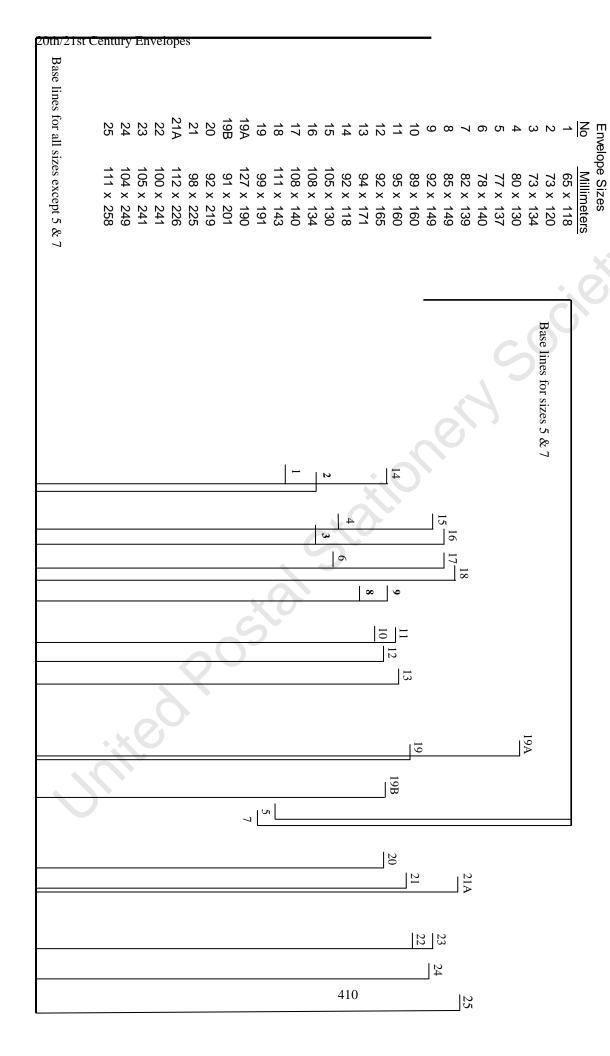
UPSS Stamped Envelope Size Chart



Envelope Knife Illustrations

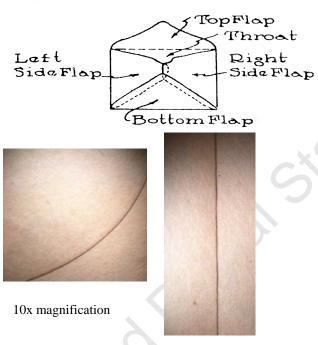
A knife is a sharp-edged, steel form used to cut envelope blanks (like a cookie cutter). In the 19th and early 20th century, envelope blanks were made by forcing the knife, using a hydraulic press, through a pile of up to 500 sheets of paper. The knife was then repositioned and another set of blanks cut from the same pile of sheets. This process was repeated until as many blanks as possible were cut from the sheets.

It should be apparent from the previous description that metal knives wore out and needed to be replaced. The replacement may have varied slightly in shape from the original. Therefore it is important to recognize that knives shown on the following pages are actually a family of shapes that varied slightly over time.

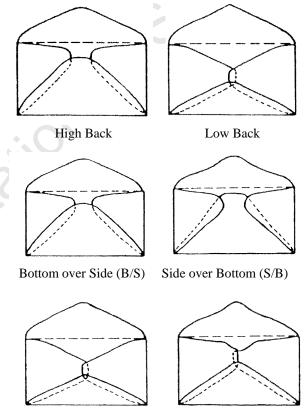
Beginning about 1912, some envelopes were made from a roll of paper fed into the press with envelopes printed and then cut in one process. These early rotary cut envelopes can usually be identified by less sharp edges.

In philately, we refer to 'knife' as the shape of envelope cut by a particular metal knife.

