

# METER NEWS

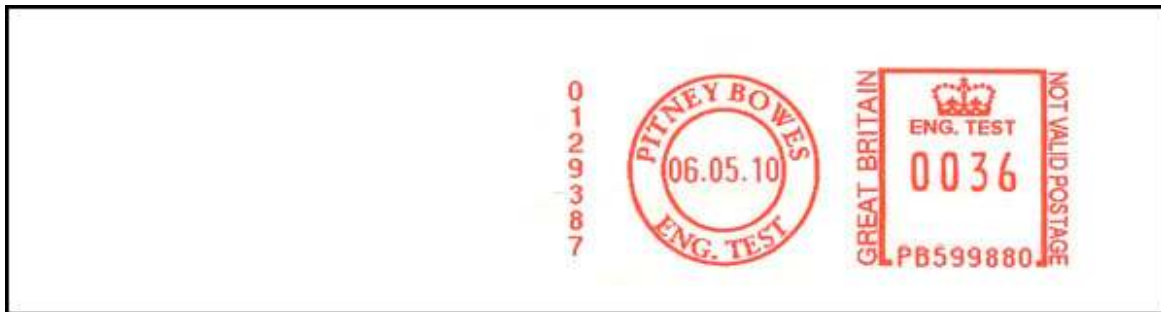
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## Meter of the Month

A reader of Meter News from China has kindly provided a scan of this Pitney Bowes specimen frank from February 2011. The frank has the serial number PB599999 and is probably from a series 800 or 900 demonstration model. It has “ENG. TEST” inscribed in the value die – similar to the one that was shown on page 118-1, that is repeated below for comparison purposes.



A second frank from this machine, without “ENG. TEST” in the value die, was also supplied (see below left).



Also provided was an example of a Pitney Bowes 400 series specimen frank from machine number PB610138. Note the word “SPECIMEN” in the town die, which is in a smaller font size from the “PITNEY BOWES” in the upper half of the die.

## Acknowledgements

My thanks this month go to Jon Aitchison, Jim Ashby, Keith Downing, Gwynne Harries, Peter Mantell, Richard Peck, and Peter Wood for their reports, communications or contributions.

## Latest Numbers

Below is the list of 'latest numbers' as at the end of July 2013 – with updates shown in red. Please could I have the next reports by 28th August - thanks.

In the list below, the part of the serial number that directly relates to the model is underlined.

### Frama (UK)

Matrix F2, F4, F6	<u>F1003044</u>	05.07.13	Reported by AN
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### Francotyp-Postalia

Optimail 25/35	<u>F04115087</u>	25.06.13	See MN 152
Centormail 240/300	<u>FC5110668</u>	05.06.13	See MN 152
MyMail / PostagePro	<u>FM2654917</u>	05.06.13	See MN 152
PostBase	<u>FP6110216</u>	07.06.13	See MN 152
Ultimail	<u>FU3117271</u>	08.07.13	Reported by PM

### Neopost

IS-330	<u>N1052546</u>	02.04.13	Reported by PM
IS-350	<u>N1181546</u>	20.05.13	See MN 151
Various upgraded	<u>N1240644</u>	09.11.12	See MN 147
IJ-80/90/110	<u>N1254486</u>	02.03.13	See MN 149
IS-460 (Ex IJ-50)	<u>N1373678</u>	23.04.13	See MN 150
IS-420 (Ex IJ-30)	<u>N1385456</u>	06.02.13	See MN 148
IS-440 (Ex IJ-40)	<u>N1390617</u>	31.07.12	See MN 146
IS-480	<u>N3027230</u>	22.07.13	Reported by PM
IS-240 / IS-280	<u>N3315280</u>	13.06.13	See MN 152
IS-5000/6000	<u>N5001548</u>	22.07.13	Reported by PM

### Pitney Bowes

DM50, 55	<u>PB099074</u>	15.03.13	See MN 149
DM160i/220i	<u>PB161646</u>	08.07.13	Reported by PM
DM50, 55	<u>PB337895</u>	03.06.13	See MN 152
DM 810, 900 etc.	<u>PB527641</u>	18.03.13	See MN 151
Connect+ 1000 etc.	<u>PB551669</u>	22.03.13	See MN 149
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB556536</u>	22.07.13	Reported by PM
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB618887</u>	05.07.13	Reported by PM
DM100i, 150i etc.	<u>PB875461</u>	25.07.13	Reported by AN

### Advanced Mail Codes

AAEY-TJ	PB617771	03.04.13	See MN 152
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### Dead Series Update

Peter Mantell reports a highest number for the N129 dead series.



## Dead Series Update Continued

Peter Mantell also reports a highest number for the N131 dead series.



## Latest Number Images

Here are images of the latest numbers reported this month.

