



Colorado Mail Handlers Union, Local 321

FYI Update

May 2010

NPMHU

Flat Sequencing System: Denver's Deployment Reduced to 3 Machines

Management has informed the Union that Denver will now receive 3 FSS machines. We were originally scheduled to receive 5 machines, but due to the continued reductions in flat mail volume, the entire deployment schedule has once again been revamped.

Two FSS machines have already been delivered and are sitting in the west-end of the GMF with assembly set to start this summer. The USPS and Northrop Grumman are continuing to work out bugs in the FSS machines. Due to these ongoing problems, Denver's FSS deployment and burn-in date has changed many times. Here is the most current information available:

FSS	Start	Complete	Start-Up
#1	26 June	23 July	Jan 3, 2011
#2	21 Aug	17 Sep	Jan 24, 2011
#3	16 Oct	5 Nov	Feb 14, 2011

A four week integration phase begins immediately after installation is complete. These machines will have a significant impact on most station operations, most of which will be felt by letter carriers. Frankly, our associate office mail handlers will have already taken the hit that is related to mail volume reductions and letter automation (DBCS) consolidations.

The NPMHU's jurisdictional victory as it relates to Flat Sequencing System operations and flat preparation will be worth about 85 mail handler positions in the Denver P&DC. Despite the reduction to 3 FSS machines, management still believes that Denver can function with 5 AFSM100 flat sorters. As of now, management is proposing to remove 2 of Denver's 7 AFSM100s.

The Union continues to meet with management in preparation for the new positions and machines. We are currently in discussions over the sectional alignment in the P&DC Local Memorandum of Understanding and the task of incorporating the FSS machines into the appropriate section. We are also discussing bidding schedules, deadlines and requirements as they relate to article 12.3E2 and E3.

USPS to Consolidate DBCS Operations in Golden, Longmont and Littleton

With the announcement that Denver would only receive 3 FSS machines comes additional open floor space in the Denver P&DC. The west-side expansion was initially constructed to house 5 FSS machines. Every time the USPS loses a FSS machine, this opens additional floor space for other considerations.

In discussions, management has advised the Union of their plan to consolidate letter automation operations from Golden, Longmont and Littleton into the Denver P&DC.

The most current information we have was inadvertently distributed in Longmont to

everyone on the floor on May 17, 2010. The draft packet shows that management intends to notify the Local Union during the final week of May. The USPS *CO/WY Metro plan* reports that Longmont, Littleton and Golden will be reduced by a total of 120 craft employees. The Postal Service draft proposal is predicting reductions as follows:

LONGMONT			
Craft	Current	Proposed	Difference
NPMHU	7	0	-7
Clerk	42	23	-19
Other	16	4	-12
GOLDEN			
Craft	Current	Proposed	Difference
NPMHU	3	0	-3
Clerk	47	28	-19
Other	14	4	-10
LITTLETON			
Craft	Current	Proposed	Difference
NPMHU	14	0	-14
Clerk	100	75	-25
Other	22	11	-11

Management's Metro Consolidation Plan provides for the involuntary reassignment of 117 career full-time employees in Longmont, Golden and Littleton by August 14, 2010, (twenty-three) 23 of which are mail handlers. Management claims that there are 118 withheld positions available within a 50 mile radius. In accordance with Article 12.6B5, full-time and part-time flexible employees involuntarily detailed or reassigned from one installation to another shall be given not less than 60 days advance notice. According to management's plan, 60 day notice letters will be issued on or near June 4, 2010. Management insists that these documents are merely a draft proposal, adding that the final numbers and time-frames are yet to be determined. Please keep this in mind.

All affected mail handlers will be reassigned with full craft seniority and will retain their current craft employment classification. This means full-time regulars transfer as FTRs, and part-time flexibles transfer as PTFs. These reassignments shall be treated as details for the first 120 days in order to prevent inequities in the seniority lists at the gaining installation. The Union will do everything possible to minimize any inconveniences associated with these moves.

Withheld Positions and Staffing Complement

With some basic calculations, one could be easily convinced that a number of employees will be involuntarily reassigned to the Denver P&DC as mail handlers. The Denver P&DC needs 85 additional mail handlers to properly staff 3 FSS machines. There are only 30 mail handlers in associate offices. Many will presumably be reassigned from associate offices into the Denver P&DC. This leaves a shortage of about 55 positions. It seems that some of these 55 positions will

undoubtedly be filled from those involuntary reassigned from other installations and crafts.

Local 321 Scholarship Winners

On May 7, 2010 the Local 321 Scholarship Committee held the drawing to award this year's scholarships. This year we had 21 eligible applications in the drawing. The \$500 scholarships are being awarded to five applicants for the 2010-2011 school year. The 5 members/sponsors that were randomly picked and awarded scholarships are:

NAME	SPONSOR	FACILITY
Priscilla Choi	Eunsook Choi	Denver P&DC
Amanda Welder	Chris Welder	Denver P&DC
Andrew Dougherty	Andrew Dougherty	Denver P&DC
Nicholas Welder	Chris Welder	Denver P&DC
Darilyn Hyland	James Hyland	Denver P&DC

Congratulations to all of the winners. This is the 12th straight year Local 321 has sponsored a scholarship program for members and their dependants.

Federal Employee Retirement Service Surveys

Many Colorado employees have received letters and questionnaires from a company called *Federal Employee Retirement Services* out of Sterling Heights, MI. This correspondence was mailed to employees at their Postal installation and pay location. Many have questioned authenticity of the solicitation asking how their work information was secured.

I can assure you that the information was not released by the Union. The letter also notes that they are not affiliated with any federal agency. The information was most likely attained through a freedom of information request. My advice would be to ignore the company's questionnaire.

Postal regulations ASM 271.64 prohibits employees from receiving personal mail at their place of employment. Obviously you cannot control who sends you solicitations at your workplace. However, when you consider that the solicitation ignores Federal statutes; why would you risk doing business with a company that does blind workplace solicitations?

Reminder—Local 321's annual picnic will be Saturday, July 31 at the Aurora Reservoir. Details will be released soon!

In Unity,
Mike

Michael J Hora
President
NPMHU, Local 321