Akron Machine Cancels
Types Covered

- International Supply Co.
- Barry Postal Supply Co.
- American Postal Machine Co.
- Universal Stamping Machine Co.
- Pitney Bowes Facer Cancellers
- Spray Markings
- (IJC) Ink Jet Cancels
- Flat Cancels
Before 1894 all the mail handled in Akron was hand cancelled.
The PO contracted with International to provide machines to larger cities to efficiently face and cancel mail. Akron used these machines in 1894 & 1895 and later beginning in 1902. The 1894 dial measures 18mm and the dial size was increased to 20mm in 1895 both dial using the seven bar killer.
In 1895, the Barry Postal supply Co. was awarded a contract by the PO to supply machines which were cheaper and faster than the International machines. These machines were used from 1898 until 1902. Three different dial styles, seven different city date town marks and three different killers combined make eleven different cancellation combinations.
Die F used from 1896 to 1898 with Type 2 angled killers with #1 machine number. Three types of fonts used for Akron, Ohio.

Die O for “oval” with Type 2 angled killer with #1 machine number. Used in 1898 & 1899.
Die L was used from 1899 to 1902 with four type fonts for Akron Ohio. From 1899 to 1901 Type 5 killers were used. Die L with Type 6 killers used from 1901 to 1902.
Type F Fonts

Type L Fonts
Time & date slugs removed for third class use.

Time
Slug
Inverted
The international postal Supply Co. canceling machines returned to use in 1902 until 1917. The postmark consisted of a 20mm dial with a seven wavy line killer, machine number and service letter.

The service letters used denotes the following:

C - Collection
D - Delivery
T - Transit
R - Received
The American Postal Machine Co. was the canceling machine maker whose machines were identified in the postal service by Flag cancellation impressions they produced. The Akron post office branches used these machines from 1911 to 1920. Two dial styles were used with the year straight or split at the bottom of the dial.
Fidelity Mutual Life Ins. Co

West End St.
She Pa

Station name change.
The Universal Stamping Machine Co. was established in 1908 with the Post Office Department leasing 60 machines. By 1920, about 200 machines were in use in the US and Canada. Universal was assimilated into the Pitney Bowes Co. in 1920, which still produces postal machines today. Dial styles came in two sizes with four types of canceller dies.
## Types of Dials by Size

Per Machine Cancel Society nomenclature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type B</td>
<td>22 1/2 - 23mm</td>
<td>1916-1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type D</td>
<td>20-21 mm</td>
<td>1955-1967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type Rz</td>
<td>20-21mm</td>
<td>1976 -1981</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Stamps representing different types of dials](image-url)
## Types Engraved Dials

| T: Town at the top, state at the bottom | SB: Town & state at the top; station name at the bottom | #L: Machine number appears in the dial to the left |

| ![Image](image1.png) | ![Image](image2.png) | ![Image](image3.png) |
Type R Dial

This dial is characterized by the zip code in the dial.

Zip replaced with the letter “A”
## Types of Cancellations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type 200</th>
<th>Type 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 wavy lines / 2 full waves</td>
<td>7 wavy lines two bars broken</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type 400</th>
<th>Type 500</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Image" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station or Slogan</td>
<td>7 wavy lines / 1 full wave</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Universal Machine #2
22 mm dial
7 wavy lines cancellation

(BT2L 500)

20 mm dial
6 wavy lines Cancellation

(BT 2012) Short wavy line cancellation

Inverted Dial
Boxed Slogan Cancels  (BT1 400)

Slogan cancels began to appear in the 1920’s. These are the known types used in Akron during this period.
Akron Postal Stations

- North Hill Station
- West Akron Station
- East Akron Station
- Goodrich Station
- Firestone Park Station
- Grace Park Station
- MAIN POST OFFICE

CITY OF AKRON
WITH MARGINAL INDEX GUIDE TO STREETS
PUBLISHED BY
The Rectigraph, Abstract & Title Co.
Akron, Ohio.
Grace Park Station

Grace Park Sta. in dial with seven wavy line killer. (BSB 400)
Grace Park Station

Two canceller dials were used #1 & #2. #2 dials are illustrated. Four sizes of boxed killers were used and were interchangeable with the dials.

Top: 30mm Box
Bottom: 25 ½ mm box with large Grace Park font.

Top: 21mm box
Bottom: 25 ½ mm box canceller with small Grace Park font.
Firestone Park Station

Top: Firestone Park Sta. in dial and 24mm box canceller.
Bottom: No station in dial. 24mm box canceller

Top: 32mm box canceller
Bottom: 42 mm box canceller
East Akron Station

25mm box canceller

28mm box canceller

35mm box canceller
Goodrich Street Station
Dial Varieties

Dial 1: GOODRICH STREET
STA. O. for state.