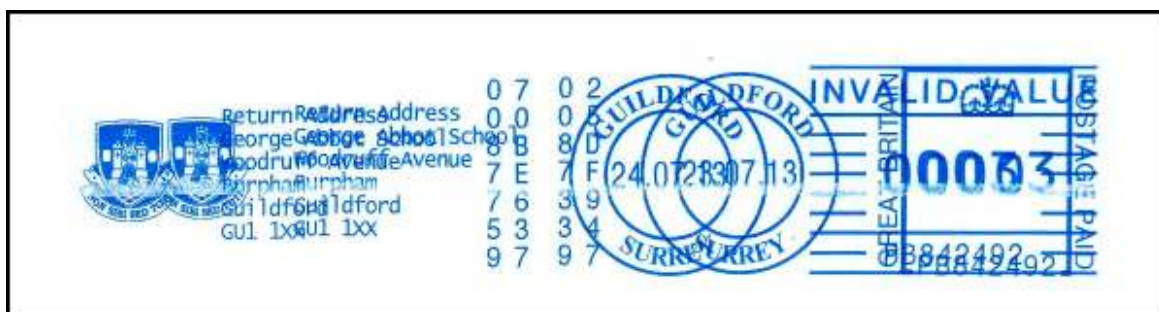


## Latest Number Images Continued



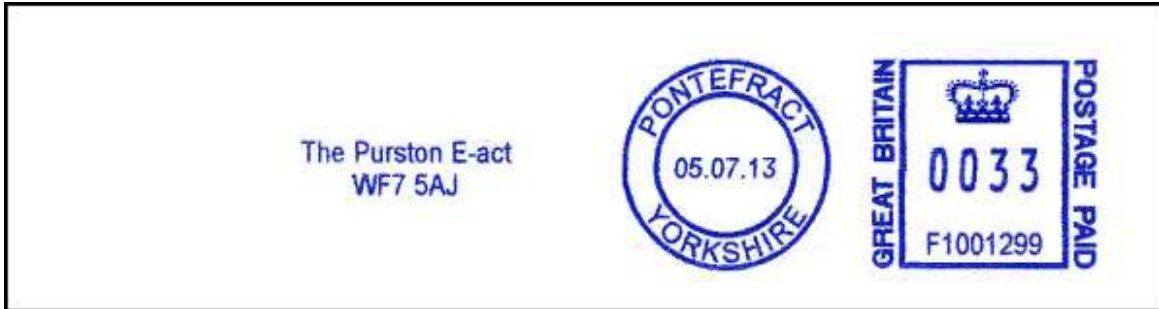
## Recent Interesting Items

On page 140-6, we showed an example where a user took the correct action when a meter frank had been applied with the wrong date. The procedure should be to put a line through the wrong date in black ink and apply a zero-value frank with the correct date on a separate label, away from the original frank. Peter Mantell now sends an example of how a user should not do it! The original impression was dated 23.07.13 but a zero-value frank dated 24.07.13 has been applied over the original frank.



## Recent Interesting Items Continued

Last month, on page 152-5, we reported that recent Frama Matrix machines are appearing without the decimal point in the value die - which we are calling 'Type 2' format. We also reported that machine F1002622 had been converted to 'Type 2' from 'Type 1', implying that older machines would be receiving this software upgrade in time. Peter Mantell is able to report machine F1001299 appearing in Type 2, which would tend to confirm that theory:



Peter Mantell is also able to report a higher number for Type 1 in the 'changeover' table given last month with this report of F1002765:



It was thought that all new Frama Matrix machines would now have the new software installed, but it appears that it not the case as your editor has found F1003008 in Type 1:



Why this should be happening is not known. However, as the F1 series is common to all of the F2, F4 and F6 models, is it possible that not all variants of this machine have yet to receive this upgrade? In summary, we now have:

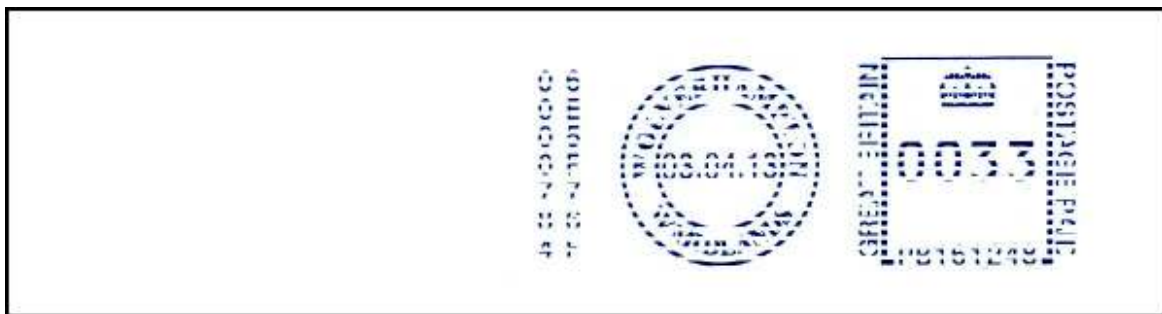
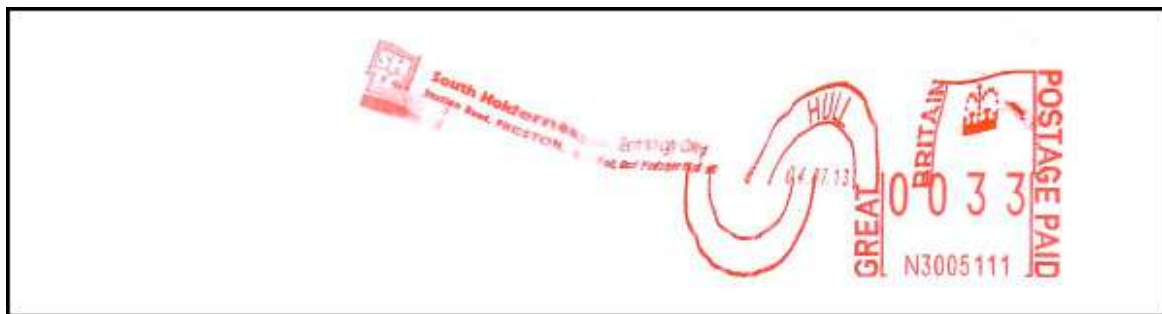
Serial	Comments
F1001299	Converted to Type 2
F1002622	Types 1 and 2 seen
F1002765	Type 1 (24.07.13)
F1002786	Type 2 (01.05.15)

