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Mailbox aimed at a net result

TECHNOLOGY company TZ Ltd has unveiled what it hopes will help online shoppers avoid delays in getting their items delivered.

The company has launched a prototype for a new mailbox with a host of security and other features designed to store goods securely if the resident is not there to meet the courier or postman.

This would avoid having to make a trip to the post office to collect goods bought online, such as shoes, prescription medicines and electronic items. Food deliveries could also be kept fresh under refrigeration.

TZ executive chairman Mark Bouris described the automated residential postboxes, called OurPAD, as something that could be the "postie's best friend".

The company would spend the next year looking for a partner to bring it to market. "This is the smartest letterbox in the world. It's the most user-friendly letterbox in the world," he said.

The technology was being used in an apartment building in Chicago, as well as at one Australia Post office in each of Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, he said.

TZ closed down 1¢ at 40¢.

AAP