Diagrams below give terms and conventions for portraying envelope characteristics. Sizes and knives not shown on following pages were used only on 19th century envelopes.



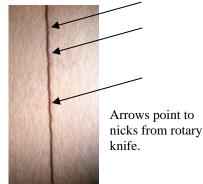
Envelopes blanks cut with a knife from sheets (above) have straight edges and gradual curves, while rotary cut envelopes have rougher edges with nicks (below).



Right flap over Left (R/L) Left flap over Right (L/R)



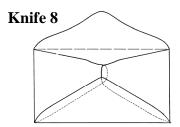
10x magnification



A knife number may be followed by a letter indicating a subtype. The terms used in this catalog are:

- o Open ended envelope
- u Without gum on top flap
- w Window envelope (with number if more than one type)
- x Extra quality paper

Size 3 - 73/77 x 134



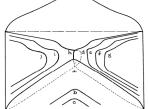
Plimpton-Morgan Knife, right side flap over left, 73 x 134 mm.

Knife 10

Mercantile Knife, left side flap over right, 77 x 134 mm.

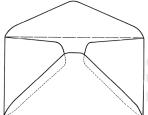
Size 7 - 82/83 x 139





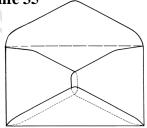
Plimpton-Morgan Knife, tongueshaped top flap, side shapes vary.

Knife 34



Plimpton-Morgan Knife, high back knife, first time sides don't meet.

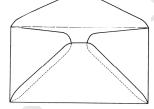
Knife 35



Mercantile Knife, side ends nearly straight, made to match the shape used on web printing machines.

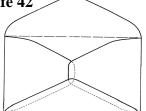
Size 8 - 85 x 149 mm

Knife 41



Plimpton-Morgan Knife, high back knife.

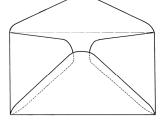
Knife 42



Mercantile Knife, made to match the low back shape required for web printing.

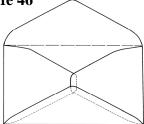
Size 9 - 92 x 149 mm

Knife 45



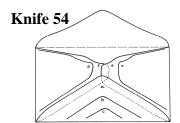
Plimpton-Morgan Knife, high back knife.

Knife 46



Mercantile Knife, made to match the low back shape required for web printing.

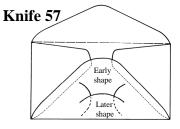
Size 10 - 89 x 160 mm



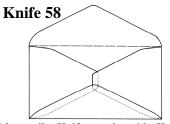
Plimpton-Morgan Knife, moderately deep throat, side flaps with shoulder ¼ distance from end, right side flap over left.

Knife 55

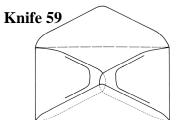
Similar to knife 54 but left side flap over right.



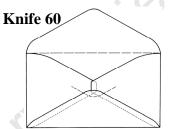
Mercantile Knife, high back knife.



Mercantile Knife, made with Kenny rotary machines, side flaps with square ends (20 mm), rough edges usual.

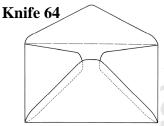


Mercantile Knife, side ends nearly straight, made to match the shape used on web printing machines.

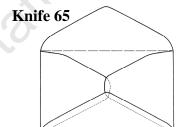


Middle West Envelope Co Knife, made with Smithe rotary machine, side flaps with square ends (15 mm), rough edges usual.

Size 11 - 95 x 160 mm

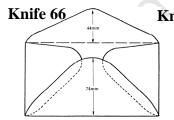


Plimpton-Morgan Knife, high back knife.

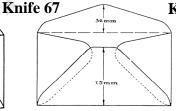


Mercantile Knife, made to match the low back shape required for web printing.

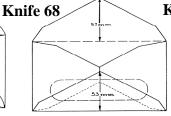
Size 12 - 92 x 165 mm



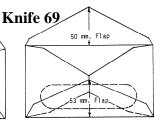
International Env. Co Knife, high back knife, rounded top of bottom flap, top flap 45 mm.



