



IPPC ISPM 15 International Standard for Wood Packaging Summary of Requirements by Country



Last Update: August 14, 2024








This report is intended solely for use by the customers of the Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association's ISPM 15 Compliance Inspection Program and Subscribers to NELMA's ISPM 15 Information Services. The table summarizes information compiled from global sources and is subject to change at any time. Although every effort has been made to include current and accurate information, the table is subject to unknown errors or omissions. NELMA recommends that exporters contact the proper agency of authority within the country of destination or contact USDA APHIS for further details and shipping requirements.








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Changes Since Last Revision:









Clarification on the exemption between the U.S. and Canada regarding origin of shipments to Canada. U.S. "tropical territories" such as Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands are no longer exempt from IPPC compliance for shipments to Canada.








Country	IPPC ISPM 15 Enforcement Date	Current Requirements for Wood Packaging	Country Agency of Regulations
Argentina 	January 1, 2006	Originally announced intentions to WTO on 4/27/05, stating "All wood packaging and/or support material and dunnage entering or in transit through Argentina must be treated and certified by means of the corresponding mark in accordance with ISPM 15." A subsequent WTO announcement addendum on 11/16/05 stated that the original Resolution was adopted and the measure entered into full force on January 1, 2006.	National Agriculture and Food Quality and Health Service (SENASA)
Australia 	9/1/2004 (Bark Restriction) (Form Required)	<p>As of 12/09, the Australian requirement for plywood/veneer used only as packaging material with imported goods has changed, according to their year-end announcement. Australia no longer requires a "Newly Manufactured Plywood Declaration" for plywood/veneer packaging material. This means that the previous Australian regulation that required plywood to have been manufactured 90 days prior to the shipment of wood packaging that contained plywood is no longer in effect.</p> <p>Australia has a NO BARK TOLERANCE policy along with a watch for BLUE STAIN on solid wood. Neither of these items should be present on the solid wood components within the packaging or the shipment will be subject to quarantine and expensive on-site treatments at the Australian port.</p> <p>A "Packing Declaration Form" is necessary to send with each shipment to Australia</p>	Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS)









		To view/download AQIS regulations, notices, and forms, refer to the "Useful Website Links" section located at bottom of this table.	
Bangladesh 	Not Known	Global information suggests that Bangladesh has implemented ISPM 15, however no official WTO documentation has been released as of May 1, 2013. NELMA recommends that all wood packaging exported to Bangladesh be in compliance with ISPM 15 and appropriately stamped.	
Bolivia 	July 24, 2005	Official announcement forwarded to USDA APHIS and WTO on July 4, 2005 regarding their intentions for implementation of ISPM 15. At this point, they are requiring the wood packaging to be constructed from debarked wood.	Servicio Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria y Inocuidad Alimentaria (SENASAG)
Brazil 	June 1, 2005 February 1, 2016 Revision	According to USDA APHIS, Brazil has adopted ISPM 15 regulations, effective June 1, 2005. In addition, wood packaging material must be free from signs of live pest infestation. Effective February 1, 2016 all shipments that contain IPPC-stamped wood packaging should include a self-declaration on company letterhead that states Wood Packaging: Heat Treated and IPPC-stamped. NELMA also recommends including a copy of the facility's NELMA Certificate of Compliance.	Secretaria de Defesa Agropecuaria
Bulgaria 	June 1, 2006	An official notice of adoption and implementation of ISPM 15 requirements by Bulgaria was released by WTO on 2/22/06. It states, "wood packaging entering Bulgaria must be treated and certified in accordance with the standards established in IPPC ISPM 15." As of 1/1/07, Bulgaria is now a member of the European Union, which requires IPPC ISPM compliant wood packaging materials for incoming shipments.	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, National Plant Protection Service (no link)
Canada 	To Be Announced	U.S. and Canada maintain their exemption of the requirement for IPPC Compliance and stamped shipments between the 2 countries (as of August 2024), however Canada has clarified that this exemption for shipments to Canada only apply to those that originate in the lower 48 states, Alaska, and the District of Columbia. WPM Shipments to Canada from Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and from other "tropical U.S. territories" DO require to be IPPC ISPM 15 compliant and stamped.	Canadian Food Inspection Service (CFIA)
Chile 	June 1, 2005	Chile notified the WTO of their intent to implement and enforce ISPM 15 regulations for wood packaging.	Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG)
China 	1/1/2006 (Blue Stain Alert)	Enforcement of ISPM 15 began January 1, 2006, meaning all wood packaging destined for China must have the IPPC-logo stamp at that time, ending the use and availability of the USDA APHIS heat treatment certificate (Form 553). In addition to heat treatment, fumigation with methyl bromide is acceptable for shipments to China from countries that have the pinewood nematode (the U.S. is one), at specific dosage and exposure rate (See USDA APHIS website for details). Please note that wood packaging that meets either treatment method (heat treatment or fumigation) must be stamped with the IPPC stamp of a certified facility or provider.	General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine (AQSIQ)








