

# GJC Web Design Canada Post Virtuemart 3.0 Shipping Plugin

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This is the VirtueMart 3.0 Canada Post Shipping Plugin that fully integrates and shows real time shipping quotes based on vendor and customer postcodes in the checkout process.

Installs as a native VirtueMart 3.0 Joomla 3.x Shipping Plugin.

Price is €40.00

## Installation Instructions

N.B. Your units for the product need to be in kilos! Dimensions aren't required

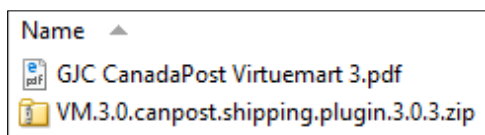
Product Information	Product Description	Product Status	Product Dimensions and Weight																					
<table><tr><td>Product Length</td><td>40.0000</td><td>Centimeters</td></tr><tr><td>Product Width</td><td>10.0000</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Product Height</td><td>10.0000</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Product Weight</td><td>5.0000</td><td>Kilograms</td></tr><tr><td>Product Unit</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td>Product Packaging</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td>Units in Box</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr></table>				Product Length	40.0000	Centimeters	Product Width	10.0000		Product Height	10.0000		Product Weight	5.0000	Kilograms	Product Unit			Product Packaging			Units in Box		
Product Length	40.0000	Centimeters																						
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Units in Box																								

Enable Automatic Selected Shipment?



works best with

After downloading the package (VM.3.0.canpost.shipping.plugin.UNZIPFIRST.zip) first unzip it.



Use the standard Joomla Installer to install the zip file VM.3.0.canpost.shipping.plugin.3.1.0.zip

Upload Package File

Install from Folder

Install from URL

### Upload & Install Joomla Extension

Extension package file

Choose file

VM.3.0.canpo...in.3.0.3.zip

Upload & Install

The success message will appear

Message

Installation of the plugin was successful.