International Env. Co Knife, high back knife, flattened top of bottom flap, top flap 36/37 mm.

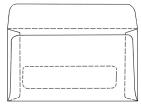


International Env. Co Knife, pointed and angular sides and bottom, top flap 57 mm.



International Env. Co Knife, pointed and angular sides and bottom, top flap 50 mm.

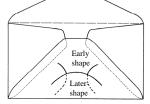




National Envelope Company Knife, wide back and narrow side flaps, 93 x 166 mm.

Size 13 - 95 x 171 mm

Knife 78



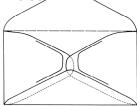
Plimpton-Morgan Knife, also used by International Envelope Co for window fronts from 1949 to 1965.

Knife 79



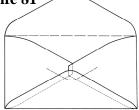
Mercantile Knife, side flaps with square side flap ends (20 mm); rough edges; made with Kenny rotary machine.

Knife 80



Mercantile Knife, made to match shape used on the Kenny rotary machines. Used for solid fronts, 1915-29; window fronts 1915-1949.

Knife 81



Middle West Envelope Co. Knife, side flaps with square side flap ends (15 mm), rough edges; made with Smithe rotary machine.

Size 14 - 90 x 117 mm



Plimpton & Morgan Knife, small baronial size.

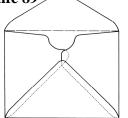
Size 16 - 108 x 132 mm



Plimpton & Morgan Knife, baronial size.

Size 17 - 108 x 140 mm

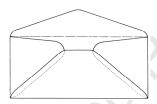
Knife 89



Mercantile Knife, baronial size.

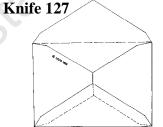
Size 19 - 98 x 190 mm

Knife 91



International Envelope Co Knife, new size 1931, withdrawn 1936.

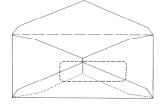
Size 19A - 127 x 190 mm



1988 Christmas issue only. (UPSS # 3728)

Size 19B - 91 x 201 mm

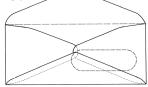
Knife 126



Official mail window envelope for Savings Bonds.

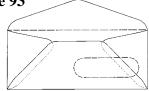
Size 20 - 92 x 219 mm

Knife 92



Middle West Envelope Co. Knife, very deep throat, low back envelope.

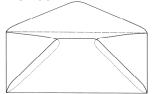
Knife 93



International Envelope Co. Knife, high back envelope.

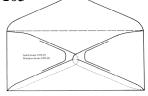
Size 21 - 98 x 225 mm

Knife 100



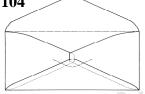
Plimpton Knife & U.S. Envelope Co Knife, used for window fronts after 1949, high back.

Knife 103



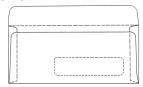
Middle West Envelope Co. Knife, intended to duplicate shape of Smithe rotary machine.

Knife 104



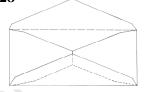
Middle West Envelope Co Knife, rough edges, made with Smithe rotary machine.

Knife 104A



National Envelope Company Knife, wide back and narrow side flaps, 98 x 225mm.

Knife 128



U.S. Envelope Company Knife, sharp corners on and bottom top flaps, 98 x 226 mm.

Size 21A - 112 x 226 mm

Knife 129



Passport envelope for Dept of State; very deep throat, sides angular with square ends that meet, top & bottom pointed.

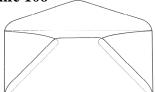
Knife 130



Passport self adhesive envelope for Dept of State; wide back and narrow side flaps.

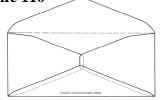
Size 23 - 105/112 x 241 mm

Knife 106



Plimpton & Morgan Knife & International Envelope Company, high back envelope, side flaps top curved with nearly circular tips (12 mm dia.), bottom flap is 95 mm tall. 105 x 241 mm.

