

August 14, 2006

Omar M. Gonzalez  
Regional Coordinator, Western Region  
APWU, AFL-CIO  
500 Airport Blvd., Suite 450  
Burlingame, CA 94010-1926

Dear Omar:

Santa Ana has been identified as a pilot site for the AFCS Overhaul Program. Overhaul and modification of one of the existing AFCS machines at the Santa Ana P&DC will begin sometime this fall. The intent of the overhaul is to improve the functionality of the AFCS which in turn will result in expanded utilization capability, increase breakouts, reduce jams, enhance throughput and eliminate encode redundancy.

There will be no change in the craft operating the equipment and as soon as we have a specific date for the project to begin we will update you. In the interim, attached for your information and review is a copy of a general handout on the project. If you have any questions, you may contact Linda Shumate at (626) 855-6446.

Gary J. Connely  
Manager, Labor Relations

Attachment

cc: R. Fisher  
K. Lucas  
M. Botello  
D. West  
L. Shumate

To:  Pacific Area Local(s)  
 Western Area Local(s)  
 So. West Area Local(s)

Withholding Info  
 Staffing Issue(s)  
 Status Update  
 Grievance Administration

Please review, take action and reduce issues to writing

Comments

Omar M. Gonzalez, Coordinator

cc: S. Davidson  
NBAs



UNITED STATES  
POSTAL SERVICE

## AFCS 2000

Engineering  
July 31, 2006



### AFCS Overhaul Program

#### Background

- **Original Advanced Facer Cancellor System, AFCS**
  - Contract award – March 29, 1989
  - Deployment – 1990 to 1994
- **Input SubSystem, ISS, Modification**
  - Developed in 1991, based on existing MLOC/ISS modification
  - Deployed – 1995 to 1998
- **Integrated AFCS, IAFCS**
  - Deployed 1998 to 1999
- **Joint USPS and Siemens AFCS Workshop**
  - Initial High Level Design Phase
  - Prototype and Evaluation Phase
  - Production and Deployment Phase



## **AFCS Overhaul Program**

### **AFCS Overhaul Program Background**

- **Initial Focus**
  - *Modernize controls to extend useful life*
  - *Anticipate and circumvent Obsolescence Issues*
    - *Control System (card cages and printed circuit boards)*
    - *Power Supplies*
    - *Indicia Detectors*
    - *Image Lift*
    - *ID Tag Verifiers*
    - *Servo Motors, Singulator and Feeder*
  - *Reduce maintenance effort and costs*
- **Replacement of obsolete components opened opportunities for improvements**

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## **AFCS Overhaul Program**

### **New and Improved Functionality**

<b>Functionality</b>	<b>Benefit</b>
▪ <i>Dual Feed, automatic and manual</i>	▪ <i>Expand utilization of AFCS</i>
▪ <i>Image based indicia detection</i>	▪ <i>IBI detection without FIM</i>
▪ <i>Switchback Module to <u>orient all mail</u> in a single ("lead up") orientation</i>	▪ <i>Edged mail reduces downstream doubles. No "trail" mail to jog.</i>
▪ <i>POSTNET Printer and Verifier, ~91% of mail will have finalized barcode</i>	▪ <i>Eliminate need for OSS processing, encode redundancy</i>
▪ <i>11 Sort Pockets and 1 for bypass</i>	▪ <i>More break-outs at AFCS</i>
▪ <i>Channel Gates</i>	▪ <i>Reduced jams, higher throughput</i>
▪ <i>Improved Mail tracking</i>	▪ <i>Fewer pieces lost after abrupt stops</i>
▪ <i>Improved Monitoring and Reporting</i>	▪ <i>Reduced maintenance time</i>
▪ <i>Fine Cull Adjustments</i>	▪ <i>Keeps automation mail on the AFCS</i>
▪ <i>New Control System</i>	▪ <i>Reduced energy consumption</i>

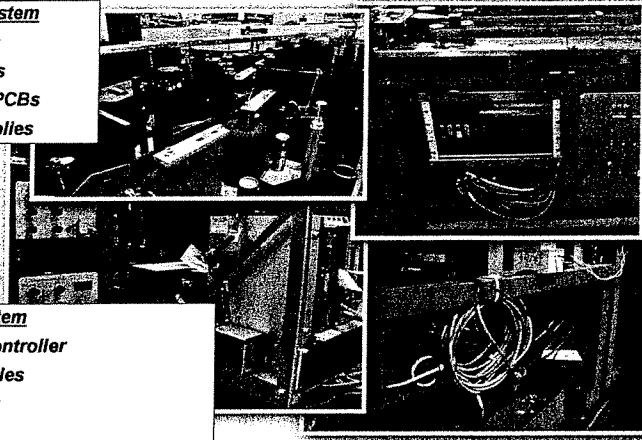
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## AFCS Overhaul Program Improved Control System

