

## SECTION 8B

# High Values with Improved Security Features

## (A) Small Format Machin Head Gravure Issues with Improved Security Features

These stamps were issued at the same time as the Improved Security issue low value Machins and carry exactly the same features and sheet layout – for details see Chapter 3B page 3B/6. One consequence is that the stamps no longer have an overall Iridin ink wash to create a metallic effect to the colour as found on conventionally gummed gravure printed small format high values as this is rendered redundant by the iridescent security overprint (which, of course, might actually be printed using Iridin ink, although this has never been confirmed).

Initial printings were in sheets of 50 stamps, split into two panes of 25, resulting in gutter pairs re-appearing on high values for the first time since Castles issues. Later issues reverted to the smaller compact single pane sheets of 25.

High value stamps re-appeared on Royal Mail's Horizon computer ordering system in 2009 so it was then possible for all Post Offices to order them. They had been off general sale since March 2004, although they had still been available through philatelic outlets, BFPOs and via Royal Mail Direct, but only in complete sheets of 200, the then current format. It was speculated that Royal Mail withdrew them due to security concerns due to the high face values involved, but felt more comfortable when they were available in compact sheets, significantly reducing the potential stock values involved, and as a consequence were happy to re-introduce them into general circulation.

It has become something of a moot point over recent years with increasing face values on standard tariff issues as to whether these stamps should still be considered as 'high values' when many regularly used stamps actually exceed their face value. Effectively, as they do not serve any specific postal rate, they are more akin to make-up values – NVIs are now available for basic rates on Royal Mail's priority services. While Royal Mail continue to make them available and treat them as high values we will continue to list them separately under their own section. They are clearly reviewing the relevance of these stamps all the time as the £1.50 was dropped from the range when Walsall reprinted them in 2019.

**Gravure, sheet printings. OFNP/SAN. A2(B)**  
**Phosphor with blue fluor additive. No fluor in paper coating.**  
**Iridescent security overprint.**  
**Kiss die-cut to simulate perf. 15 x 14 (E1). Translucent backing paper.**

## (i) Unprinted Backing Paper. Printed by De La Rue

### No Date Code

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Price Gutter</i>
<b>(a) No date code. Type 1 security slits. Printed in sheets of 50</b>							
<b>DIH1500</b>	<b>£1.50</b>	Terracotta	2B	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	2.70	6.00
			2B (S16)	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	12.50	25.00
<b>DIH1501</b>	<b>£1.50</b>	Pale terracotta	2B	6.10	cyl D1D1(D1)	6.00	12.00
<b>DIH2000</b>	<b>£2</b>	Slate-blue	2B	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	3.50	7.75
			2B (S16)	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	13.75	27.50
<b>DIH3000</b>	<b>£3</b>	Purple	2B	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	5.00	10.50
<b>DIH3001</b>	<b>£3</b>	Deep purple	2B	4.10	cyl D1D1(D1)	11.50	23.00
<b>DIH5000</b>	<b>£5</b>	Grey-blue	2B	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	8.50	17.50
			2B (S16)	17.2.09	cyl D1D1(D1)	35.00	70.00
<b>DIH5001</b>	<b>£5</b>	Pale grey-blue	2B	4.10	cyl D1D1(D1)	13.50	27.00

### Date Code 13

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(b) Date code MA13. Type 2 security slits. Printed in sheets of 25</b>						
<b>DI3H2000</b>	<b>£2</b>	Slate-blue	2B	4.13	cyl D1D1(D1)	7.50

## (ii) Security Printed Backing Paper. Printed by Walsall

### Date Code 19

CC	Value		Phos. Bands	Backing Paper	First Issued or Printed	Source	Price
<b>(a) Date code M19L. Type 2 backing paper in either Large over Small (L/S) or Small over Large (S/L) orientation. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
W19H2000	£2	Slate-blue	2B	L/S	11.9.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	4.40
			2B (I1)	L/S	11.9.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	25.00
			2B (S17)	L/S	11.9.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	24.75
W19H2001	£2	Deep slate-blue	2B	L/S	4.12.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	9.35
W19H3000	£3	Purple	2B	S/L	11.9.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	6.10
W19H5000	£5	Grey-blue	2B	S/L	11.9.19	cyl W1W1(W1)	9.90

## (B) Special Delivery NVI High Values



In a logical extension to 2009's Recorded Signed For NVIs, on 26th October 2010 Royal Mail introduced two stamps to cater for Special Delivery letters and packets. One value prepays the basic Special Delivery charge for letters up to 100g and the other up to 500g. If insurance or guaranteed earlier delivery is required then a further supplement is payable. The stamps echo the style of Recorded Signed for stamps, with a standard sized Machin head, but with the addition of a vertical bar at the left containing the text "SPECIAL DELIVERY".

Both stamps are the same size, measuring 25mm square, and are differentiated by colour – the 100g version having the background of the Machin portion printed in silver, with the bar at the left in ultramarine with text reversed out of it in silver, whilst the 500g version reverses this with the background in ultramarine, bar in silver with the text reversed out in ultramarine. On both values the Queen's head is printed in ultramarine. The NVI validity weight limit replaces the normal value tablet. The stamps have an iridescent security overprint which includes a date code "10" but, as it is a sheet printing

there is no source code. They also show type 2 security slits, and are self-adhesive being printed on OFNP paper by De La Rue. Both bear two side phosphor bands, measuring approximately 9.5mm in total width and contain a blue fluor additive.

