
Canary Islands Perfins Revisited

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Immediately below you can see my cover from Las Palmas. On this cover there are three Spanish stamps with perfin BHA and also four unofficial Canary Island airmail stamps with the surcharged date '18 July 1936', reflecting the beginning of The Spanish Civil War. These Canarian airmail stamps are very scarce on cover and I have never seen them with perfins till now. The back of this cover shows a military censor marking of Las Palmas. It is clear that Bob Szymanski's BHA perfin from the Canary Islands is from the same perforating machine as the BHA perfins on this cover from the Spanish American Bank in Las Palmas.



The illustration at the right shows another perfin from the Canary Islands. It is the perfin BB/C in a very early issue of Spain. This perfin was used by the Blandy Brothers Company in Las Palmas.



Next is a Spanish 50 Centimes stamp with a perfin FSB. According to the catalogue of Spanish perfins by F. Pérez Rodríguez (1992) this perfin was used by Elder Dempster y Coaling Co.Ltd., Santa Cruz de Tenerife. The initials of this company however don't fit this perfin and that raises at least the question if



the initials come from an earlier owner of this company.

The picture to the right also shows a very early 19th century Spanish stamp with a perfin H&Co. This fine perfin with small letters and holes is quite different from most other Spanish perfins. The user of this perfin was Hamilton & Co., Santa Cruz de Tenerife.



Probably all three perfins BB/C, FSB and H&Co were only used for a short time. In fifteen years of collecting I have only found one of each. I would like to hear from other collectors if they have these perfins on other issues than shown on the scans.