Knife 110



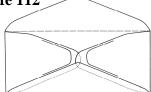
Mercantile Knife, rough edges; with square side flap ends (20 mm); made with the Kenny rotary machine. 105 x 241 mm.

Knife 111



Middle West Knife, rough edges usual; with square side flap ends (15 mm); made with Smithe rotary machine. 105 x 241 mm.

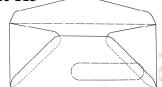
Knife 112



Middle West Envelope Co. Knife, intended to duplicate the shape of the Kenny rotary machine.

105 x 241 mm.

Knife 113



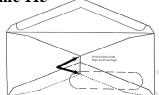
International Envelope Co. Knife, corners on top flap, high back (85 mm), compare to Knives 106 and 116, used for envelopes 3501A and 3501B only. 110 x 241 mm.

Knife 114



U.S. Envelope Co. Knife, side flaps with straight ends 28 to 30 mm. 110 x 241 mm.

Knife 115



International Envelope Co. Knife, side flaps with straight ends 25 mm long. 110×241 mm.

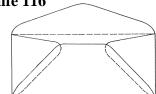
Knife 115A



National Envelope Company Knife, wide back and narrow side flaps.

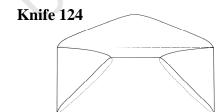
112 x 246 mm.

Knife 116



International Envelope Co. Knife, used for all size 23 envelopes from 1950 to 1964, except in 1961 when knife 113 was used, side flaps slightly concave with large rounded tips (19 mm dia.), bottom flap is 88 mm tall. 105 x 241 mm.

Size 25 - 111 x 257 mm

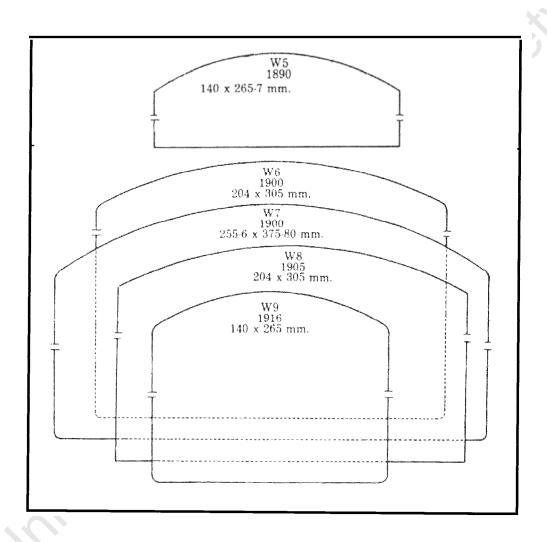


Plimpton & Morgan Knife, high back.

Knives are listed by knife number. In addition to size categories, check the listed knife number below to find those knife illustrations.

