

APC Error



APC Postage Label Error



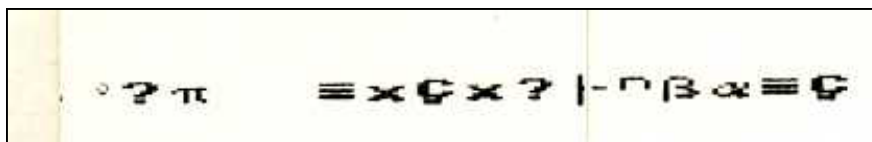
APC Regular Postage Label
(printed just prior to the error)

“APC” = Automated Postal Center. These are self-service kiosks available in many US Post Office in the 24-hour lobby section.

Thermal printers usually have a stationary print-head (unlike inkjet printers which rely on a print-head that moves across the paper as it advances through the printer).

Given that only the paper is moving through the printer, a left-right shift of the printed information should technically be impossible via physical movement of the paper.

It is the educated guess of the exhibitor that the shift in the printed information comes from an electronic “hiccup” (data stream corruption to the printer perhaps) whereby the printer was told to print the information further to the right. Notice also the “characters” to the left on the last row of information, consisting of unusual characters:



← Close-up of the characters on the error label.

The kiosk must have corrected itself, as the next label printed (a 7¢ value) was printed normally.