Customer Appended Information in 52 and 67 length 4 State Barcodes when a DPID Assignment was unsuccessful

Background

The introduction of DPID's and barcoding technology in mail processing has provided an opportunity for Customer Appended information to be applied in an extended length (52 or 67) 4 State Barcode. The Customer Appended information is used to monitor campaigns, returns or orders etc.

However, articles that were unable to have a DPID assigned could not have a 4 State Barcode applied and were "unbarcoded". The inability to use the 4 State barcode (without a DPID) has resulted in either an alternative barcode (ie 128) being applied to contain additional reference information or the article remaining "unbarcoded" and lodged without any additional Customer Appended information.

Proposed Solution

Tests conducted on articles with an alternative Format Control Code have indicated that the alternative Format Control Code does not interfere with successful letter processing.

Altering the Format Control Code of the 4 State Barcode to a zero value Format Control Code results in an unrecognised / unreadable barcode when presented to letter sorting equipment. The written address block details will then be used to determine the sort decision (as if the article was unbarcoded).

Using an alternative Format Control Code on all unassigned DPID articles will enable customers to append additional information within an extended length (52 or 67) 4 State Barcode if required, providing a consistent method of data capture for all returns, orders or campaign responses.

Preparation

A DPID assignment must be attempted using approved AMAS software. At lodgement an address match summary report may be requested. Articles that have a DPID assigned to them must have the appropriate 52 or 67 length 4 State barcode Format Control Code applied.

Articles for which a DPID assignment was unsuccessful are required to have the zero value Format Control Code and zero value DPID assigned to them. Customer Appended information can be assigned to the Customer fields in the 57 or 62 length 4 State barcode.

Presentation Requirements

All zero value Format Control & DPID articles are to be sorted as unbarcoded residue and presented for lodgement in trays with the unbarcoded residue tray label affixed.

Pricing

All zero value DPID Presort articles will be charged at the Unbarcoded Residue price for the appropriate weight step, category and service standard.

Technical Details for preparation of Customer Appended Information in a 4 State Barcode

Format Control Code & DPID Value

BarcodeFormat	FCC	DPID	No. of bars
52 Bar Customer Barcode	00	00000000	52
67 Bar Customer Barcode	00	00000000	67

Customer Information Fields

The numeric value of the 52 Bar Customer Barcode is as follows#;

1300000000000000000000**************02213022312113**

Bar position	Field	Code Used	No. of bars
1-2	Start bars	Bars A&T	2
3-6	FCC (00)	*N Table	4
7-22	DPID (00000000)	*N Table	16
23-38	Customer Information	Free Format	16
39-50	Reed Solomon	Bar to Decimal Conversion Table	12
51-52	Stop bars	Bars A&T	2
Total Bars			52

The format of the 67 Bar of Customer Barcode is as follows;

1300000000000000000000*****************************12311000310013**

Bar position	Field	Code Used	No. of bars
1-2	Start bars	Bars A&T	2
3-6	FCC (00)	*N Table	4
7-22	DPID (00000000)	*N Table	16
23-53	Customer Information	Free Format	31
54-65	Reed Solomon	Bar to Decimal Conversion Table	12
66-67	Stop bars	Bars A&T	2
Total Bars			67

*The DPID value (ie 00000000) of the barcode must be generated using the values from the N Encoding Table, detailed in the Australia Post Customer Barcoding Technical Specifications Guide.

The Reed Soloman code will very according to the content of the data fields.