

From Maltese Lira to Euro

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The following tables are extracted from a document published by the National Euro Changeover Committee (NECC). The document, titled “Guidelines for the usage of Maltese Lira denominated value documents and stamps” is dated 17th October, 2006 and is referenced as Guideline: NECC/0010/06

Of particular interest to us and Postal Historians, is the fact that these guidelines establish the parameters for the currency changeover process from Maltese Lira to the Euro applicable with regards to stored monetary value items/documents. Such things include postage stamps, International Reply Coupons and Postage Paid Envelopes amongst others.

Extract

5. GUIDELINES

5.1 Issuing, selling and use of stamps during changeover period

Table 1 below indicates the options available to retailers and consumers during the changeover process, outlining the selling and/or purchasing and usage of stamps during the different phases of the euro changeover process

5.2 Issuing, selling and use of stored value documents during the changeover period

Table 2 below indicates the options available to manufacturers/issuers, retailers and consumers during the changeover process, outlining the selling and/or purchasing and usage of stored value documents during the different phases of the euro changeover process.

TABLE 1

| | Voluntary Dual Display – between 1st January 2007 and 30th June 2007 | Mandatory Dual Display between 1st July 2007 and 30th June 2008 | Postal dual display from 1st July 2008 |
|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Maltapost plc | Will issue dual displayed stamps as from 1 st January 2007. | Will continue issuing dual displayed stamps. The denomination is read as the Lm value prior to Euro day and the euro on/after Euro day. | Issues only euro-denominated stamps from 1 st July 2008 onwards |
| Retailers | May sell any remaining Lm-only denominated stamps, as well as the issued dual displayed stamps. | May sell ONLY dual displayed stamps. | May sell dual display stamps indefinitely ¹ . |
| Consumers | May use Lm-only denominated stamps or dual displayed stamps | May use Lm-only denominated stamps till the end of the dual circulation period (end of January 2008) May use dual displayed stamps for the complete period May exchange unused Lm denominated stamps until March 2008. | May use remaining dual displayed stamps indefinitely ¹ . |

¹ The stamp or document may be used indefinitely or to the end of a period of validity, where relevant.

TABLE 2

| | Voluntary Dual Display-between 1st January 2007 and 30th June 2007 | Mandatory Dual Display between 1st July 2007 and 30th June 2008 | Post dual display from 1st July 2008 |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Organisations that produce or issue stored value documents</p> | <p>May issue Lm only or dual displayed stored value documents</p> | <p>Will issue dual displayed stored value documents. The denomination is read as the Lm value prior to Euro-day and the euro on/after Euro-day</p> | <p>Will produce euro only stored value documents</p> |
| <p>Retailers</p> | <p>May sell Lm only or dual displayed stored value documents</p> | <p>May sell ONLY dual displayed stored value documents</p> | <p>May sell remaining dual displayed or euro only stored value documents until end of July 2008</p> <p>Will sell euro only stored value documents from 1st August 2008</p> |
| <p>Consumers</p> | <p>Both Lm only and dual displayed stored value documents may be used</p> | <p>Both Lm only and dual displayed stored value documents may be used</p> <p>May exchange unused Lm only stored value documents with their provider until the end of March 2008</p> | <p>Lm only, dual displayed and euro only stored value documents may be used indefinitely¹.</p> |