Knife Number	Knife Size
126	19B
127	19A
128	21
129	21A
130	21A

Wrapper Sizes

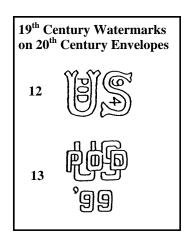


resi	** **	· TIDOO	TT .C	
Inorn	Knite	to HPSS	Knite	Conversion

UPSS Knife to Thorp Knife Conversion

Thorp Knife to UPSS Knife Conversion						UPSS Knife to Thorp Knife Conversion														
Tho	•		PSS		(mm)		(inch	,	Issue	UPSS	3	The	orp	size	(mm)		size	(in	ches)	Issue
Knife	Size	Knife	Size	height	x width	height	ΧV	/ idth	Date	Knife	Size	Knife	Size	height	x width	n hei	ght	Χ	width	Date
46	1	8	3	73	x 134	2-7/8	x 5	-1/4	1878	8	3	46	1	73	x 134	2-	-7/8	χ	5-1/4	1878
48	3	31	7	83	x 139	3-1/4	x 5	-1/2	1878	10	3	65 8	a 1	73	x 134	2-	-7/8	Х	5-1/4	1907
50	5	54	10	89	x 160	3-1/2	x 6	-5/16	1878	31	7	48	3		x 139			Х	5-1/2	1878
51	7	100	21	98	x 225	3-7/8	x 8	-7/8	1874	34	, 7	79	2		x 139			Х	5-1/2	1900
59	Н	106			x 241	4-1/8			1890	35	7	94	2		x 139				5-1/2	1912
59	Н	116			x 241	4-1/8			1890									Х		
61	1	124			x 257	4-3/8			1890	41	8	80	3		x 149		-3/8	Х	5-7/8	1900
										42	8	92	3		x 149		-3/8	Х	5-7/8	1912
65 a		10			x 134	2-7/8			1907	45	9	84	4	92	x 149		-5/8	X	5-7/8	1900
68	5		10		x 160	3-1/2			1894	46	9	95	4	92	x 149	3-	-5/8	X	5-7/8	1912
79	2	34			x 139	3-1/4			1900	54	10	50	5	89	x 160	3-	-1/2	Х	6-5/16	1878
80	3		8		x 149	3-3/8			1900	55	10	68	5	89	x 160	3-	-1/2	Χ	6-5/16	1894
81	5	57	10	89	x 160	3-1/2	x 6	-5/16	1900	57	10	81	5	89	x 160	3-	-1/2	Х	6-5/16	1900
82	11	88	16	108	x 132	4-1/4	x 5	-3/16	1900	58	10	87	5	89	x 160	3.	-1/2	Х	6-5/16	1912
83	13	78	13	95	x 171	3-3/4	x 6	-3/4	1900	59	10	90	5		x 160				6-5/16	1913
84	4	45	9	92	x 149	3-5/8	x 5	-7/8	1900	60	10	99	5		x 160				6-5/16	1915
85	10	84	14	90	x 117	3-1/2	x 4	-5/8	1900	64	11	86	14		x 160				6-5/16	1900
86	14	64	11		x 160	3-3/4	x 6	-5/16	1900											
87	5		10		x 160	3-1/2			1912	65	11	93	14		x 160				6-5/16	1912
88	11		17		x 140	4-1/4			1912	66	12	107	6.8		x 165				6-1/2	1960
89	13	79			x 171	3-3/4			1912	67	12	108	6.8		x 165		-5/8		6-1/2	1960
										68	12	110	6.8	92	x 165	3-	-5/8	Χ	6-1/2	1965
90	5		10		x 160	3-1/2			1913	69	12	112	6.8	92	x 165	3-	-5/8	Х	6-1/2	1974
91	8	110			x 241	4-1/8			1912	70	12	NL	NL	93	x 166	3-	-5/8	Х	6-1/2	2008
92	3	42			x 149	3-3/8			1912	78	13	83	13	95	x 171	3-	-3/4	Х	6-3/4	1900
93	14	65		95	x 160	3-3/4	x 6	-5/16	1912	79	13	89	13	95	x 171	3.	-3/4	Х	6-3/4	1912
94	2	35	7	82	x 139	3-1/4	x 5	-1/2	1912	80	13	98	13		x 171		-3/4		6-3/4	1914
95	4	46	9	92	x 149	3-5/8	x 5	-7/8	1912	81	21	101	13		x 171		-3/4		6-3/4	1915
96	7	103	21	98	x 225	3-7/8	x 8	-7/8	1921	84	14	85	10		x 117		-1/2		4-5/8	1900
97	8	111	23	105	x 241	4-1/8	x 9	-1/2	1965											
98	13	80	13	95	x 171	3-3/4	x 6	-3/4	1914	88	16	82	11		x 132				5-3/16	1900
99	5	60			x 160	3-1/2			1915	89	17	88	11		x 140		-1/4	Χ	5-1/4	1912
101	13	81			x 171	3-3/4			1915	91	19	105	7.5		x 190		-7/8	Х	7-1/2	1931
102	8	112			x 241	4-1/8			1915	92	20	103	6	92	x 219		-5/8	Χ	8-5/8	1929
102	6	92			x 219	3-5/8			1929	93	20	106	6	92	x 219	3-	-5/8	Х	8-5/8	1949
										100	21	51	7	98	x 225	3-	-7/8	Χ	8-7/8	1874
104	7	104			x 225	3-7/8			1916	103	21	96	7	98	x 225	3-	-7/8	Х	8-7/8	1921
105	8	91			x 190	3-7/8			1931	104	21	104	7	98	x 225	3-	-7/8	Х	8-7/8	1916
106	6	93			x 219	3-5/8			1949	104A	21	NL	NL		x 230		-7/8		9	2008
107	7	66		92	x 165	3-5/8	x 6	-1/2	1960	106	23	59	Н		x 241		-1/8		9-1/2	1890
108	7	67	12	92	x 165	3-5/8	x 6	-1/2	1960	110	23	91	8		x 241		-1/8		9-1/2	1912
109	10(8)	113	23	110	x 241	4-1/4	x 9	-1/2	1961		23								9-1/2	1965
110	7	68	12	92	x 165	3-5/8	x 6	-1/2	1965	111		97	8		x 241		-1/8			
111	10	114	23	110	x 241	4-1/4	x 9	-1/2	1965	112	23	102	8		x 241		-1/8		9-1/2	1915
112	7	69	12		x 165	3-5/8			1974	113	23	109	10(8)		x 241		-1/4		9-1/2	1961
113	10	115			x 241	4-1/8			1973	114	23	111	10	110	x 241	4-	-1/4	Χ	9-1/2	1965
						, 0	,, ,	.,_	.,,,	115	23	113	10	110	x 241	4-	-1/4	Х	9-1/2	1973
										115A	23	NL	NL	112	x 246	4-	-3/8	Χ	9-3/4	2008
										116	23	59	8(H)	105	x 241	4-	1/8	Х	9-1/2	1890
										124	25	61	9(I)		x 257				10-1/8	1890
										126	19B	NL	NL		x 201				8-15/16	1987
										127	19A	NL	NL		x 190		-1/2		5	1988
										128	21	NL	NL		x 226		-7/8		9	1989
										129	21A	NL	NL		x 226		3/8		9	1990
										130	21A	NL	NL	112	x 226	4-	-3/8	Χ	9	2008

