## Addendum E PERFIN GLOSSARY

**BASE** – The basic metal bottom on which all parts of the machine are mounted. See *Parts of a Perforating Machine* photo at the end of Glossary.

**BLIND PIN** – When perforating pin makes an indentation in the stamp without cutting through it. Sometimes is the result of too many sheets of stamps in the perforator.

**BENT PIN -** See Broken Pin

**BROKEN PIN** – When a pin is broken off and is too short to touch the stamp during perforating, there will be no hole in the stamp. If a pin falls out of the machine or is bent within the machine, the resultant lack of a hole is also referred to as a Broken Pin.

**CODE HOLE** – A hole surplus to the normal design or initials but which is usually included to characterize a different machine.

## **COLLECTIONS**

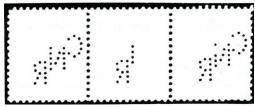
**Perfin Type Collection -** Has one example of each perfin type.

**Perfin Issue Collection -** Has one example of every different catalogue numbered stamp possible for each perfin type.

**Perfin Position Collection** – Is an expansion of an Issue Collection to include as many as possible of the eight different positions.

**CONTRIVED PERFIN** – a stamp perforated with a corporate or government perforator by someone other than the perforator owner.

**DAMAGED DIE** – A die that has a broken or missing pin(s). A Damaged Die produces incomplete perfins.



**DAMAGED PERFIN** – A damaged stamp which has been perforated, and thus less desirable.

**DIE** – A set of pins to make one complete design or set of initials, including a code hole if applicable. Each die is unique.

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**DIE PLATING** – Is the reconstruction of the positions or order of the dies within the machine. In the process, one may or may not identify the different dies recognizing the unique locations of the pins relative to each other.

**DOUBLE PERFIN** – Where one stamp has been through two or more perforating operations (two or more downward movements of the head). Note: A stamp having parts of two neighbouring dies is not a double perfin.

**Perfect Double Perfin** – Where two perforating operations are so close that each hole cuts itself on the second operation.



**Overlap Double Perfin –** Where the outline of the second peroration overlaps with the outline of the first.



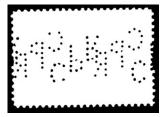
**Non-Overlap Plus Double Perfin** – Where two operations are found in a stamp. The outlines of the perforations do not overlap and the total number of holes is greater in the stamp than in one operation.



**Non-Overlap Minus Double Perfin** – Where two operations are found in a stamp. The outlines of the perforations do not overlap and there are fewer total holes in the stamp than in one completed operation.



**Multi-Position Double Perfin –** Where two perforating operations result in two different positions appearing in the same stamp. The multi-position double can exist as any of the above doubles, except the Perfect Double.



**FAKE PERFIN** – Where an individual has fraudulently altered a stamp or perfin to make it appear to be a something other than what it originally was.

**FAVOUR PERFIN –** See *Contrive Perfin* 

**FEEDER PLATE** – The steel plate attached to the base of the perforator upon which the sheets of stamps are laid as they are fed into the perforator. See *Parts of a Perforating Machine* photo at the end of Glossary.

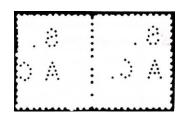
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**GUIDE** – The metal plate between the head and the perforating plate that holds the pins in alignment when they are not in the perforating plate. See *Parts of a Perforating Machine* photo at the end of Glossary.

**HEAD** – The horizontal male steel bar in which the perforating pins are set. Designed to hold one or more dies, the head moves up and down during the perforating action. See *Parts of a Perforating Machine* photo at the end of Glossary.

**HOLE** – the circular space left in the stamp after a pin has cut its way through the stamp.

**INCOMPLETE PERFIN** – Where a perforation is completely on the stamp but does not have all of the holes in the design perforated through the stamp because of a missing, broken or bent pin in the die. See also Partial Perfin and Split Perfin.



**MINT PERFIN** – An uncancelled perfin with full gum. Since perfins are intended to serve as security against use of other than the company's business purposes, many of these mint stamps are probably stolen property or contrived perforated.

**MISSING PIN** – When a pin is broken off, missing or is too short to touch the stamp during perforation, there will be no hole in the stamp.

**OFFICIAL PERFIN** – A perfin used by a Government department or agency.

**Federal Official** – A perfin used by more than one Canadian Federal Government department or agency including OH/MS 08, 09 & 010.

