

TR-Telephone Stamps

INTRO (EN)

In 1891, the first telephone stamps were issued.

Unlike telegraph stamps, these appeared immediately in both French and Dutch.

The telephone stamps were issued with a long rectangular strip on the left side containing the following text: "Proof of payment for a call in the PUBLIC TELEPHONE OFFICES - This proof should be requested and kept by the speakers."

Initially, the stamps were sold to the public individually or in booklets.

By postal service order dated 13/11/1891, this was abolished: proof of payment (left strip) was no longer given to the public.

Telephone stamps were a way to pay for telephone services in Belgium, especially from the 1900s to the 1990s. Here is some more information about telephone stamps in Belgium:

Usage

Telephone stamps were used as a form of pre-paid payment for phone calls. Instead of using cash, users could buy these stamps and affix them to telephone booths or other telephone devices to pay for their calls. This system was particularly convenient at a time when many people did not have a landline phone at home.

Structure of the Stamps

A telephone stamp typically consisted of two parts:

1. The stamp itself

This was the part that was affixed to the telephone or calling device.

2. The appendage (Strip)

This part served as proof of purchase and could sometimes also contain information about the value of the stamp or the

Sale

Telephone stamps were sold at various locations, including:

Post offices

Tobacco shops

Specialty shops for telephone services