		Note: Incidents of shipment stoppage has been recorded at China ports due to the presence of BLUE STAIN on the solid wood materials within the wood packaging items.	
Colombia 	September 15, 2005	Colombia's 1/4/05 communication to WTO announced revised implementation of ISPM 15 to September 15, 2005.	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism
Costa Rica 	March 19, 2006	Costa Rica notified the WTO of their intent to implement ISPM 15 regulations for wood packaging, with a date of September 16, 2005 set for wood packaging materials to be exported FROM Costa Rica, and March 19, 2006 (6 months later) for imports to the country.	Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado
Cuba 	October 1, 2008	Cuba has notified WTO of its intent to implement the ISPM 15 regulations for wood packaging for entering the country, effective October 1, 2008. Note: In 1996, Congress passed the Helms-Burton Act which further restricted United States citizens from doing business in or with Cuba, and mandated restrictions on giving public or private assistance to any successor regime in Havana unless and until certain claims against the Cuban government are met. In 1999, U.S. President Bill Clinton expanded the trade embargo even further by ending the practice of foreign subsidiaries of U.S. companies trading with Cuba. At present, the embargo, which limits American businesses from conducting business with Cuban interests, is still in effect.	Centro Nacional de Sanidad Vegetal
Dominican Republic 	July 1, 2006	The Dominican Republic made an announcement to the WTO on July 7 regarding their implementation of IPPC ISPM 15, with a proposed date of enforcement backdated to July 1, 2006.	Departamento de Sanidad Vegetal, Secretaria de Estado de Agricultura (no weblink)
Ecuador 	July 1, 2006	Ecuador corresponded with WTO on July 5 regarding specifics of their implementation of ISPM 15. They state, "any packaging entering the country that falls short of international and national standard (IPPC ISPM 15) will be placed in the official custody of the Ecuadorian Customs Corporation (CAE) and SESA for re-embarkation, both the packaging and the product." It also requires that the importer must cover the cost of storage and re-embarkation or will be forced to suspect importation to the country.	Ecuadorian Agricultural Health Service (SESA)
Egypt 	October 1, 2005	As stated in their announcement to WTO, "Wood packaging materials entering Egypt from all countries must be treated and certified in accordance with the standards established in ISPM 15".	Central Administration of Plant Quarantine (CAPQ)
El Salvador 	No Implementation Date Announced	No requirement for IPPC-stamped wood packaging entering the country has been announced.	