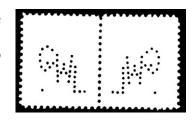
**Federal Departmental Official** – A perfin used by a single Canadian Government or its agency like MD M9 and ND N3.

**Provincial Official** – A perfin used by more than one Canadian Provincial Government department or agency like LA L1 and PS, P18 and P19.

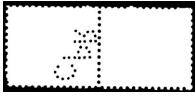
**Provincial Departmental Official** – A perfin used by a single Canadian Provincial Government department or its agency like Q/CLQ/C Q1.

**PAIR** – A joined pair of stamps, each being a perfin.

**Mirror Pair** – A joined pair of stamps each with the same perfin type but one in reverse to its mate. Created by folding a pane of stamps prior to operating the machine.



**Perf-Imperf Pair** – A joined pair of stamps with only one of the stamps having a perforation in it.



**Position Pair** – A pair of stamps with a different position in each but not a Mirror Pair.



**PARTIAL PERFIN** – A stamp in which the outline of at least one complete design cannot be found in the stamp. Also see Incomplete and Split Perfin.



**PERFIN** – A postage or revenue stamp perforated for security purposes, with a series of holes in the shape of a design or initials (not used for cancelling the stamp to prevent reuse).

**Perfin Factor** – The relative scarcity of perfin types reported to the BNAPS Perfin Study Group survey. The 'A' rating is the scarcest and the numerical details can be found in Chapter 5.

**Perfin Issue** – A perforation in a stamp with a specific catalogue number. Sometimes generalized into a specific set of stamps.

**Perfin Number** – The handbook number allocated to each perfin type illustrated in this book.

**Perfin Position** – The changing position of the perforation relative to the design of the stamp in an upright position, the result of feeding the stamps upright, sideways or inverted through the perforator. See Addendum C for specific details.

**Perfin Type** – A designated design or set of initials. All dies within one machine are deemed to be the same Perfin Type.

**PERFORATED INITIALS** – See Perforated Insignia

**PERFORATED INSIGNIA** – Frequently interchanged with Perforated Initials, both of which are permutated to 'perfin'. Perforated insignia usually refer only to the holes in the stamp, whereas a Perfin is the stamp that has the holes in it.

**PERFORATING PLATE** – The horizontal female steel bar with drilled holes to accept the pins cutting holes in through the stamp. See *Parts of Perforating Machine* at the end of Glossary.

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**PERFORATION** – The series of holes produced by the pins of a perforating machine die.

**PERFORATOR** – A hand-cranked or electrically-operated machine with one or more dies used to perforate initials or designs in stamps.

**PIN** – A flat ended, cylindrical, metal needle that cuts one hole in a stamp. See *Parts of a Perforating Machine* at the end of Glossary.

**PERSONAL PERFIN** – A perforator in the hands of an individual or company for whom the primary reason for using the perforation is not for security purposes. Generally, these perfins are used by collectors who simply like to have their own personal perforator.

**PHILATELIC PERFIN** – properly used stamp with corporate or government security perforation.

**PRIVATE PERFIN** – a perfin used by a company rather than a Government department or agency.

**PROOF** - A complete example of all dies produced by a perforating machine, perforated in a single piece of paper or joined postage stamps.

**RANDOM HOLE** – A hole surplus to the design or initials in the stamp and is not a code hole. It is the result of a double perforation with one perforation being very incomplete, thus more than one Random Hole may appear in any given stamp.



**RE-DRILLED DIE** – Some dies, because of wear, damage or corporate change, are re-drilled creating a noticeable change in the size of the holes or die pattern. The new dies are deemed to be a new perfin. See C15 and C16 re-drilled.

**SPLIT PERFIN** – Where the stamp is improperly placed in the perforator, resulting in part of two adjoining dies perforating a single stamp. Neither die is complete within the stamp, but if combined, will become greater than one complete perforation. In most cases a split will be horizontal relative to the perforation. Frequently the Split Perfin is a result of the stamps being different size from that for which the machine was designed.



Abbreviations frequently used in describing a perfin:

Ax/Bx - The letters Ax are above the letters Bx

DP - Damaged Perfin IP - Incomplete Perfin

PF - Perfin Factor PP - Partial Perfin SP - Split Perfin

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