Navigation and Commerce
Parcel Post Overprints

A tax of 10 centimes was imposed on packages sent through the mail. Both colors of the 10 centimes Navigation and Commerce stamps were overprinted for use as tax stamps for packages ("colis postaux"). Two different overprint formats were employed.

The one-line overprint was applied in red on the 10-centime black value in 1898. It was followed by the two-line overprint, also in red, in 1899. The 10-centime red received the black, two-line overprint in 1902.

Special Printing for Paris International Exposition of 1900
Navigation and Commerce
Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes black
Varieties

INVERTED  DOUBLE  SHIFTED LEFT

LIGHT  MEDIUM  DARK

ORANGE  WITH INK SPLOTCH
Navigation and Commerce
Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red
Varieties

SIDeways    INVERTED    DOUBLE    BLUE INk

SHIFTED UP    SHIFTED DOWN    DARK IMPRESSION    LIGHT IMPRESSION

MISSING BOTTOM OF "POSTAUX"    MISSING "TIMBRE" ON LEFT STAMP
Navigation and Commerce
Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red
Varieties

PRINTING IN MARGIN

SIDEWAYS OVERPRINT
CORNER BLOCK OF FOUR
Navigation and Commerce
Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes black
Postmarks

BAC-NINH TONKIN

HAIPHONG TONKIN

PHO-LU TONKIN

BAO-LAC TONKIN

CANTON

DAP-CAU TONKIN

DOSON TONKIN

LAOKAY TONKIN

NAM-DINH (blue) TONKIN

NINH-BINH TONKIN

TIEN-YEN TONKIN

VIETTRI TONKIN

VINH-THUY TONKIN
Navigation and Commerce
Two-Line Parcel Post Overprint on 10 centimes red Postmarks

FAIFO ANNAM

HAIPHONG TONKIN

HANOI TONKIN

BAC-NINH TONKIN

CANTON

MONCAY TONKIN

PNOMPENH CAMBODGE

QUANG-YEN TONKIN

TOURANE ANNAM
Navigation and Commerce
Revenue Overprints

In 1896, five values from the Navigation and Commerce series were overprinted for revenue use. The word "GREFFE" in the overprint stands for "droits de greffe" (clerk of court fees).
Navigation and Commerce
Use of Revenue Overprints
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints

In 1903, quantities of 15c and 25c stamps were overprinted to meet shortages. The 15c on 25c was issued first in August. Later, in December, after 15c stamps arrived from France, the 5c on 15c was issued.

ULTRAMAR Overprint

The ULTRAMAR overprint was handstamped by the Portuguese government prior to distributing UPU sample stamps to its colonies.
Navigation and Commerce
5-centime Overprint Sheet
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Color Shades
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Ascending Overprints
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Shifting Overprints
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 15 centimes Variety

This example of the 15-centime overprint used on a wrapper exhibits a dramatic shift of the “15” to the far left border of the stamp.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI TONKIN  4 SEPT 03
The millesime "2" shown in the selvage indicates that the 25-centime stamp had been originally printed in 1902.
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Postmarks on 5 centimes

HAIPHONG

BIENHOA

HANOI

HA-TINH

PNOMPENH

SAIGON-CENTRAL

SAIGON-PORT

THANH-PHU
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Postmarks on 15 centimes

CAP ST. JACQUES
HAIPHONG
CHAUDOC

HANOI
HOUEISAI
LAO-BAO

LONGXUYEN
PNOMPENH
PURSAT
SADEC

SAIGON-CENTRAL
SAIGON A
SONG-CAU
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Postmarks on 15 centimes

SONTAY
TANHIEP
TRAI-HUT
TRAVINH

VINHLONG
TIEN-YEN
XIENG-KHOUANG

VUNG LIEM

TOURANE
When the message was five words or less, the 5-centime value could be used to mail a postcard. Picture postcards were extremely popular at the turn of the century.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-PORT COCHINCHINE 26 FEVR 04
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 26 FEVR 04
REVERSE
ST ETIENNE LOIRE 22-3 04
Calling cards sent in small, unsealed envelopes could be mailed for only 5 centimes. In this case, the envelope was addressed to "EV," meaning "en ville" (or "in the town"). Postage was paid with a single overprinted Navigation and Commerce stamp.
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 5 centimes

A pair of the 5-centime overprints was affixed to this picture postcard mailed from Saigon to Paris in 1903. In this case, with a message less than 6 words, 5 centimes was the required postage.
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 5 centimes

A strip of three overprinted stamps paid the 15 centimes postage rate for a regular letter to France. Interestingly, each stamp's original value was 15 centimes before overprinting.

POSTAL MARKINGS
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 3 FEVR 04
REVERSE
ORGON B\textit{CHES} DU RHONE 2 MARS 04
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 5 centimes

Six 5 on 15 centimes gray Navigation and Commerce stamps paid for a double weight (16-30 grams) local letter at Hanoi in 1904. The envelope was official stationery of the Customs Service.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HANOI TONKIN 11 JANV 04
Here the 15-centime stamp paid the postage for official mail between military posts within Tonkin.

POSTAL MARKINGS
LANG-SON TONKIN  9 OCT 03
REVERSE
DONG-DANG TONKIN  10 OCT 03
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 15 centimes

The 15-centime stamp overpaid the postcard rate to Germany by 5 centimes.

POSTAL MARKINGS
GIADINH COCHINCHINE 1 SEPT 03
SAIGON•CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 1 SEPT 03
DRESDEN ALTST. 14 3.10.03
A wrapper, sent locally from the court in Hanoi, was franked with the 15-centime value overprint on the 25-centime blue Navigation and Commerce stamp.
This cover posted on 21 August 1903 represents early use of the 15-centime value. First day of use for the 15-centime stamp was 6 August 1903.
Navigation and Commerce
Value Overprints
Use of 15 centimes

Four 15-cent overprints paid the postage for a registered letter to France in 1903. Postage was calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>letter rate to France</td>
<td>15 centimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registration fee</td>
<td>25 centimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>40 centimes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hence the letter was overpaid by 20 centimes.

POSTAL MARKINGS
HAIPHONG TONKIN 26 AOUT 03
framed R with manuscript registration number
REVERSE
BESANCON DOUBS 2-10 03
Foreign letters required 25 centimes postage. Here both of the overprints were used to make up the foreign letter rate for a mailing to British India in 1909.

POSTAL MARKINGS
THUDAUMOT COCHINCHINE 1 MAI 09
REVERSE
SAIGON-CENTRAL COCHINCHINE 2 MAI 09
SINGAPORE MY 7 1909
BANGALORE 17 MY 09