<p>European Union</p> 	<p>March 1, 2005 January 1, 2009 (bark restriction)</p>	<p>The EU implemented the full ISPM 15 regulations on January 1, 2005, with enforcement March 1, 2005. The European Union will implement the bark limitation requirement for all wood packaging materials on January 1, 2009 with a transitional period until July 1, 2009. This new requirement will follow the revised bark restrictive language that has been included in the latest draft version of a revised ISPM 15 Standard, now under review by IPPC. The wood packaging materials should be free from bark with exceptions for presence of any number of individual pieces of bark as follows:(1) permitted if they are less than 3 centimeters (1- 3/16”) in width, regardless of length, or (2) if greater than 3 centimeters in width, the total surface area of an individual piece of bark must be less than 50 square centimeters (about credit card size).</p> <p>Refer to the full list of European countries, under the "EU Country List" section located at end of this table.</p>	<p>Commission of the European Communities, Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General Directorate E - Food Safety, Plant Health, Animal Health and Welfare</p>
<p>Guatemala</p> 	<p>September 16, 2005</p>	<p>According to USDA APHIS, Guatemala will accept wood packaging treated and marked in compliance with ISPM 15. The enforcement date is dependent upon the exporting country's requirement, meaning that for shipments from the US, the enforcement date would be September 16, 2005 since that will be the US requirement for wood packaging received from Guatemala.</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Food</p>
<p>Honduras</p> 	<p>February 25, 2006 (adoption)</p>	<p>Notification was received by WTO on 2/3/06 regarding Honduras' adoption of ISPM 15 setting forth guidelines for both export and import of goods using wood packaging. The regulations were adopted on 2/25/06, with implementation set "upon publication in the Official Journal, La Gaceta." No specific date given for implementation but it is recommended to use ISPM 15 compliant and stamped wood packaging destined for Honduras as this time.</p>	<p>Secretaria de Agricultura y Granadaria (SAG)</p>
<p>Hong Kong</p> 	<p>To Be Announced</p>	<p>While technically now "owned" by China, Hong Kong still maintains some administrative autonomy which at this time includes import/export requirements of wood packaging. No announcement has been made to WTO or USDA APHIS regarding implementation of ISPM 15 separately by Hong Kong. However, USDA APHIS does recommend using ISPM 15 compliant and stamped wood packaging for shipments to Hong Kong. No certificate of heat treatment is available. Interestingly, China in their implementation correspondence will be requiring ISPM 15 compliant and stamped wood packaging for shipments to them from Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan.</p>	
<p>Iceland</p> 	<p>No Implementation Date Announced</p>	<p>No requirement for IPPC-stamped wood packaging entering the country has been announced.</p>	
<p>India</p> 	<p>November 1, 2004</p>	<p>India requires wood packaging materials to be treated and marked per ISPM 15, OR shipment must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate. Please note that an official phytosanitary certificate is not available from USDA APHIS for India.</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Plant Protection Division</p>





Indonesia 	September 1, 2009	Indonesia has announced a follow up to their 2006 notification to WTO regarding their intentions to adopt ISPM 15 and have implemented the requirements for wood packaging to meet the Standard, effective September 2009.	Agency for Agriculture Quarantine, Ministry of Agriculture
Israel 	October 1, 2009	Israel's Ministry of Agriculture has officially notified the WTO of its adoption and implementation plans for ISPM 15. Their proposed date of implementation is October 1, 2009.	Ministry of Agriculture - Plant Protection and Inspection
Jamaica 	January 1, 2011	Jamaica announced it has implemented IPPC ISPM 15 requirements for inbound shipments to the country	
Japan 	April 1, 2007	Japan notified WTO on 10/27/06 regarding its intentions to require IPPC ISPM15 compliant and stamped wood packaging entering the country, effective April 1, 2007.	http://www.pps.go.jp/english/woodpack/index.html
Jordan 	November 17, 2005	On January 12, 2006, the WTO circulated an announcement from Jordan regarding a directive now in effect titled, "Instructions on Treatment of the Wood Packaging Materials used in Preparation of Consignments". It is unclear at this point if the implementation is directed towards export wood packaging manufacturers in Jordan or for ISPM 15 requirements of wood packaging shipments to Jordan. To be covered, NELMA recommends that shippers go ahead and stamp wood packaging with the IPPC mark destined for Jordan.	Ministry of Agriculture
Kenya 	Currently in Effect	Kenya officially notified WTO on July 29, 2010 regarding their adoption of ISPM 15 requirements for solid wood packaging imported into the country.	Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) - Importation Requirements Document
Lebanon 	March 9, 2006	No official announcement to WTO has been received, however, the Agriculture Import & Export Department of the Lebanese Ministry of Agriculture has advised that the Lebanese Ministerial Decree No. 19/1, dated January 9, 2006, requires all wood packaging material entering the Lebanon to be ISPM15 compliant effective March 9, 2006.	Ministry of Agriculture, Import & Export Department (no link)
Malaysia 	January 1, 2010	Malaysia notified WTO on October 13, 2009 of their intentions to implement ISPM 15 for import consignments, effective January 1, 2010	Department of Agriculture, Crop Protection and Plant Quarantine Division

