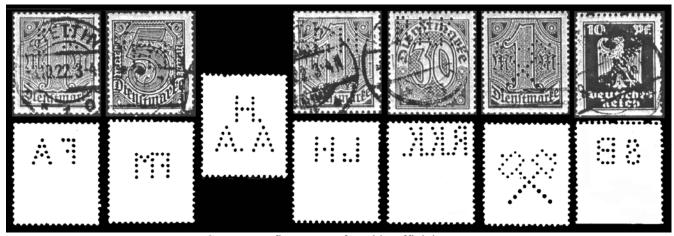
Those Very Few German Official Perfin Types

Bob Schwerdt (LM505)

In contrast to the number of German postal perfin types (12,000+), those types found in official German stamps are meager indeed. The chart below shows known varieties of these official perfins. My

issue totals (including duplicates) are listed to show the relative scarcity of some patterns. I have not seen any examples of 'POL' perfins punched in German official stamp.

ARGE Catalog Number	Pattern	Postmark	User	Count	Remarks
1.FA,1	FA	Stettin		2	9 other postmarks and 5 other users listed
Unlisted	FAA			0	Needham reported on 5mk official (possible Double punch)
1.FM,2	FM	Darmstadt	Finance Minister	26	
2.HAA,1	H./A.A			0	Shown in catalog supplement (Have only a photocopy)
1.LH,2	LH	Darmstadt	Landversicherungsanstalt	2	
1.RKK,1	R.K.K.	Berlin	Coal Distribution Commission	18	Also found in Russian local officials (have 2)
4.38,4	Crossed Mallets	Munchen	Bureau of Mining	12	Also found in Bavarian officials (have 35)
1.SB,2	SB	Darmstadt	State Board of Health Insurance	1	



German perfin patterns found in official stamps

There may be other types of official perfins hidden in the vast German catalog, but I hadn't encountered any until recently. The new "SB" type that crossed my desk is in Scott #O55. As shown in the table, five other users and nine different town postmarks are listed for this pattern. Found in postal issues, therefore, the perfin is not uncommon. But, from my

experience, it is rather rare in official stamps and provides us with another example from this limited area of collecting.

Hopefully, collectors of German official perfins can add to this list.