20th Century Watermark Illustrations





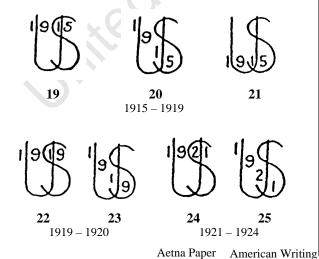


The '9' of 15A is thicker, has a smaller, round circle at top and the stem curves around under the '1' unlike the '9' of 15; bottom of vertical line of '7' curves right on wmk 15.



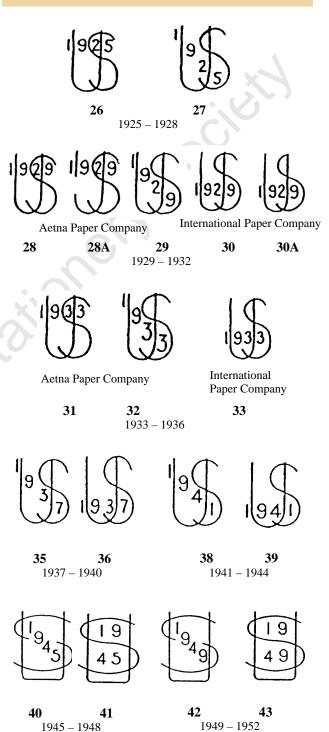
Watermarks 17 & 18 are more widely spaced than shown.