Virtuemart 3.0 Shipping via canadapost.ca v.3.0.3

Upload Package File

Install from Folder

Install from URL

### Upload & Install Joomla Extension

Extension package file

Choose file

No file chosen

Upload & Install

## Enable Plugin:

Go to Extensions->Plug-in Manager and search for 'can'. Click the icon to enable

Plugins

Edit

Enable

Disable

Check-in

can

Search

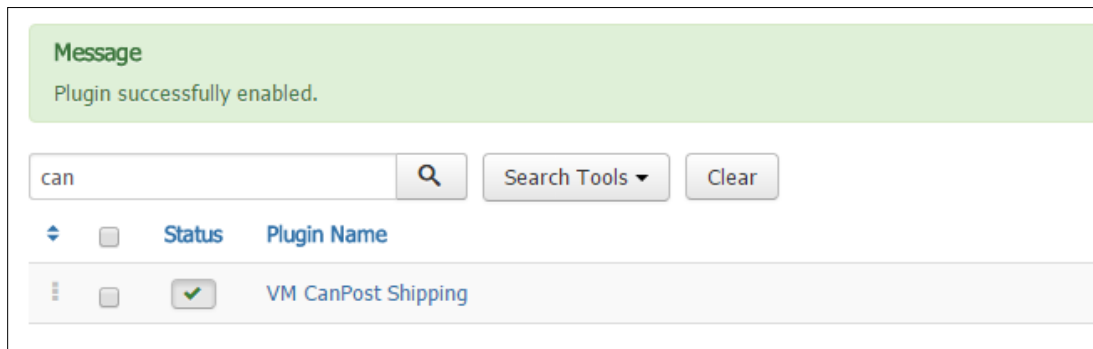
Search Tools

Clear

Plugin Name

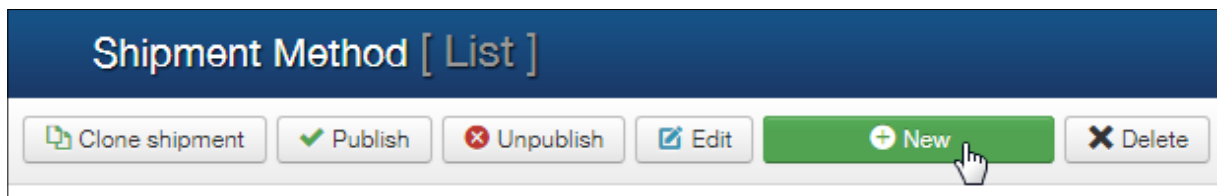
VM CanPost Shipping

Enabled successfully



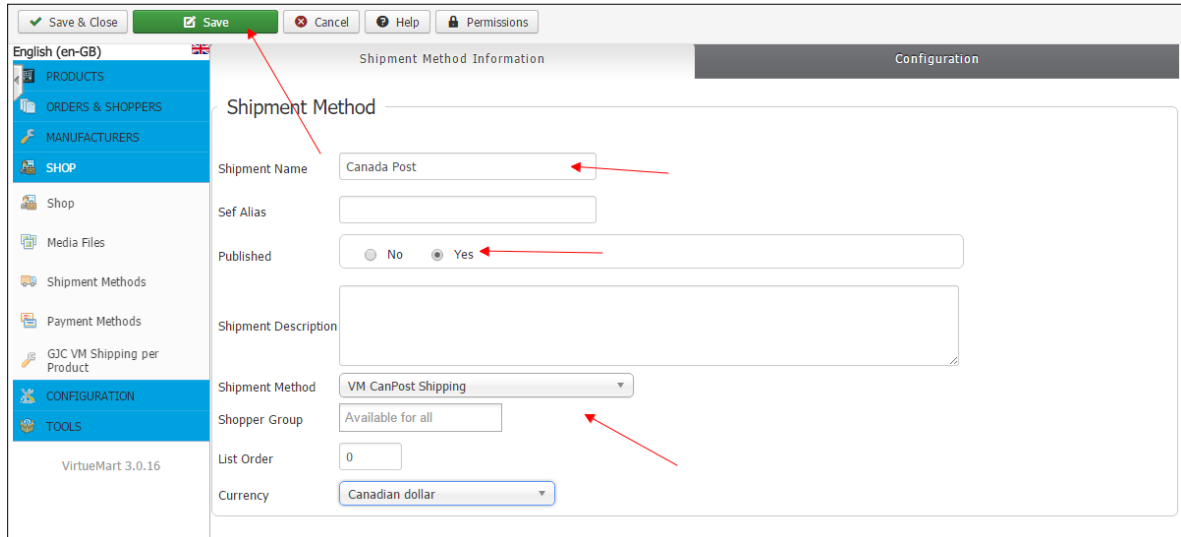
### Make a new Shipping Method:

Now go to Components->Virtuemart and browse to Shop->Shipment methods. Click on "New".



The configuration page will open.

Give the new method a title and select ' VM CanPost Shipping ' as the method.



## Configuration:

Now click the 'Configuration' Tab.

The CanPost Merchant ID is now optional... the docs say:

### *Request – Elements*

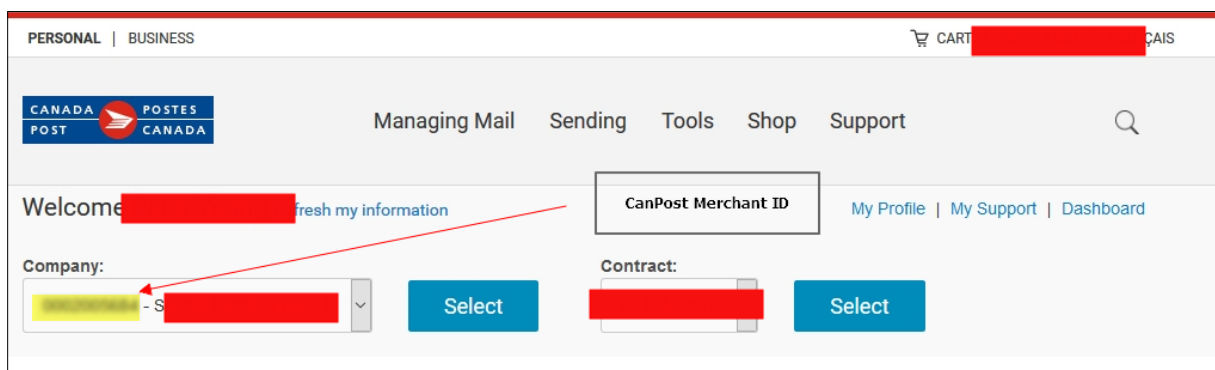
This section describes the XML elements of this service. The exact hierarchical structure of the XML inputs is shown in a diagram below this table.

