
CUSTOMS REGULATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR IMPORTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS REMOVAL

A. Specific Regulations

- Many countries have adopted the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures Number 15. This is commonly referred to as ISPM-15.
- The ISPM-15 standardizes the treatment of all wood packaging used for the international transport of household goods.
- It directly addresses the need to treat wood materials of a thickness greater than 6mm.
- By standardizing the treatment of wood, countries protect their environment from harmful organisms that may damage the natural ecology or spread uncontrollably within the new ecosystem.
- Wood packing material refers to any of the following:
 - Packing cases, boxes, crates, and similar packaging
 - Pallets, box pallets, and other load boards
 - Pallet collars
 - Wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo (dunnage)
- What approved measures may be utilized to treat wood packing materials:
 - Heat treatment
 - Wood packing material should be treated in accordance with a specific time-temperature schedule that achieves a minimum core temperature of 56° C for a minimum of 30 minutes.
 - Heat treatment is indicated by the mark “HT”.
 - Fumigation
 - The wood packing material should be fumigated with *methyl bromide*.
 - The treatment is indicated by the mark “MB”.
- After treatment, the wood is marked and branded with a seal of compliance known as a “wheat stamp”.
- ISPM-15 regulations were revised in 2009 to mandate that ISPM-15 compliant wood packaging must now be made from de-barked wood.

WOOD PACKING MATERIAL

- A photo of a what stamp can found below:



- To date, 71 countries have adopted these measures. They are as follows:
 - Argentina
 - Australia
 - Austria
 - Belgium
 - Bolivia
 - Brazil
 - Bulgaria
 - Canada
 - Chile
 - China
 - Colombia
 - Costa Rica
 - Croatia
 - Cuba
 - Cyprus
 - Czech Republic
 - Denmark
 - Dominican Republic
 - Ecuador
 - Egypt
 - Estonia
 - Finland
 - France
 - Germany
 - Greece
 - Guatemala
 - Hungary
 - India
 - Indonesia
 - Ireland
 - Israel
 - Italy
 - Japan
 - Jordan
 - Kenya
 - Latvia
 - Lebanon
 - Lithuania
 - Luxembourg
 - Malta
 - Mexico
 - The Netherlands
 - New Zealand
 - Nicaragua
 - Nigeria
 - Norway
 - Oman
 - Paraguay
 - Peru
 - Philippines
 - Poland
 - Portugal

WOOD PACKING MATERIAL

- Romania
- Seychelles
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- South Korea
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States
- Venezuela
- Vietnam