

Customs Bulletin



NORTH AMERICA'S RAILROAD

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Effective February 1, 2006, the governments of the U.S., Canada and Mexico will begin full enforcement of the Wood Packaging Material (WPM) regulation per the ISPM No. 15 of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO).

The regulation requires that non-compliant **pallets and crates** found in import shipments must be re-exported from North America.

A trilateral agreement between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico allows the import shipment to return to the original point of origin in North America.

Shippers must submit a new bill of lading for this return movement and are responsible for all freight and supplemental charges.

Customs & eBusiness assistance:

CN Transborder Group 800-267-9779

CN eBusiness 800-361-0198

Important Exemption for WPM made entirely of Canadian or U.S. wood

U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Plant Health Division cite that WPM of U.S. and Canada origin are exempt from the WPM regulation.

This exemption applies only to WPM in shipments directly between the U.S. and Canada.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) state, for purposes of enforcement, that the country of origin of the goods will be considered the country of origin of the WPM unless otherwise indicated.

On July 5, 2006, phase 3 of CBP's implementation will be effective with full enforcement on all other types of WPM, e.g. blocking and bracing - not just pallets and crates.

For more information on the regulations and policy see APHIS guideline

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/wpm/import.html>

CFIA Policy Directive D-98-08

<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveq/for/noted98-08e.shtml>

WPM regulation per the ISPM No. 15 of NAPPO)

<http://www.nappo.org/Standards/Woodpacking-bil1.htm>

CN Customs Bulletins are available at www.cn.ca/customs

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.