StarShip – USPS Endicia Interface

We are excited to offer another USPS shipping solution that will give you more functionality than ever before. This document provides further detail on StarShip's Endicia interface, benefits and frequently asked questions.

What/Who is Endicia?
Endicia provides a service to manage postage and print complete postage-paid shipping labels for domestic and international mail.

V-Technologies leverages the latest web service technology to make Endicia functionality available through the familiar StarShip user interface.

How does this interface differ from the USPS (manifesting) solution?
You can now print postage directly on the shipping label, eliminating the need to manifest or manually add postage. Unlike manifesting, there are no minimum volume requirements. Other added features include:
- Commercial discounts expanded to include Express Mail
- International
- APO/FPO shipments
- Integrated forms (Customs Forms, Delivery and Signature Confirmation and Certified Mail)
- Stealth (hidden) postage
- Address correction
- Third Party Insurance
- Pickup requests
- SCAN Form – (Bulk Acceptance SCAN)
- No costs associated to permit
- No USPS certification, inspections or audits

Benefits of Endicia
Convenient and efficient processing
- Print postage directly on your shipping label (ramp ready / pre-paid labels)
- Print International labels including customs forms and round date stamp

Cost Savings
- Discount pricing
    - 4.7% average off Priority Mail
    - 5.0% off Express Mail
    - 5% off Priority Mail International
    - 8% off Express Mail International
  Note: Endicia also supports Commercial Plus Pricing for those who qualify or enter into an agreement with USPS. For more information visit Endicia.com.
- Delivery Confirmation
    - Priority Mail: Free vs. $0.70 Retail
    - Other qualifying services: $0.19 vs. $0.80 Retail
- Signature Confirmation
    - $1.95 vs. $2.35 Retail

How will this change my current shipping process?

Interfacing to Endicia will be transparent to the user. USPS shipments are entered into StarShip from the Ship screen using any available data source, just like shipments for other carriers. When a USPS shipment is saved, the shipment is sent to the Endicia servers for postage payment, a shipping label and documentation.

During End-of-Day Close, StarShip can send a pickup request and print the SCAN form.

Following is a list of supported services via the Endicia interface:

Domestic:

First-Class Mail

Parcel Post

Priority Mail

Express Mail

Media Mail

International:

First-Class Mail International

Priority Mail International

Express Mail International

Optional services:

Certified Mail

Delivery & Signature Confirmation

Return Receipt (Electronic)

Nonmachinable

Date Advance

Insured Mail

Saturday/Holiday Delivery (Express Mail)

Signature Waiver (Express Mail)

Customs Forms (2976 & 2976A)

Address Correction

Carrier Pickup Request

SCAN

Limitations:
- Currently the USPS does not allow Signature Confirmation to be used for APO/FPO addresses. Delivery Confirmation is restricted for APO/FPO destinations.

Endicia Service Plans

Plan	Price	Notes
Professional	$34.95/mo.	Includes all features and services listed above
Premium	$15.95/mo.	Designed for companies that don't require a SCAN form or Pickup Request

FAQ's:
1. What version of StarShip supports Endicia?
   StarShip 9.9.7, build 20090220

2. I want to continue using the USPS manifesting functionality AND implement Endicia. What are my options?
   You will need to purchase the Endicia module.

3. I don't have a StarShip/USPS license, how can I begin to take advantage of Endicia functionality?
   You will need to purchase the Endicia module.

4. Are there any other costs involved with using the Endicia module?
   Endicia charges a monthly fee for their service (see service plans above).

5. The Endicia web site shows other service plans, what's the deal?
   All quoted service plans on endicia.com require a desktop application that only supports USPS. StarShip utilizes the Endicia Label Server which is a completely different technology. This allows you to extend StarShip to support Endicia while continuing to provide all of its benefits (plug-and-play interfaces, multi-carrier rating).

6. Can I receive the Endicia 30-day free trial?
    Yes, Endicia will provide StarShip customers with a 30-day free trial.

7. I already have an Endicia account through DAZzle, can I use this in conjunction with StarShip?
    No. As required by the USPS, new account numbers must be created that are specific to the Endicia Label Server.
    Creating an account can easily be done within StarShip.

8. Will I get the same rates as I would through USPS online or Endicia DAZzle?
    Yes, StarShip's Endicia module will give you the same postage rates as USPS Click-N-Ship and Endicia DAZzle.

9. What are the requirements for submitting a refund for misprints or unused mail pieces?
    All labels* printed using the Label Server qualify for electronic refund. StarShip will automatically submit a refund
    request when you edit or delete a previously processed package. To qualify, the item cannot be scanned by the
    USPS and must be requested within 10 days of printing. More detail at Endicia.com.

    *International First Class Mail label refunds must be submitted as Physical Proof.

10. Do I need any special hardware?
    Endicia labels include a 2-D barcode; therefore, you will need a thermal label printer that supports these barcodes.
    In some cases a firmware upgrade may be required. UPS and FedEx branded printers may not support a firmware
    upgrade, please check with the carrier for options. More Endicia printing notes at vtechnologies.com.

11. Is there anything special procedure for submitting a pickup request?
    A pickup must be scheduled prior to 2 AM EST the day of the pickup. If you request a pickup during the end-of-day
    close process, your pickup will be scheduled for the following business day. No other forms are required for pickup.

12. What is a SCAN Form?
    The SCAN label is a solution to the common complaint that package status is not available when tracked on
    usps.com. This is because the parcel may not be scanned until several days in the mail stream. More about SCAN at
    Endicia.com.

    This feature links all daily shipments with either Delivery or Signature Confirmation to a single bar-coded form that
    the USPS scans when packages are picked up. When this scan data is uploaded into the postal system that night, all
    your packages will be marked accepted in the USPS tracking system. When your customer verifies the status of their
    package instead of reading that the USPS was electronically notified of the item, your customer will see "The USPS
    accepted this item at Date and Time". Note: Endicia will be adding Express Mail and International Shipments to the
    SCAN form soon.