Serial	Comments
F1002852	Type 2 (08.05.13)
F1002969	Type 2 (20.06.13)
F1003008	Type 1 (18.07.13)
F1003044	Type 2 (05.07.13, see p153-3)



# Printing Errors

This month, Peter Mantell sends this fine selection of printing malfunctions!



### Historic Meter Franks

Gwynne Harries reports this Wembley Empire Exhibition post card dated 17 IX 24. It is believed that this is the latest known date of the black ink slogan.



### Instructional Markings

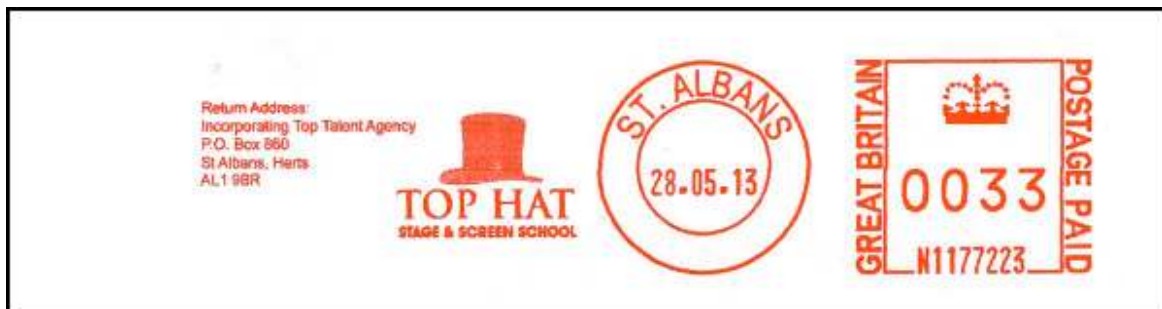
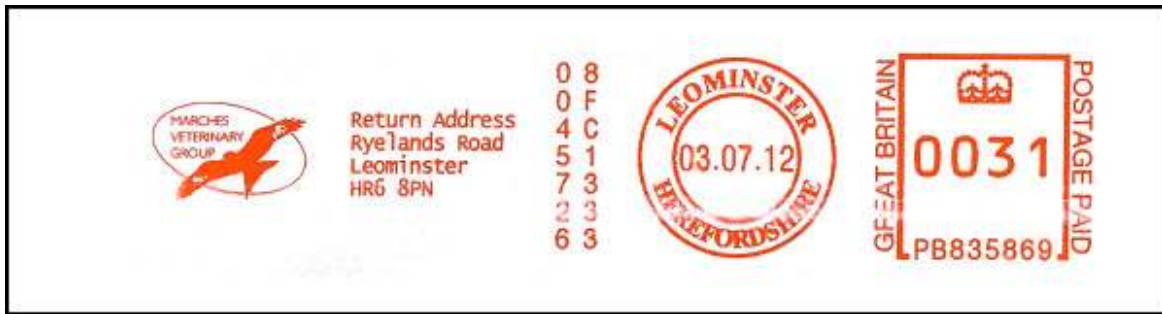
Gwynne Harries reports this 'To Pay' handstamp dated 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 1962. The reverse side of the envelope depicts a slogan "DRIVE WITH THE SUN BEHIND YOU" which could imply that the sender was the Royal Sun Alliance Company, perhaps.





## Meter Thematics

This month we have a nice selection of thematic meter franks – including three shown earlier, namely: the turtle on page 3 and the cute dragon and the swan on page 6. Your editor provides all of the thematics on this page - the first depicting a red kite, I believe.



### Meter Thematics Continued

Further to page 57-5, Peter Mantell sends this 'leisure' thematic from Vanguard Caravan Services in Scarborough.



Peter Mantell has found our first 'wind farm' thematic on a meter frank!



Peter Mantell has found this, rather attractive, sports thematic from the Derbyshire County Cricket Club.



Finally, how about this superb image from the Real Car Company in Bangor for my Meter Thematic of the Month - provided by Peter Mantell who received it from Keith Downing.