### Old Control System

- 5 Card Cages
- 85 main PCBs
- 15 daughter PCBs
- 6 Power Supplies



### New Control System

- 1 Embedded Controller
- 5 PCB Assemblies
- 1 Power Supply

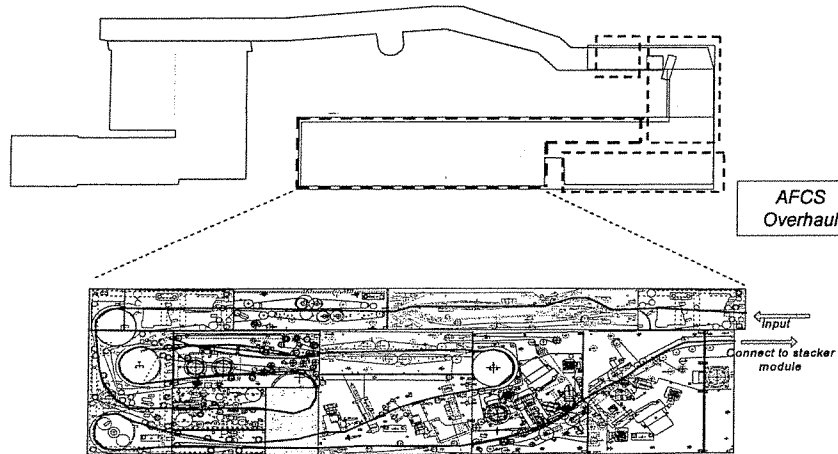
### Provides:

- Improved tracking
- Fewer lost pieces due to abrupt stops

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## AFCS Overhaul Program Portions of AFCS to be Improved

