



Tech Talk: Instant U.S. Mail

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How are you getting your US or Canadian mail delivered to you here in Mexico? Do you use a mail forwarding service located near the border and pay some \$25 to \$30 US per month for this service? How long does the US mail take to get to you, 10 to 20 days? Would you like to have your international mail delivered to you at your home in Mexico one day after it arrives at its US address? You can, using a new online service offered in the US called "Earth Class Mail" and for less money than you are now paying.

Earth Class Mail has postal sites located throughout the US. You pick one of their addresses and give it to your friends, associates and businesses that send you mail. Once Earth Class Mail receives your mail they scan the exterior of your envelopes and place their images in your online mail account. To view these images, be you in Mexico or Timbuktu, you would simply go to www.earthclassmail.com, link to the login page and enter your username and password. Once you are at your Earth Class Mail account webpage, you will be provided with an image of the front of any mailing that was sent to your unique Earth Class Mail address.

When viewing the image of the exterior of your mail, you are given several options. You can request that Earth Class Mail send the envelope to recycling if it is junk mail, request that it be shredded if the contents are sensitive, or have it forwarded to you or someone else. However, the most exciting option is that should you wish, Earth Class Mail will open and scan the contents of your mail, so you can read it right then and there! You don't have to wait for the mail to arrive in Mexico. Yes, you can be thousands of miles away and you have instant access to your mail online. Once the images of the contents of your envelope are on your computer screen, you can: 1.) print out the contents, 2.) store the information, or 3.) delete everything. Once you have completed the above, you, of course, would instruct Earth Class Mail to recycle, shred, or forward the actual mail to another address. Many Earth Class Mail customers use this scanning feature so much they don't have to deal with paper mail at all, thus saving on mail shipping costs.

No it's not the best solution for forwarding newspapers or magazines, but most newspapers and magazines offer online additions that you can subscribe to, that allow you to read them online.

I'm signing up. To learn more about this service, go to www.EarthClassMail.com and start reading.