Element Name	Type	Required / Optional	Description
mailing-scenario	complex	required	This is the overall XML structure for the request input information.
customer-number	simple	conditionally required	The customer number of the owner of the mail (mailed on behalf of customer). (numeric – up to 10 digits)  This element is required to obtain discounted rates for commercial customers and Solutions for Small Business members. It must be omitted to obtain counter (i.e., consumer) rates.

Start here:

<https://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/business/productservices/developers/services/gettingstarted.jsf>

First register and then obtain your IDs and passwords from CanPost.



PERSONAL | BUSINESS

CART [REDACTED] CAIS

CANADA POST POSTES CANADA

Managing Mail Sending Tools Shop Support

Welcome [REDACTED] [fresh my information](#)

CanPost Merchant ID

[My Profile](#) | [My Support](#) | [Dashboard](#)

Company: [REDACTED] - S [REDACTED] Select

Contract: [REDACTED] Select

Copy paste in your code, select an icon (you can upload your own to `plugins/vmshipment/canpost/canpost_images/` ) and fill in details you received from Canada Post and YOUR Postcode (no spaces etc).

You can choose to show the logo on " Cheapest Rate Always" or not

System - Users - Menus - Content - Components - Extensions - Help - VirtueMart -

Save & Close Save Cancel Help Permissions

MANUFACTURERS

SHOP

Shop

Media Files

Shipment Methods

Payment Methods

GJC VM Shipping per Product

CONFIGURATION

TOOLS

VirtueMart 3.0.16

Shipment Method: canpost

Add a logo canpost.gif

Show logo on cheapest Yes

Use test server? No

CanPost Merchant ID

You must obtain this info from CanPost to use their api. Register first then apply for the codes:  
Links:  
[Getting Started](#)

Development User ID

Development Password

Production User ID

Production Password

Your Sender Postcode

## Shipping Method:

The next step is to configure which shipping method you require.

Choose Domestic , International or United States and then the corresponding method.

If you choose ' Cheapest Rate Always ' it will return always the cheapest method only.

All possible Canada Post methods are available. If you need multiple methods we show you how to do that later (just clone the current one)

Shipping Type

Choose where and how you will ship.  
Just make some new Virtuemart shipping methods (Clone Shipment) if you need multiple methods!

Domestic or International Domestic

Choose the required shipping method Cheapest Rate Always

## Packing Fee:

And then any packing fee you might want to add to the price returned by CanPost - this can be one time or per product.

Packing and Handling Fee	<input type="text"/>
Apply Once?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Apply once <input type="radio"/> Apply to each package

### Delivery Date:

You can choose to show the delivery date returned by CanPost.

Display delivery date	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Delivery date label	<input type="text" value="Delivery Date"/>

### Discount:

You can choose to offer a discount on the returned CanPost prices - configure here:

Discount Amount	<input type="text" value="2"/>
Discount trigger level	<input type="text" value="100"/>
Discount Type	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Fixed Amount <input type="radio"/> Percentage
Discount Message	<input type="text" value="10% discount on orders over \$100"/>

### Countries:

Choose the countries this method will be used for. Choose Canada for domestic methods.

United States for United States

Choose which countries you ship to overseas for your International methods. Exclude Canada and United States! **N.B. This has now been moved to the 1st tab**

**Choose the countries this method will be used for on the 1ST TAB Shipment Method Information!**

Choose Canada for domestic.

Or choose which countries you ship to overseas for your International methods.

Exclude Canada!

### Weight Ranges:

Set the weight limits for the method here.

The maximum for normal parcel rates is 30 kg.

Lowest Weight to ship(kg - no units)	<input type="text"/>
Highest Weight to ship (kg - no units)	<input type="text" value="30"/>

There is the ability to add overweight shipments .. (i.e. send an over weight order in 2 or more parcels). Canpost has a Max of 30kg so if enabled the system finds the cost of a 30kg order and adds a per kilo amount to the over weight based on the returned cost. As this relationship is not linear there is a fiddle factor to increase the price per kilo added to the overage. You need to experiment with this a little but I found a factor of 1.7 gave fairly accurate results.

Allow overweight orders	<input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Overweight factor (if above enabled)	<input type="text" value="1.7"/>

### Dimensions:

CanPost's pricing is calculated by distance, weight, volume and over dimension... as long as the volume doesn't reach a certain "tipping point" it isn't used in the calc, the same applies to the dimensions.