Mexico 	Final Phase-in July 5, 2006	NEW ALERT! In addition to being properly stamped with the IPPC mark, Mexico is requiring an official USDA APHIS Phytosanitary Certificate to accompany all shipments of completed wood packaging materials (finished pallets, skids, boxes, crates) for use in Mexico. This would be finished units of pallets, skids, boxes, and crates that <u>do not carry goods</u> , only for use by companies within Mexico. However, ONLY the IPPC mark on pallets, skids, boxes, or crates that carry goods on or in them for entry into Mexico is necessary, no certificate needed.	Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT)
Morocco 	May 1, 2013	An official announcement was presented to WTO on February 5, 2013 that addresses wood packaging for use in international trade. While the Notification appears to affect wood packaging produced in Morocco for exporting goods it should be assumed that any incoming wood packaging to Morocco ports should be compliant with IPPC ISPM 15.	
New Caledonia 	Effective Immediately	New Caledonia has been added to the list of countries that have implemented ISPM 15 requirements for inbound wood packaging. New Caledonia is a territory of France located in the South Pacific.	
New Zealand 	May 1, 2006 with phase-in to June 30, 2006 with revisions to be implemented on November 1, 2009	New Zealand's September 15, 2009 correspondence to WTO announced their intention to fully implement the bark provisions allowed in the 2009 revised ISPM 15 Standard. Currently, New Zealand requires all WPM imported into the country to be free of bark. The new provision mirrors the 2009 Standard which provides allowances of bark within certain sizes. All WPM must be IPPC stamped to utilize this provision. The 9/15/09 correspondence further states that New Zealand will begin specifically targeting all wood packaging entering the country that is not marked with an ISPM 15 compliant stamp, <u>at the importer's expense</u> . The expected implementation date is November 1, 2009.	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
Nicaragua 	August 10, 2012	An announcement to WTO signaled the partial implementation of IPPC ISPM 15. NELMA recommends that all wood packaging used in shipments to Nicaragua be in compliance with ISPM 15 and appropriately stamped.	
Nigeria 	September 30, 2004	Nigeria has indicated through official correspondence with USDA APHIS of the acceptance of official treatment and marking of wood packaging in line with ISPM15. There is no requirement for a phytosanitary certificate for wood packaging treated and marked under the standard.	Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Plant Quarantine Service Division (no link)
Norway 	January 1, 2008	Norway has notified WTO of their intentions to implement IPPC ISPM 15 requirements for wood packaging with an enforcement date of January 1, 2008. Norway is not a member of the European Union.	Norwegian Food Safety Authority

