

Berne, 7 August 2006

International Bureau Circular

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Croatia - Illegal postage stamp issues

Dear Sir/Madam

The postal administration of **CROATIA** (Croatian Post Inc.) asks me to inform the administrations of UPU member countries of the following:

"Further to IB circular 421 dated 19 December 2005, we draw the attention of UPU member countries, as well as stamp collectors, to the reappearance of the illegal postage stamp issue 'Vis', with a face value of 3.50 HRK.

"The illegal postage stamp issue can be recognized by the following details:

- the perforation is irregular and larger than that of the original issue, which was
 14;
- the colours are more intense than those of the original issue:
- the paper and print protection markings cannot be viewed through an ultraviolet lamp (Croatian postage stamps have fluorescent protection markings incorporated in the paper on which they are printed).

"In accordance with national legislation, items bearing illegal stamps are excluded from the mail flows and handed over to the police. Upon completion of police investigations, such items are forwarded to their destinations inserted in separate envelopes, accompanied by an explanatory notice.

"Please find enclosed examples of the illegal and original stamp issues 'Vis'."

Yours faithfully,

K J S McKEOWN Director of Markets

Annexe

