

## Special Delivery Service in Canada: Forms and Labels 1933-1993

With the introduction of Special Delivery service in Canada in 1898, the Post Office Department used a number of forms and labels to improve the efficiency of this service.

The following forms and labels were introduced into the service throughout the years and were used to distinguish the Special Delivery letters and articles from the regular mail. They will be presented in the order of their reference numbers, i.e. SD 1 to SD 8, from 1933 to 1993. Out of the first 25 years of use only a few of them have been found, hence a 1933 issue of Form SD 4 is the earliest shown here.

The key to identifying them is provided by the **production number** at the bottom of the form. It usually features a form number (SD 4) a quantity printed (300 000) and a date (22-4-36) for April 22, 1936.

Special Delivery service was identified as such until September 1, 1993, when it became known as Xpresspost with its own set of forms and labels. A Special Lettermail service, from July 1989 to December 1990, also appeared simultaneously with Special Delivery. It offered a guaranteed delivery service, a precursor of the Xpresspost service.

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Items of note are bordered in red.

\*PR Represents personal research.

Other forms existed but were intended mainly for internal use by the Post Office Dept. and are not shown here.

Form Production Number →  
SD 4 - 300 000 - 22-4-36

