



Dear Sir/Madam,

The designated operator of **JAPAN** asks me to alert the designated operators of UPU member countries to the existence of counterfeit 350-yen stamps (see annex) having the following characteristics:

- Unlike the genuine stamps, which have a glossy, strong-smelling adhesive, the adhesive on the counterfeit stamps has no gloss and is thinly applied.
- The face of the forged stamps is glossier than that of the genuine stamps.
- Unlike the genuine stamp sheets, the perforations on the counterfeit sheets are slightly offset to the right or left.
- The paper used for the counterfeit stamps is thicker and has a harder texture.

Japan Post has confirmed that these forgeries are not the stamps officially issued by Japan and cannot therefore be used as proof of postage paid. The operator strongly condemns the counterfeiting of these postage stamps.

It asks all UPU member countries to take the necessary measures in response to these forgeries, in accordance with their own laws and regulations.

Yours faithfully,

K.J.S. McKeown
Director of Markets Development

Counterfeit stamp compared with genuine stamp issued by Japan's designated operator



1 Forgery: perforations may be aligned to one side



2 Genuine stamp