Oman 	December 1, 2006	According to Oman's 8/2/06 announcement to WTO, "the Sultanate of Oman will apply the (IPPC ISPM 15) standard which describes the processes of treatment of wood packing materials against pests by approved measures and recognized with specific mark to facilitate verifications during inspection at the point of entry.	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (no link)
Pakistan 	No Implementation Date Announced	No requirement for IPPC-stamped wood packaging entering the country has been announced.	
Panama 	No Implementation Date Announced	An official notice was published by WTO from Panama on 4/15/05 that set up a domestic program for the official registration of heat treatment facilities for wood packaging to be shipped FROM Panama. Panama has not published any notification for a requirement of IPPC-stamped wood packaging entering the country.	
Paraguay 	June 28, 2005	Paraguay notified WTO on 11/16/05 regarding their Resolution to implement and enforce ISPM 15 to "regulate wood packaging material in international trade" that affects "all trading partners of Paraguay". The announced date of enforcement precedes the official declaration to WTO by almost 5 months.	Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Sanidad Vegetal y de Semillas
Peru 	January 1, 2006	Peru originally notified WTO of their intentions to adopt and enforce IPPC ISPM 15 for "entry into and exit from Peru of wood packaging material in international trade" with an original implementation date of March 1, 2005. Peru has since altered their enforcement and USDA APHIS has clarified the official implementation rules set by Peru as follows: "For countries enforcing ISPM 15 now, shipments must have ISPM 15 compliant wood packing now. For other countries, shipments must have ISPM 15 compliant wood packing as of January 1, 2006." USDA APHIS recommends that ISPM 15 stamped wood packaging be used as soon as possible.	National Agrarian Health Service (SENASA)
Philippines 	June 1, 2005	The Philippines has fully implemented ISPM 15, effective June 1, 2005, requiring that all wood packaging material entering the country should be treated and marked in accordance with ISPM 15.	Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry
Puerto Rico 	Final Phase-in July 5, 2006	See details under "United States Territories"	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
Romania 	January 1, 2007	Romania became an official member of the European Union, effective January 1, 2007. As an EU member state, wood packaging materials would fall under the requirements of IPPC ISPM 15 for compliance.	

Russia 	July 15, 2009 ????	Based on correspondence from USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service office in Moscow, it is believed that Russia began implementation and enforcement of ISPM 15 in July of this year. However, other sources state that this implementation and enforcement was rescinded in November until further notice. Given this uncertainty, NELMA recommends that all wood packaging that contains solid wood materials be stamped with the appropriate IPPC mark.	
Senegal 	August 15, 2010	An official notice was sent to the WTO from Senegal's Department of Commerce announcing the country's intention to adopt and implement ISPM 15 Standard for Wood Packaging for incoming and outgoing commerce.	
Saudi Arabia 	No Implementation Date Announced	No requirement for IPPC-stamped wood packaging entering the country has been announced.	
Serbia 	September 1, 2010	There is no official WTO announcement from Serbia however government documents indicate that an IPPC program has been set-up internally within Serbia for IPPC-stamping WPM and import items are required to follow ISPM 15. NELMA recommends that WPM used in shipments to Serbia be IPPC-stamped.	
Seychelles 	March 1, 2006	A 3/1/06 announcement by the Plant Quarantine Unit of the government of Seychelles has been globally distributed regarding their implementation of ISPM 15. The announcement was not made through the WTO. It states, "As of March 1, 2006, exporters to Seychelles will be required to treat all wood packaging material used in the shipping of both agricultural and non-agricultural commodities.....The treated wood packaging (fumigated or heat-treated) material must bear a stamp with a mark approved by IPPC." For geographic purposes, the Seychelles is a collection of islands off the eastern coast of Africa in the Indian Ocean.	Plant Protection Unit Plant Protection Services Unit plantpro@seychelles.net
South Africa 	March 1, 2005	Notified WTO regarding implementation of ISPM 15 on April 27, 2004. Amended notice to WTO on November 26, 2004 stating that "ISPM 15 will be fully implemented on January 1, 2005, requiring that all wood packaging material entering South Africa should be treated and marked in accordance with ISPM 15. Enforcement of ISPM 15 will be from March 1, 2005." In addition, South Africa has indicated that Methyl Bromide fumigation is not acceptable for treatments of coniferous wood packaging materials for export. See important DUNNAGE marking requirements under the "Dunnage Information" section below.	Department of Agriculture
South Korea 	June 1, 2005	Implementation of ISPM 15 has been delayed from originally announced start date of June 1, 2004 to June 1, 2005.	Ministry of Health and Welfare

