Understanding XML Rating Services

The Rating API gives applications the ability to look up rates for UPS services and compare the cost of service alternatives. This section describes how these two options work. It also explains negotiated rates.

Finding the Rate for a Specific Service

If an application knows the specific UPS service desired (such as UPS Next Day Air, or UPS Ground), the Rating API lets the application find the cost of using that service for a specific shipment or package. The application sends UPS a request indicating the desired service and details about the shipment or package. UPS returns the cost of that service for that shipment or package.

NOTE: This is the “rate” option: To use this option, Client input must include the string value “Rate” in the Request/RequestOption element.

Comparing Rates for Various Services

An application may also compare the rates available for various services. In this case the application only provides details about the shipment or package and it indicates that it wishes all rates available for that shipment or package. UPS determines which UPS services are available for that shipment or package and returns the cost of all of those services.

NOTE: This is the “shop” option: To use this option, Client input must include the string value “Shop” in the Request/RequestOption element.

Negotiated Rates

UPS customers that require a high volume of shipments may have negotiated special rates for their shipments that differ from the UPS published rates. When such a customer uses the Rating API, it may indicate in its requests that it wishes to receive negotiated rates in the UPS responses. If the customer is authorized for negotiated rates, and if negotiated rates apply to the particular service, UPS returns those rates along with the published rates in its response.

For more information on negotiated rates, including authorization to receive them, please check with your UPS account representative.

There is a 1% discount that is available in CIE for Negotiated Rates. During testing the user will not see the rates available to them in actual production.

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