

Importation of Wood Packaging Material

ISPM #15

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U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) standards address harmonization among 137 governments for trade issues.

List of countries

<https://www.ippc.int/IPPC>

Click on:En/nppo/jsp



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7 CFR 319.40-3 requires:

Regulated wood packaging material may be imported into the United States under a general permit provided that the material is heat treated or fumigated with Methyl Bromide and is marked in a visible location with a legible and permanent mark that indicates that the article meets the requirements of this paragraph.

The mark must be approved by the International Plant Protection Convention and include a unique graphic symbol, the ISO two letter country code for the country that produced the wood packaging material, a unique number assigned by the national plant protection agency of the country of the producer of the wood packaging material and an abbreviation disclosing the type of treatment.

No significant difference between import and export standards.



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Regulated Wood Packaging Materials include:

Wood or wood products used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity, including dunnage excluding:

Manufactured wood materials such as fiber board, plywood, whisky and wine barrels and veneer

Loose wood packing materials, sawdust , and

Pieces of wood that are less than 6 mm thick in any dimension.

Other exemptions include:

Wood packaging material used by the Department of Defense



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Additional Exemptions:

By bilateral agreement between the U.S. and Canada, WPM made entirely from Canadian origin wood is exempt from the treatment and marking requirements.

Operationally CBP will equate the country of origin of the WPM with the country of origin of the goods.

Commercial shipments must be accompanied by an importer document stating that they are derived from trees harvested in Canada.
Non commercial shipments may have an oral or written declaration.

Wood Packaging Material transiting any signatory country in the country of transit.



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Consequences if Wood Packaging Material is not marked:

Immediate reexport of regulated wood packaging material.

Does not require reexport to the country of original export.

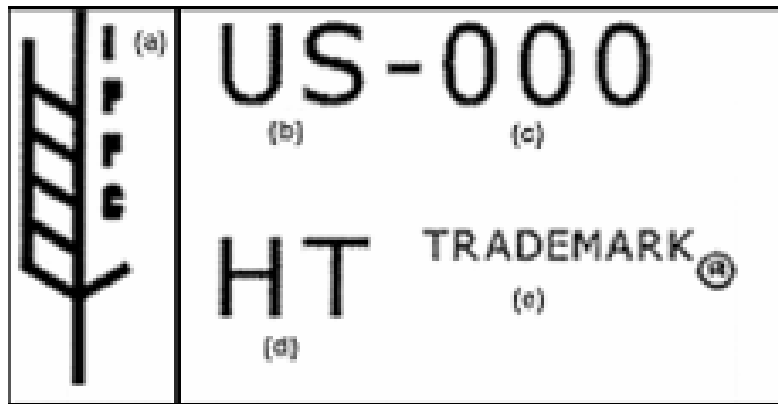
Cargo can be separated from the noncompliant WPM under certain circumstances. This must be accomplished under CBP supervision with a charge to the party in interest.

No fumigation allowed in the U.S. or alternative disposal methods.



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Acceptable Marking Format

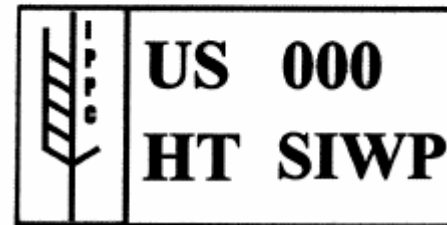
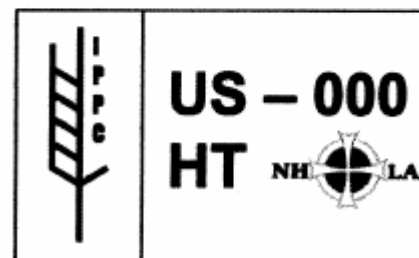
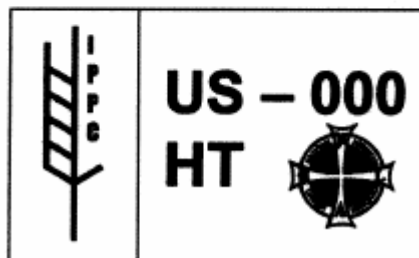
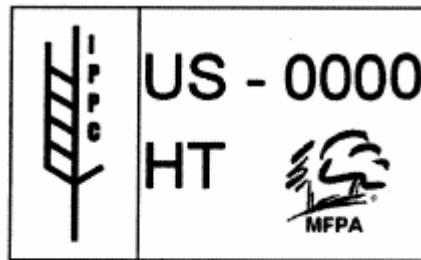
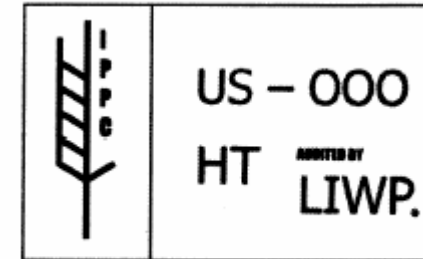
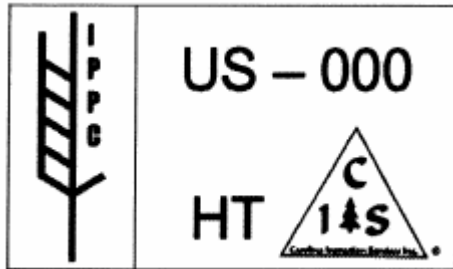


- a. Trademarked international symbol for compliant wood packaging materials
- b. ISO country code
- c. Facility ID number
- d. Method of treatment code (HT or MB)
- e. Trademarked symbol, logo, or name of the authorized treatment facility



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Typical U.S. Heat Treatment Marks



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Typical International Marks



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Wood Packaging Material Stamps

International site

<https://www.ippc.int/IPP>

[Click on: En/default.jsp](#)

Use the national tab at the top of the page

US site

Pallet Industry:

<http://www.palletcentral.com>

<http://www.alsc.org>

All WPM:

<http://www.alsc.org>



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Other Elements of Interest:

This regulation supersedes the special provisions for wood packaging material from China/Hong Kong. The ABI indicator will be turned off.

Paper certification of treatment will no longer be required or accepted.

No targeting solely for WPM. Compliance determinations will be made as part of a normal CBP.



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CBP Implementation Initiatives:

WPM compliance benchmarking from July 1-31, 2005

6,120 lines with WPM examined

4,634 lines (76%) noncompliant

Noncompliance from wide range of countries

Informed compliance to the trade

Advising foreign governments of its WPM noncompliance

Coordination with Canada and Mexico to ensure a smooth trilateral implementation

Development of an implementation plan for CBP

Creation of a WPM page on the CBP website at www.cbp.gov



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