They are printed in compact sheets of 25, so no gutter pairs exists. Examining the cylinder boxes indicates that they are printed in a large primary sheet as there are space for the location dot to appear in 8 different positions. Printing dates and sheet serial numbers are inkjet printed in the normal lower-right corner location for self-adhesive definitives and the colour name of the sheet appears at the top-left. At the top-right of each sheet is a bar code and an internal stock code.

**Gravure, sheet printings. OFNP/SAN. A2(B)**  
**Phosphor with blue fluor additive. No fluor in paper coating.**  
**Iridescent security overprint. Type 2 security slits.**  
**Kiss die-cut to simulate perf. 15 x 14 (E1). Translucent backing paper.**

## (i) Unprinted Backing Paper. Printed by De La Rue

### Date Code 10

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(a) Date code MA10. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
SDHI0D100	Up to 100g	Silver & ultramarine	10	2B	26.10.10	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	9.75
SDHI0D500	Up to 500g	Ultramarine & silver	10	2B	26.10.10	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	11.00
				2B (S17)	26.10.10	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	27.50
				2B (I1)	26.10.10	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	30.00

### Date Code 14

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(b) Date code M14L. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
SDHI4D100	Up to 100g	Silver & ultramarine	14	2B	17.6.14	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	12.50
SDHI4D500	Up to 500g	Ultramarine & silver	14	2B	7.11.14	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	15.00

### Date Code 15

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(c) Date code M15L. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
SDHI5D100	Up to 100g	Silver & ultramarine	15	2B	30.4.15	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	12.75

## Date Code 16

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(d) Date code M16L. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
<b>SDHI6D100</b>	<b>Up to 100g</b>	Silver & ultramarine	16	2B	12.10.16	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	14.00
				2B (S17)	12.10.16	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	45.00
<b>SDHI6D500</b>	<b>Up to 500g</b>	Ultramarine & silver	16	2B	6.4.16	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	13.75

## Date Code 17

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(e) Date code M17L. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
<b>SDHI7D100</b>	<b>Up to 100g</b>	Silver & ultramarine	17	2B	11.4.17	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	14.00

### (ii) Security Printed Backing Paper. Printed by De La Rue

## Date Code 17

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(f) Date code M17L. Type 2 backing paper in Large over Small (L/S) orientation. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
<b>SDHI7D101</b>	<b>Up to 100g</b>	Silver & ultramarine	17	2B	2.10.17	cyl D1D1D1(D1)	13.00

### (iii) Security Printed Backing Paper. Printed by Wasall

## Date Code 18

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(g) Date code M18L. Type 2 backing paper in Small over Large (S/L) orientation. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
<b>SDHI8W100</b>	<b>Up to 100g</b>	Silver & blue	18	2B	4.12.18	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	14.00
<b>SDHI8W500</b>	<b>Up to 500g</b>	Blue & silver	18	2B	4.12.18	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	16.00

## Date Code 19

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(h) Date code M19L. Type 2 backing paper in Small over Large (S/L) orientation. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
SDH19W100	Up to 100g	Silver & blue	19	2B	26.3.19	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	14.00
				2B (12)	26.3.19	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	35.00
SDH19W101	Up to 100g	Silver & deep blue	19	2B	5.12.19	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	19.50

## Date Code 20

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Date Code</i>	<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued or Printed</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(i) Date code M20L. Type 2 backing paper in Small over Large (S/L) orientation. Printed in sheets of 25</b>							
SDH20W100	Up to 100g	Silver & blue	20	2B	21.9.20	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	14.75
SDH20W500	Up to 500g	Blue & silver, dull fluor	20	2B	4.5.20	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	16.50
SDH20W501	Up to 500g	Blue & silver, bright fluor pale Queen's head	20	2B	15.5.20	cyl W1W1W1(W1)	19.00

**(C) 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Accession High Value**

To coincide with the 65th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen’s accession to the throne, on 6th February 2017 Royal Mail reissued the large format £5 Machin Head design of 1977 to replace the current small format self-adhesive version for a limited period. The stamp matches the size and roughly the shade of that from 1977 – Royal Mail refer to it as sapphire blue (65th is a Sapphire anniversary) but it is printed in just a single colour unlike the previous version in which the head and value were printed in pink.

It is conventionally gummed and doesn’t have elliptical perfs on the vertical edges to bring it into line with current production styles. However, it does have at least one current security feature – an iridescent overprint that reads “65TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACCESSION” in the familiar wavy line pattern that covers only the background and not the Queen’s head or value. Somewhat surprisingly they are printed in gravure by Walsall in compact sheets of 10. They are on OFNP/PVA paper and gum and bear two side phosphor bands, measuring approximately 9.5mm in total width. Although the sheets bear a cylinder number, they do not show any date of printing.

<i>CC</i>	<i>Value</i>		<i>Phos. Bands</i>	<i>First Issued</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>(a) Gravure by Walsall. OFNP/PVA. Iridescent Security overprint. Perf 15 x 14. Printed in sheets of 10</b>						
L65S5000	£5	Sapphire blue	2B	6.2.17	cyl W1W1(W1)	10.00