Sri Lanka 	March 8, 2010	Notified WTO on October 14, 2009 of their announcement to implement ISPM 15 regulations on the export and import of wood packaging materials with a March 8, 2010 proposed date of adoption and a proposed date of entry into force on September 8, 2010.	National Plant Quarantine Service (NPQS)
Switzerland 	March 1, 2005	ISPM 15 implemented and enforcement date coordinated with EU's March 1, 2005 date.	Federal Office for Agriculture
Syria 	April 1, 2006	According to USDA APHIS, the local US FAS office in the region has learned that Syria is requiring all wood packaging entering the country to meet the requirements of ISPM 15. Syria is not a member of the World Trade Organization.	
Taiwan 	January 1, 2009	In November of 2005, Taiwan notified WTO of Implementation of IPPC for "wood and articles of wood" that enter the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu; an announcement to WTO on May 28, 2008 officially set the date of January 1, 2009 for enforcement of the Standard. NELMA highly recommends that current shipments to Taiwan meet the ISPM 15 regulations.	Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine (BAPHIQ)
Thailand 	October 23, 2009	Thailand notified WTO on August 24, 2009 of their intention to adopt ISPM 15 regulations for incoming packaging with a planned effective date of October 23, 2009. In addition, their draft "Rules, Procedures, and Conditions for the Importation of Wood Packaging Materials (B.E. 2552) states that "Wood packaging must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate." No USDA certificate exists at this time and hopefully that requirement will be rescinded before implementation date, or the acceptance of a "self-declaration" by the importer will be acceptable, in conjunctions with the official IPPC stamp.	
Trinidad & Tobago 	To Be Announced	Notified WTO of Implementation of IPPC on 9/21/05, but correspondence pertains to organization and requirements of their domestic program. Their notification states, "Imports to be implemented at a date to be notified".	Research Division, Ministry of Agriculture Land and Marine Resources
Turkey 	January 1, 2006	Notified WTO of their intent to adopt and implement ISPM 15 for all wood packing materials entering the country. Please note that Turkey has added the requirement for debarked wood to be used. USDA APHIS has appealed this additional requirement in correspondence to Turkey, 12/2/04. According to USDA APHIS, the enforcement date has changed from January 1, 2005 to January 1, 2006.	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)

United States Territories (primary) <i>American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands</i>	Final Phase-in July 5, 2006	According to USDA APHIS, these territories are under the jurisdiction of the United States, therefore the same requirements for the US would apply. Shipments to these territories <u>FROM</u> the United States would be exempt from the ISPM 15 requirement. However, imports into these locations from other countries using wood packaging materials must be ISPM 15 compliant, same as shipping to the US. Refer to the link at the bottom of this table under "Useful Website Links" to view important NAPPO Importation information OR see the phase-in details section, also at the bottom of this table.	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
United States 	Final Phase-in July 5, 2006	<p>The US will begin enforcement of the requirement for ISPM 15 compliant wood packaging beginning September 16, 2005 through a "phase-in" period established by APHIS in coordination with the other NAPPO countries (Canada and Mexico). Refer to the link below to view important U.S. Importation information OR see the phase-in details section, also at the bottom of this table.</p> <p>U.S. and Canada set to remove exemption of IPPC ISPM 15 requirements for WPM shipments between countries at some point but no official timeline has been given. A lengthy phase-in period upon announcement is anticipated.</p> <p>Paper certifications of treatment will no longer be required or accepted. Invoice statements are no longer required for importation into the U.S. The only exception is noted above, where non-Canadian merchandise entering directly from Canada on Canadian-origin WPM will experience fewer delays at the U.S.-Canada border if the entry documents contain a statement as to the origin of the WPM. Refer to the link below under "Useful Website Links" to view important US WPM Importation information from the US Customs and Border Protection Agency.</p>	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
Ukraine 	January 1, 2013	The first official announcement to WTO was declared on January 8, 2013 from Ukraine. An order was declared that amends the rules of import, transportation, export, and manufacture of wood packaging materials with the purpose of compliance with ISPM 15. The adoption harmonized Ukraine with the EU.	http://www.minagro.kiev.ua
Venezuela 	June 1, 2005	According to USDA APHIS, Venezuela has published requirements adopting International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM15). The regulation goes into effect June 1, 2005.	Servicio Autónomo de Sanidad Agropecuaria (no link)
Vietnam 	June 5, 2005	According to USDA APHIS, Vietnam has published requirements adopting International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM15).	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Plant Protection Department (no link)

Dunnage Requirements

Important Note: With the adoption of the 2009 IPPC ISPM 15 Standard, each piece of Dunnage material must be stamped with a minimum of one IPPC Dunnage stamp. This applies to shipments to ALL countries that have implemented the ISPM 15 Standard.

