

Expanded IPC SMMS Programme keeps up the good work

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“2023 Results include new Participants Íslandspóstur and Malta Post – Posts participating in the IPC SMMS programme increased their Sustainability Management Proficiency score by almost 5% in 2023 – Posts have increased the share of alternative fuel vehicles in their fleet to 27.9% – Posts collectively saved 39% of CO2 emissions since 2008

Brussels, 14 November – On 8 November, the IPC Board approved the 2023 results of the IPC Sustainability Measurement and Management System (SMMS)¹.

The results show a solid increase in the overall Sustainability Management Proficiency (SMP) score for all the posts participating in the programme; with Íslandspóstur and Malta Post joining the SMMS programme in 2023, data from 2008 to 2022 has been restated. Posts are making good progress towards their 2030 targets regarding CO2 emissions reduction, renewable energy use, alternative fuel vehicles and waste separation for recycling or reuse. The SMMS results are published in IPC’s annual Postal Sector Sustainability Results, available as an [online-only report](#).

Holger Winklbauer, IPC Chief Executive Officer commented: “The SMMS programme is a true success story of posts collaborating towards a global common goal. We are delighted to see more and more posts want

to take part in this initiative, demonstrating their willingness to work together to reduce their carbon footprint and their motivation to learn from each other. The SMMS programme keeps evolving and improving, and the postal collaboration shows the power we have as a group to act together towards a sustainable future.”

Continuous improvements towards 2030 joint targets

As part of their collective 2030 targets, posts on five continents participating in the SMMS programme strive to have 75% of energy used in their buildings originating from renewable sources, 50% of their vehicle fleet composed of alternative fuel vehicles, with at least 25% of the total fleet to be electric vehicles, and 75% of group waste to be recycled or reused.

The group has successfully increased its use of renewable electricity from 14% of total electricity use in 2012 to 36% in 2023. The SMMS group has grown its collective alternative fuel vehicle fleet from 65,000 (12% of total vehicles) in 2012 to 182,000

(27,90%) in 2023, and 144,000 (22%) are now Electric vehicles (EVs).

In 2023, the group reused or recycled an impressive 69% of total non-hazardous waste, a 14% increase since 2019, and moving positively towards the 75% target. Postal operators continue to reduce CO₂ emissions

In 2023, posts reported a 39% reduction in annual Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions compared to a 2008 baseline. Since 2008, the group's cumulative reduction in scope 1 and 2 emissions now equals 31.7 million tonnes CO₂. For full scope 1,2 and 3 reporting please refer to the online report. In 2020, a new 2030 target was set for absolute carbon emissions – to reduce collective scope 1 and 2 emissions by 50% compared to a 2019 baseline. In 2023, posts reported a 12.0% decrease in emissions compared to 2019. This was great progress for the group as they recorded a 6.8% decrease at the end of 2022. This equates to more than 700,000 tonnes of CO₂.

The Sustainability Measurement and Management System (SMMS)

The IPC SMMS programme was launched in 2019 to address the sustainability objectives of the postal sector for the next ten years, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It expands on the 2009-2019 Environmental Measurement and Monitoring System (EMMS) programme,

which focused on reducing carbon emissions, and broadens the remit to the seven sustainability focus areas most relevant for the postal sector: Health and safety, Learning and development, Resource efficiency, Climate change, Air quality, Circular economy and Sustainable procurement. These focus areas are aligned with the following UN SDGs, identified by our stakeholders and SMMS participants as most relevant to the postal sector:

SDG 8 - Decent work and economic growth

SDG 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure

SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities

SDG 12 - Responsible consumption and production

SDG 13 - Climate action

As such, the SMMS programme is designed to further the postal sector's contribution to global sustainable development, focusing on the areas in which it can have the most impact.

¹ In reporting year 2023, participating posts were: An Post, Austrian Post, Australian Postal Corp, bpost, Correos, Croatian Post, CTT Portugal Post, DHL Group, Íslandspóstur, La Poste Groupe, Malta Post, New Zealand Post Group, POST Luxembourg, Poste Italiane, Posten Bring, Posti, PostNL, Omniva, Pos Malaysia, PostNord Denmark, PostNord Sweden, Royal Mail Group Ltd., South African

Post Office, Swiss Post, United States Postal Service.

About International Post Corporation

International Post Corporation (IPC) is the leading service provider of the global postal industry that provides leadership by driving service quality, interoperability and business-critical intelligence to support posts in defending existing business and expanding into new growth areas. It is a cooperative association of 26 postal operators in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America.

IPC's solutions and services are used by over 190 member and non-member posts worldwide. Since 1989 IPC has set standards for upgrading quality and service performance and developed technological solutions that help posts enhance service for international letters, packets and parcels. IPC engages in industry research, creates

business-critical intelligence, provides a range of platforms and programmes for member post CEOs and senior management to exchange best practices and discuss strategy. IPC also manages the system for incentive-based payments between postal operators. Throughout the COVID-19 crisis, IPC has positioned itself as a crucial coordination platform between posts worldwide and put in place operational solutions to ensure the continuity of cross-border mail flows.

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