Previous watermarks (18 & prior) on laid paper while following watermarks (19 & after) are on wove paper.



Company

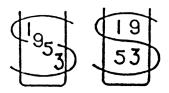
For more information on watermarks see Bill Geijsbeek, Postal Stationery Vols. 55(5) pp 292-293, 303 Sept Oct 2013 and 55(6) p 341 Nov Dec 2013 .

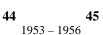


Watermarks 34 & 37 were assigned but never issued.

Paper Company

20th Century Watermarks







46 1957 – 1961



International Paper Co. 1961 to 1965 High back envelopes only Champion Paper Co. 1967 to 1987 Low-back envelopes only

Some have labeled the Champion paper watermark as 47A since the star was larger (20 versus 16 mm across) and the "A" was smaller across the base (14 versus 18 mm). This catalog uses 47 for both because no die was issued with both watermarks.



48 Howard Paper Co. 1961 to 1968

USA☆

P.H Glatfelter Paper Co. 1970 to 1990

Rubber plate watermark rather than dandy roll watermark as all previous; larger star than watermark 48.



49 Oxford Paper Co. 1965 to 1970, 1972

USA

49A Oxford Paper Co. 1970 to 1992

Watermark 49A has a more square bottom of "U" and larger star than watermark 49.



50 Crown-Zellerbach Paper Co. 1965 to 1967 **50A** Westvaco, 1985 to 1992

The Westvaco watermark 50 is 6 mm taller, the star is larger and the bottom of the "U" is more square.



51 WESTVACO 1991 to early 1992 Used only on Savings Bond envelopes.

For more information on 20th Century watermarks see Bill Geijsbeek, 20th Century Watermarks - Overview. *Postal Stationery* Vol 51(2) pp 34-37. 2009.

Recycled Logo Type Illustrations

Societa





Printed under flap

Type B



Printed lower right on back

Type C



Type D



Printed on bottom flap in two lines

Type E



Printed on bottom flap in two lines

Type F

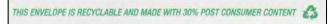


Printed on center of bottom flap in one line.

Type G as Type F, printed on top, right side flap in one line (hidden when flap closed).

Type H as Type F printed on the left of the bottom flap in one line.

Type I



Printed on the left of the bottom flap in one line. Logo appears after text.

Type J



With Sustainable Forestry Initiative logo

Type K



As J but with recycle logo ahead of text

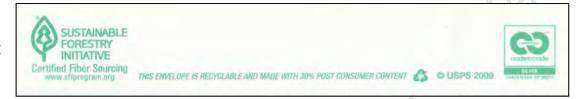
Type L



As K but with Cradle-to-Cradle logo between SFI logo and text

Note: The Sustainable Forest Initiative images on Recycle Logos Type J and L for the earlier issues of Seabiscuit and Liberty Bell vary in height according to the size of the envelope - Size 12 = 16 mm, size 21 = 18 mm and size 23 = 20 mm. All subsequent issues are printed with a SFI logo height of 16 mm.

Type M



As L but with Cradle-to-Cradle logo at right

Type N



As M but with copyright year of 2011

Type O



As N but without Cradle-to-Cradle logo

Type P



As O but with copyright year of 2012

Type Q



As P but with copyright year of 2013

Recycled Logos Continued

Type R



As Q but with copyright year of 2014

Type S



As R but with SFI logo replaced by FSC logo (new paper supplier) with copyright year of 2012

Type T



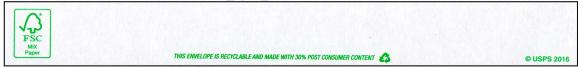
As S but with copyright year of 2013

Type U



As S but with copyright year of 2015

Type V



As S but with copyright year of 2016

Type W



As T but with FSC logo including number of paper supplier

Type X



As W but with FSC logo with copyright year of 2016

Type Y



As X but with FSC logo with copyright year of 2019