

# HOW IT WORKS

# USPS for ProShip

ProShip's exclusive USPS program includes both the USPS API and the SHIP platform engine. Read on to learn about the differences between the two.

## USPS SHIP Platform Engine

## USPS API

		USPS SHIP Platform Engine	USPS API
About	Speed	Extremely fast, very low latency	Slower performance compared to SHIP
	Potential Latency	5-100 ms	.5-1 second
	Set-Up	More complex to set up and maintain	Easy set up with less maintenance
	Best For...	When performance and speed are critical	Retailers with many locations, shippers, SFS setups, or 50+ carrier accounts
Features & Forms	Shipping	X	X
	Hazmat	X	X
	International	X	X
	Cubic Pricing	X	X
	Labels	X	X
	Tracking	X	X
	Form 5630 aka SCAN Form (Standard)	X	X
	PMOD (Priority Mail Open and Distribute)	X	-
	Ship2Hold	X	-
	Shipment Update	X	-
	Postage Statements	X	-
	Form 3152	X	-
	Address Validation	-	X
	Auto-Configuration Tool (for quicker setup)	-	X
	No Rate Maintenance	-	X
	Pick-Ups	-	X
	Auto-Manifesting	-	X
4x6 SCAN Form	-	PENDING	
Performance (*Environment)	< .5 sec	< .75 sec	
Required** for Setup	MID (Mailer ID)	X	X
	MMID (Master Mailer ID)	X	X
	EPS (Account Number)	X	X
	CRID (Customer Registration ID)	X	X
	Destination Entry Facility Types	X	X
	Entry Point Zip	X	X
	Permit #	X	-
	Permit PO of Record	X	-
Refresh Token	-	X	

\*Can vary depending on environmental factors, \*\*Can vary depending on integration complexity and account variables

# SHIP PLATFORM ENGINE VS. API

## Frequently Asked Questions

We've compiled the top questions we've received about the comparison between the USPS SHIP Platform Engine and the USPS API.

When should I choose the **USPS API**?

- When you have many shipping locations or accounts but **relatively low daily shipping volume per site**.
- Ideal for Ship-From-Store (SFS) operations that do not process high volume shipments.
- If you want a low-maintenance integration with carriers handling rating, labels, and manifests.

When should I choose **USPS SHIP**?

- When your distribution center (DC) or shipping location has **high volume**, with **hundreds of shipments per day**.
- When performance and processing speed are key priorities.
- If you're prepared to invest in set up and maintenance for better throughput.

Why would a business choose **both**?

- Many customers use **SHIP in high-volume DCs** to maximize speed.
- At the same time, they use **API for SFS or retail stores**, where shipping volume is low but flexibility is needed.
- This hybrid approach balances cost, complexity, and performance across different shipping use cases.

Do API and SHIP have the **same features**?

- Yes—**feature-wise, both have the same core shipping functionality**.
- **Exception:** "Close Lanes" or "Ship to Hold" (holding shipments for later release) is not currently supported by API, and there are no plans to add it.
- However, custom development can sometimes "code around" this limitation if necessary.



## Get Started Saving with **ProShip** for USPS

Unlock the full potential of your parcel shipping strategy by adding USPS to your carrier library. Contact your Strategic Account Manager to get started today.



© 2025 ProShip, Inc. All rights reserved.

[ProShipinc.com](https://proshipinc.com)

Learn more **800.353.7774**  
or [sales@proshipinc.com](mailto:sales@proshipinc.com)

USPS-COMPARISON\_PR-V1 [FOR PUBLIC USE]