

Title (en)
DEVICE FOR MEASURING VOLUME

Title (de)
VOLUMENMESSVORRICHTUNG

Title (fr)
DISPOSITIF DE MESURE DE VOLUME

Publication
EP 0897526 A1 19990224 (DE)

Application
EP 98902924 A 19980310

Priority
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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO9840704A1] The invention relates to a facility for posting postal items which can be used by customers on a self-service basis. The measuring device integrated into said facility determines the volume of the postal item by lightly pressing a transparent plate onto the item from above. A digital camera determines the cross-sectional area of the item through the plate. At the same time, as soon as the plate applies the required pressure to the item, the height of the item is determined optically by means of a height code reflected into the optical system of the camera. Placing the plate onto the item largely prevents measurement errors possible with easily deformable items and, for example, when string or pieces of wrapping paper project from the parcel. The volume data obtained in this way can be taken into consideration in the postage calculations together with other variables (weight, distance to destination, etc.) that can influence the postage payable.

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