The problem with the api is that only a total weight, dimensions & volume can be sent to CanPost .. not individual amounts. When we do a cumulative dimensions addition ( all we can do without starting super computer calculations of best fit packing ;) ) the additive dimensions can bring you into another price range.

Therefore there is the choice to choose the real dimensions, dummy dimensions ( based on the Cart quantity, weight and cube root for side measurements. ) or no dimensions.

You need to experiment which is the best for your product sizes and check the returned prices against <https://www.canadapost.ca/information/app/far/business/findARate?execution=e1s1>

Dimensions to send	<input type="text" value="Real"/>
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### Free shipping:

It is also possible to have free shipping for a method for orders over a certain value.

Leave blank if you don't need this.

Free Shipping from	<input type="text" value="200"/>
Label for Free Shipping	<input type="text" value="Free shipping"/>

### Display options and error handling:

Different ways can be configured to handle errors (non existing postcode, Canada Post doesn't respond etc). If a valid response is not returned then this method will not be available so you don't offer free shipping unawares! Experiment with the different configurations to see what suits best.

The Canada Post errors are very long and obscure so maybe just a message like "Re check your address" is better.

Our plugin first validates all entries so this is also a de facto postcode checker.

Error Display Choose how you want to handle errors.	
Show CanPost error	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Error Label in shipping select	<input type="text" value="Please check your address!"/>
Show messages?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

### Debugging setting:

There is extensive debugging available to help with any issues. If you do have a problem we are here to help - just use our Support page at <http://www.gicwebdesign.com/home/support.html>

We may ask you to copy paste the debug to help us diagnose your problem - but 99% of the time all runs smoothly! There is also a "fail the server" option so you can check how your settings respond if the CanPost server doesn't respond.

<b>Debug Display</b> Choose this to diagnose errors & configuration.	
Debug on?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Minor Debugging on?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Test CanPost failure	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

## Improving the display

You can add a bit of css and get rid of the Discount/Fee: label to tidy the layout.

**Discount/Fee:** - language/en-GB/en-GB.com\_virtuemart.ini around line 297

change to COM\_VIRTUEMART\_PLUGIN\_COST\_DISPLAY=""

**css** - add the following at the bottom of your (normally) components/com\_virtuemart/assets/css/vmsite-ltr.css

```
.cart-summary input[type="radio"] {
    display: block;
    float: left;
    height: 20px;
    margin: 0 5px 0 0;
    vertical-align: middle;
}
span.vmshipment_description, span.vmshipment_cost {
margin:0 0 5px 0;
display:inline;
}
.vmshipment_cost {
    color: #FF0000;
}
.vmshipment_name {
    font-weight: bold;
}
.canpostmethods input {
    cursor: pointer;
}
.vmCartShipmentLogo {
float:left;
margin:0 5px 0 0;
}
```

## Adding \$0.00 when free post is triggered (VM2.x)

If you need the \$0.00 to appear in the Cart when free shipping is triggered you need to replace the shipping price table cell in your **cart/tmpl/default\_pricelist.php** around line 334 on the default template the following code found here:

```
<td align="right"><?php
    if(empty($this->cart-
>pricesUnformatted['salesPriceShipment'])) {
```

```
        echo $this->currencyDisplay->createPriceDiv
('salesPriceShipment', '', '0.00', FALSE);
    }else{
        echo $this->currencyDisplay->createPriceDiv
('salesPriceShipment', '', $this->cart-
>pricesUnformatted['salesPriceShipment'], FALSE);
    }?> </td>
```

Regards,

John,

GJC Web Design.

<http://extensions.joomla.org/extensions/extension-specific/virtuemart-extensions/virtuemart-shipping/20740>

## **Change Log**

# 16.05.2016 added time to ship v3.0.4

# 15.08.2016 added over weight and too long v3.0.5

# 14.12.2016 round weight v3.0.6

# 29.12.2016 added Library materials & thickness - update server added v3.0.7

# 05.05.2017 added dimension handling - v3.0.8

# 17.05.2019 added new address deduction v3.0.9

# 16.12.2019 added blocking cats and countries etc v3.0.10

# 19.01.2020 bug fix for when no address v3.0.11