

Comments on the International Postage Meter Stamp Catalog

In the previous *Bulletin* we invited readers of the new catalog to submit reviews. We said that we would publish them as received and unedited. Our goal was to provide some balance to our presentation which could be perceived as self-promoting considering the MSS president and *Bulletin* editor are the authors.

Several readers did submit comments although no one provided a full review. Most comments were favorable which may reflect the ties of friendship rather than a critical examination of the catalog. Some did identify deficiencies. Read on.

- I have now had the opportunity to work with the new International Postage Meter Stamp Catalog, and what a help it was. I was impressed on several counts. The first is how current it is. Checked on a recent Belgian meter I got and sure enough there it was, Type K17. I especially like the pages informing of the lack of reported meters and info on "dead countries or fleeting entries " such as Katanga and Danzig. Wow, what an undertaking this catalog must have been, a real labor of love. For my part, many thanks. It is informative, helpful, quite complete and easy to work with. My only complaints are related to the figures [illustrations]. They are adequate but some are quite light. I suspect that was due to light inking on the samples available. My other complaint is the listing of U.S. types. It is easy to follow but I wish the groupings of the U.S. catalog had been followed exactly. Otherwise, a great job, well done. — Ernest E. Angino
- Received International Meter Catalog last week. Great work from you guys. Couple things re Cayman. There are several types missing I have listed in my book; and it would have been a good idea to list my Cayman Postal History book with Chapter 4 on the meters as additional reference material for reading as I have gone into it more in detail than you do. Cameroons also, M. Bratzel's article in the 7/2003 APS Journal should have been listed as reference reading. — Tom Giraldi. (*Editor's note: I co-authored with Marty Bratzel the referenced Cameroon article. You'd think I would have remembered to cite it, but no.*)
- The catalog is great. It's clear. The few international meters that I come across, I can easily find in this reference book. I like the illustrations and the way it is organized. It is a great job. My congratulations to you both. You must feel very proud to be able to finally complete this huge undertaking. My copy will be well used and dog-eared in no time. A 5-Star *****, gold medal, job well done. Now, you could have earned a 6th star. The one recommendation that I will offer when (and if) you decide to update this catalog, is to include the name of the country either in the header or the footer of each page. — Harold Effner, Jr.
- Your catalog is simply spectacular! Having published a few catalogs myself, I know how much work went into my small ones. I'm astonished to think of how much work yours must have taken. I may, perhaps, have the

honor of being the first to use one of your catalog numbers to describe a lot on eBay - a nice registered cover from the Congo. I think your work will really bring meter stamp collecting into its own. — Terry Hines

- A few days ago I received the International catalog. It is fabulous! My sincere congratulations for this splendid work; the best thing ever done in the field of meters. — Nino Barberis