L.CNTL(Z31*). It uses the same control file as Z3100

5. Z3200

This program produces the WALKSORT lists and statistics for a particular result type from a Z0520 file, or a flat file. The latter is necessary when the Z0520 file is for lines rather than AFP-type printing from a flat file.

There is a facility for writing out a file for merging several sets of results for a single posting, when a combined set of statistics is required.

Sample JCL is on UAC.L.CNTL(Z32*), and there is also a JPP member Z32 in OPT2.JPPLIB.

The control card contains the following information:

cols	details
1	Borough code
2-5	Result type (or '*' if none)
6-9	Offset of WALKSORT
10	Service 1=first class, 2=second
11-12	Postal rate (20 for second, 26 for first)
13-15	Weight) these fields are not
16-18	Walks) used at the moment
19	RTB - 'Y' if RTB cases are to be ignored
20-23	Offset of RTB indicator
24-73	Description of result type
74-77	Offset of OMR for new document if multi-pages
80	Merge - if '*' output file for merging result types

If you have any queries or suggestions, please contact Martin Jackson

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