

Postal alliance growth takes pressure off small business
KPG alliance success extended to new services.

July 2008:

An international alliance of nine national postal administrations has marked the three-year anniversary of its date-certain, guaranteed international Express Mail Service (EMS) by expanding the alliance and paving the way for the launch of new products.

Kahala Posts Group (KPG) is a collaborative network of postal administrations comprising Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Spain, France the United Kingdom the United States and its newest member Singapore Post.

At a meeting held in Port Douglas, Mr Graeme John, managing director of Australia Post and chair of the KPG CEOs board, announced the introduction of Singapore Post to the alliance. Australia Post played a significant role in establishing the alliance in 2002.

The KPG alliance accounts for approximately half of the world's total EMS traffic. With delivery to more than 261 million addresses, 16 billion postcode combinations and service available at more than 142,000 retail locations, KPG provides a powerful network and consistently high delivery standards.

KPG reported growth of 10 per cent in volume for its EMS service year to date. In 2007, revenues exceeded \$853 million with volumes exceeding 22 million items.

"KPG's outstanding success can be attributed to Posts' ability to work together to provide reliable and affordable international services for both consumers and businesses" said Mr John.

"Our customers, particularly small business, are under increasing pressure to find smarter ways to lower their international courier costs during challenging economic times. KPG's strong growth is further evidence that the marketplace has embraced our competitive prices with no hidden charges, reliability on par with private couriers and full end-to-end visibility from entry to delivery," said Mr John.

He said KPG's success in its EMS services provided an opportunity for Posts to improve other services. "KPG has extended its enhanced network to improve the reliability and performance of its Air Mail parcel products. We are committed to ensuring our complete range of international services meets the needs of our customers and we will build on the foundations of our success with new and innovative services in the years ahead"

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