To determine if you or your customer requires this type of material, first consider the official definition, as listed in IPPC ISPM 15:

“Dunnage - wood packaging materials used to secure or support a commodity, but which does not remain associated with the commodity”.

In other words, dunnage is solid lumber material, typically individual pieces, used by shippers in the loading of an overseas container, ship, or airplane for transit, but these items do not typically (but may) continue on with the shipment beyond the port of entry. Examples of where the stamp may be used:

(1) At a certified wood packaging facility or heat treatment facility that may wish to stamp heat-treated lumber for dunnage for sale to a shipper/freight forwarder. The lumber **MUST BE** stamped the full length of each piece at a minimum of every 2 feet with the IPPC DUNNAGE stamp. This ensures that when it is cut to size by the shipper, at least one stamp facsimile will be present on each piece of dunnage.

(2) At a certified freight forwarder or wood packaging facility that loads shipping containers at their site and dunnage material is needed to secure or separate the cargo. In this example, certified heat treated lumber stamped HT may be cut to desired sizes for use as dunnage and each piece then stamped once with the IPPC DUNNAGE stamp.

(3) At a certified seaport/airport facility. Certified heat treated lumber stamped HT may be purchased and cut to desired sizes on site, and then each piece stamped once with the IPPC DUNNAGE stamp.

Please note that blocking and bracing of goods inside a certified IPPC-stamped box or crate would NOT be considered dunnage, as these wood packaging materials typically go with the shipment beyond the port of entry and would be covered by the wood packaging unit's IPPC stamp. Contact us with your questions or stamp needs regarding this new requirement or any additional circumstances not covered within this alert.

EU Country List (27):

EU Countries (original 15)	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (<i>England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales</i>)
EU Countries (10 added 5/1/04)	Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia
EU Countries (2 added 1/1/07)	Bulgaria, Romania

Useful Website Links:

[The ISPM 15 Document:](#)

[The USDA APHIS Wood Packaging Material \(WPM\) website](#)

[USDA APHIS Export Certification Specialists](#)

NELMA Inspection Information

For Wood Packaging Repair Facilities: All IPPC ISPM 15 stamped wood packaging materials (pallets, skids, crates, boxes, etc.) that undergo any repair **must be re-treated** (the entire unit) in order to comply with the ISPM 15 Standard. In other words, using new HT-stamped material to repair an IPPC-stamped pallet, box, skid, crate, etc. is not acceptable. In addition, any existing IPPC marks on the repaired wood packaging must be obliterated and re-stamped (on a minimum of 2 opposite sides) with the mark of the certified facility that re-treated the wood packaging item. NELMA and ALSC's inspection staff will be closely monitoring this process to ensure compliance with these strict regulations.

For Wood Packaging Facilities and HT Lumber Remanufacturers: Inspect your HT lumber purchases **before** you use in packaging to be certain that **(a)** all the lumber within the purchased unit has an **HT stamp on each piece** (unless minimum-sized items that allow 25% stamping), **and (b)** a mill number/name and logo of an accredited agency of ALSC. NELMA's Inspectors have found bundles with only a few pieces marked with HT, in addition to HT lumber purchased that was stamped HT but without the required agency logo, particularly from lumber produced in Eastern Europe. For a view of accredited lumber agency logos, refer to the ALSC website:

[ALSC Approved Lumber Agency List & Logos](#)

As always, contact **NELMA** for any questions or assistance:

Phone: 207-829-6901
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 Email: jeff@nelma.org (regulations & NELMA program information)
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Glossary of Acronyms:

ALSC	American Lumber Standard Committee
APHIS	USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service
AQIS	Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service
EU	European Union
HT	Heat Treatment
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISPM 15	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15
NELMA	Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association
NAPPO	North American Plant Protection Organization
OSB	Oriented-Strand Board
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WPM	Wood Packaging Materials
WTO	World Trade Organization