Dial: 2 GOODRICH ST. STA.
OHIO for state.

Dial 3: GOODRICH ST. STA.
Period after OHIO

Dial 4: GOODRICH ST. STA.
small font. No period after OHIO
International Resurrected

Kenmore Station

Machine resurrected and used at the Kenmore branch of the Akron post office. Note the large comma after Akron and seven bar canceller identifying the branch.

Green canceling ink.
Universal : National Bond Slogans
Air-Mail Saves Time

Universal Machine Cancel Model G, with (machine) 3 in dial.

_Air Mail Saves Times_ Used at Akron, March 1, 1939 ONLY for special event: First Flight AM No. 1 at Akron.

Also, this monoplane design was used in Ohio for this event and at no other time or Ohio city!
Machine Numbers Type D dial 20-21mm
Zone Slogans

Holiday Slogans
Charity Slogans
Local Slogans
1970’s

EJ Thomas Hall

Akron Sesquicentennial
Pitney Bowes Facer Cancellers

Facer canceller machines used phosphor recognition technology to face letters so that the canceller would see the stamp for cancellation. Stamps were coated (tagged) with phosphorus for recognition. Postmark and cancellation dies were interchangeable with Universal machines. “A” & “B” facer cancellers with Pitney Bowes postmark dials. “1A”, “2B”, ect. in the dials identifies the canceller heads. Period of use 12/67 to 4/72.
National Slogans
Pitney Bowes Dials
US Postal Service Dial

Facer Canceller dials

Universal Dial
Pitney Bowes Stamp
Collecting National Slogans
1990’s
The Spartan Mission was a mission to observe Halley's Comet in ultraviolet. The experiment and spacecraft were prepared for flight in just 14 months. It launched on STS-51-L January 1986. Spartan Halley was lost in the Challenger accident.
Pitney Bowes
Local Slogans
1990’s
Pitney Bowes Stamp Collecting National Slogans with 5 digit Zip Code in Dial
Pitney Bowes
Greetings Slogans with 5 digit Zip Code in Dial
Spray Markings

The original purpose of spray on markings was to provide correct dates on metered mail dated in advance of when it was actually mailed.
The real purpose of these markings was to give control of how long it took to process mail and to identify slow parts of the processing system.

Cancelled : April 15, 1992
Processed : April 16, 1992

Akron used three machines as designated by (O) Optical (C) Character (R) Reader numbers 1 through 3. Varieties are numerous consisting mainly of punctuation, word spacing and dates. Period of use 1990-1998
(IJC) Ink Jet Cancel

Machine numbers are located after the date with the letter “T” or “L”. There are two print heads on each machine. The “T” or “L” indicates which of the two heads had delivered the cancel. “T” is for the trailing print head and “L” is for the leading print head.

Two types of cancellers were used: Six wavy lines and four wavy lines. Four wavy lines were used as a temporary workaround to solve a defect in the print engine.
Leading & trailing printing heads machines 1 to 5
Holiday Cancels

Snowman 2005-2006

Concave Happy Holiday 2006-2009

Wavy Happy Holidays 2007-2009

Kermit the Frog “A Muppets Christmas Letter for Santa” ERP 12/2/09

“Happy Holidays usps.com”
ERP 11/30/10
Slogan Cancels
March is Red Cross Month

“Let us dare to read, think, speak and write.” John Adams, 1765 Poweroftheletter.com

2010 Census Mail it Back

Never Stop Looking For Missing Children
Merged Units

In an economy move, the USPS merged the Canton and Akron postal and distribution units to the Akron center. Both operations are in the same postal district. The new postmark reflects the combining of postal operations.

In an effort to further reduce costs, mail from the Akron postal unit is transported on the weekends to Cleveland for processing. Note the cancellation date is June 5 which is a Saturday.
Flats Machine Cancels: Stacked Dials

Canceling machines have been modified to cancel flats in two ways. These examples show the stacked dial modification. Two different dials are used with out regard to dial numbers are paired to cancel flats. One dial always appears dateless.
Flats Machine Cancels: Repeater

Repeater canceller machine operates by disabling the cycle mechanism so the machine cancels continuously across the mail piece. Again there is no regard to the use of dials.
Flats Machine Cancels: Tire Tracks

Tracks are made by long strips of rubber tread segments placed in grooves around a cylindrical canceling head. The canceling cylinder is mounted on a vertical axis and the flats are moved by belts past the canceller up side down on their top edge in a manner like most canceling machine. The diameter of the canceling head gives a repeat length of 18".
Flats Machine Cancels: Ink Jet Cancel

Typical flat format: City + zip first line; day of the week + date & time on second line

AKRON- CANTON 442 TUE MAR 22 2010 PM
Odds & Ends
Review

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