

# Corporate Milestones

## 160 Years of Postal Services

For over 160 years, we focused on being at the forefront of the latest developments in the postal service and constantly strive towards better serving our stakeholders through progression and innovation.

### 1916

Stamp booklets were made available for sale at the GPO

### 1928

The GPO moved into the new Fullerton Building, officially opened by Sir Hugh Clifford, then Governor of Singapore, and named after Sir Robert Fullerton, the first Governor of the Straits Settlements

5 October marked the day that the first airmail was dispatched from Singapore – to Marseille by sea and then to London by air

### 1937

International calls between London and Singapore were introduced at the post office, costing \$51 for a three-minute call

### 2000

SingPost Centre was officially opened

### 2003

SingPost made its debut on the Singapore Exchange (SGX)

### 2005–2008

MyStamp, the world's first stamp personalisation service was launched. On 8 April 2008, SingPost introduced the world's first beaded stamps. Shaped like a handbag and intricately crafted with 'caviar beads', this collectable series fittingly celebrated the opening of the Peranakan Museum

### 2008

An innovative electronic lock system was added to letter boxes to improve security



### 1819

Postal services in Singapore started to take shape, administered initially by the military authorities

### 1845

Singapore welcomed the first mail steamer dispatched to the Far East, the Lady Mary Wood

### 1858

Milestone Year: The Post Office became an independent department from the British Marine Office, financed by postal revenue, as mail volume increased. William Cuppage was appointed postmaster

### 1873

The first General Post Office (GPO) was built at the former Fort Fullerton

### 1897

The first sub-post offices were opened at Tanglin, Kandang Kerbau and Tanjong Pagar

### 1950

A two-digit postal code system was introduced, dividing the island into 28 postal districts

### 1971

New rectangular mailboxes were located islandwide with dual slots: 'Singapore' and 'Other Countries'

### 1973

Vending machines selling stamp booklets were installed to improve sales efficiency

### 1974

The first postwomen were hired, a significant move towards a more inclusive workforce for the postal service sector

### 1978

Speedpost service was launched to provide a fast and reliable way to send documents domestically and internationally

### 1979

A four-digit postal code system was introduced, with Singapore now divided into 81 sectors

### 1992

Singapore Post Private Limited was incorporated as an entity of TAS

### 1995

Postal codes were upgraded to a six-digit system that provided a unique code for each delivery point and enabled significantly greater automation of mail sorting

### 1996

The Neighbourhood Postman Scheme was introduced

### 1997

A next-generation Self-service Automated Machine (SAM) was introduced to automatically weigh postal items, dispense postage labels and accept bill payments

### 1998

SingPost moved its sorting operations to a new facility at Paya Lebar, which automates the sorting of mail and parcels based on postal codes

### 2011

The first fleet of 50 three-wheel delivery scooters was rolled out

### 2013

POPStation was launched, providing eCommerce customers with the convenience of collecting parcels 24/7 from an automated kiosk

### 2014

Next-generation post offices featuring self-help lobbies were rolled out to provide 24/7 access to postal and other essential services

### 2015

SingPost pioneered a trial parcel delivery that was piloted by an unmanned aerial vehicle

### 2016

SingPost's Regional eCommerce Logistics Hub was officially opened

### 2017

SmartPost was initiated to digitise key postal processes such as collection, sorting and delivery

Our journey tracks a transformation from a humble post office to an efficient and progressive postal service in Singapore.



1858 – The Post Office became an independent department from the British Marine Office

Source: Lim Kheng Chye Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore



1928 – First airmail dispatched from Singapore to Marseille by sea and then to London by air

Source: Collection of Singapore Philatelic Museum, ©Singapore Philatelic Museum



1950 – A two-digit postal code system was introduced, dividing the island into 28 postal districts



1982 – The early 80s marked the merger between the Postal Services Department and Telecommunication Authority of Singapore (TAS)



2003 – SingPost made its debut on the Singapore Exchange (SGX)



2017 – SingPost Centre reopens with doubled retail space and new General Post Office