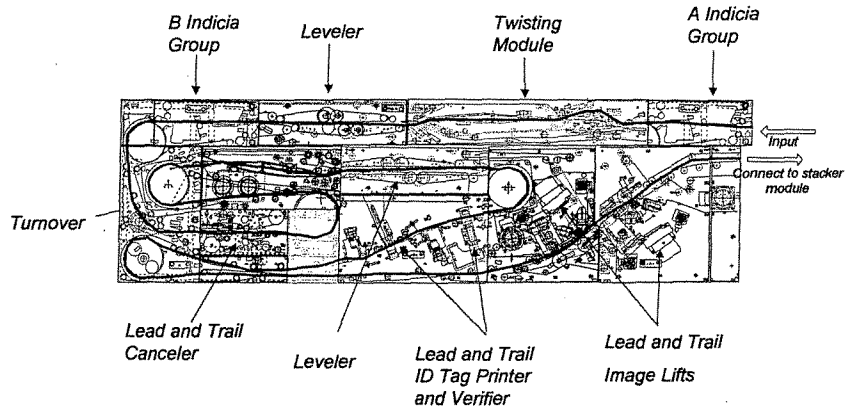


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## AFCS Overhaul Program

### Existing AFCS Enricher Module

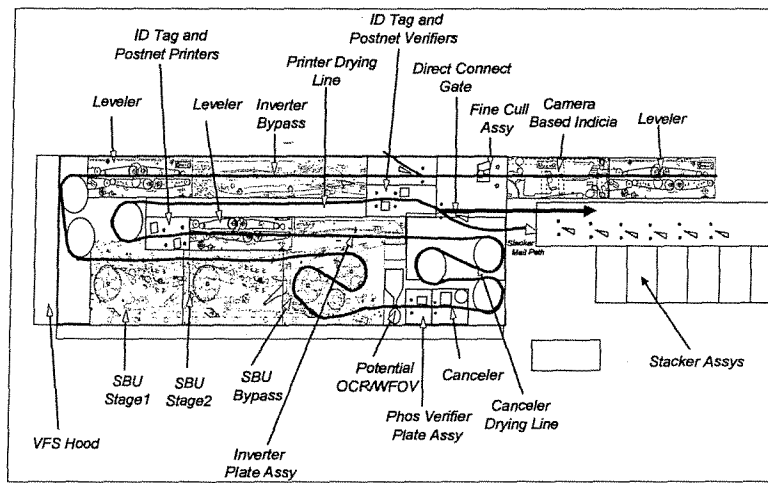


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## AFCS Overhaul Program

### Improved AFCS Enricher Module – Mail Path

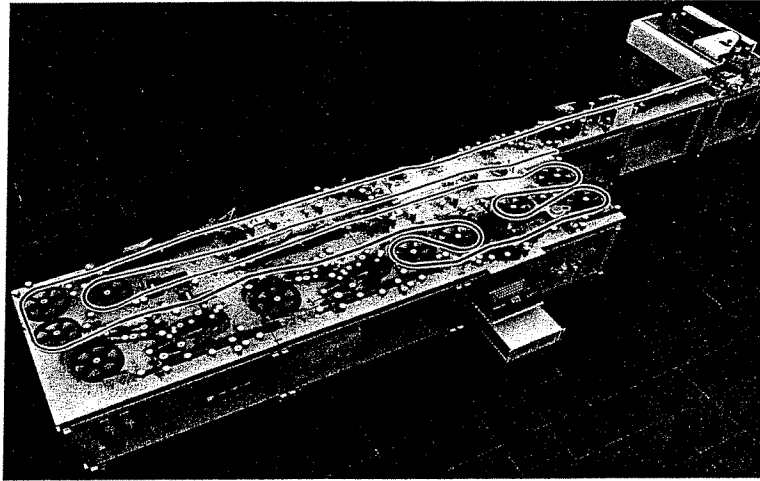


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**AFCS Overhaul Program**

**Improved AFCS Enricher Module**



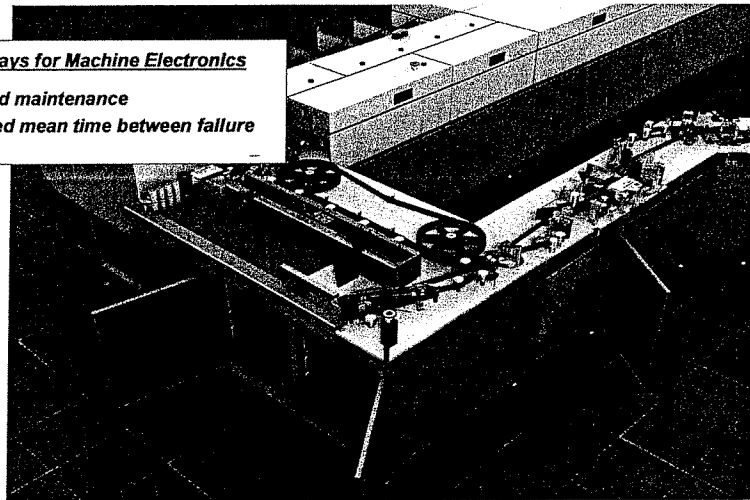
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**AFCS Overhaul Program**

**Dual Feeder Module**

***"Clean" Bays for Machine Electronics***  
*Reduced maintenance*  
*Improved mean time between failure*

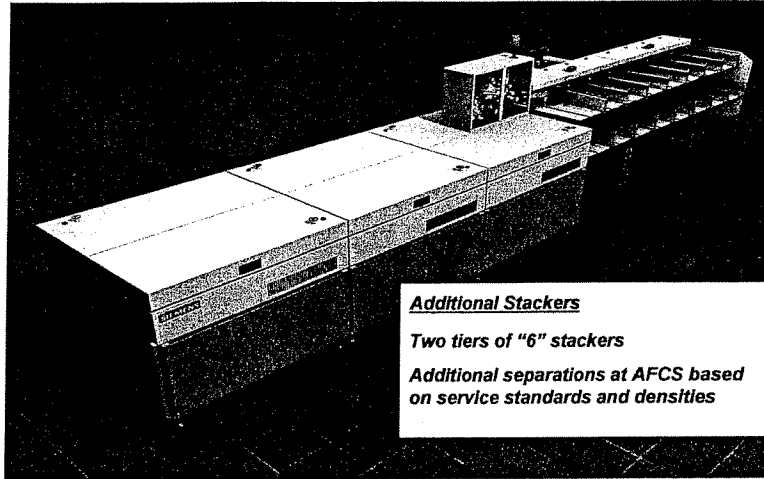


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## **AFCS Overhaul Program**

### **Optional Additional Stackers**



#### **Additional Stackers**

**Two tiers of "6" stackers**

**Additional separations at AFCS based on service standards and densities**

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## **AFCS Overhaul Program**

### **In Summary**

- **Better productivity, less jams, less maintenance time, etc...**
- **Finalized mail will bypass OSSs**
- **Overnight mail could be dispatched from the AFCS**
- **AFCS can emulate MLOCR functions, any tour**
- **Video Facing is now a function of real time processing**
- **Edged mail will help decrease downstream doubles**
- **Decreased downtime and less PM time**

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