



**Israeli Federation of International Freight  
Forwarders & Customs Clearing Agents**  
84 Hahashmonaim street Tel Aviv 67011  
Tel : 972-3-5631101 Fax: 972-3-5613125

Tel Aviv 110/05/2009

*To whom it may concern*

**ISRAEL: Compliance with ISPM 15 standard for  
fumigation of wood packaging materials will  
begin 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2009**

**pre-alert**

On June 25, 2009 Israel implements the international standards criterion for importing and exporting wood packaging, known as **ISPM 15**. This rule states that on June 23, 2009 all regulated Wood Packaging Material (WPM) entering Israel must be appropriately treated and marked under the official program.

With this, Israel joins an extensive and emerging list of 65 countries, requiring adherence to the **ISPM 15** Standards.

Compliance with **ISPM 15** allows for two wood treatment options:

- Methyl Bromide (MB) Fumigation or Heat Treatment. With the MB treatment, the wood packaging material is fumigated with methyl bromide.
- Heat Treatment (HT) of wood packaging material must be heated in a schedule that achieves a minimum core temperature of 56°C for a minimum of 30 minutes.

Israel's official gazette published the rule on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009 and announced it will be enforced as from **June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009**.

As from this day all imported Wood packaging material, see below, must be subject to **ISPM 15**.

Wood packaging material must be subject to either a heat treatment or fumigation as per **ISPM 15**.

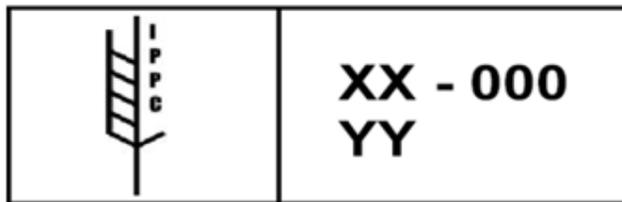
- Wood packaging material: in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, except raw wood of 6 mm thickness or less, and processed wood produced by glue, heat and pressure, or a combination thereof.

- Wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, including that which has not kept its natural round surface, except raw wood of 6 mm thickness or less and processed wood produced by glue, heat and pressure, or a combination thereof.
- **Under the regulations, foreign exporters must use wood packaging certified by an authorized agency.**
- **To certify treatment, the WPM must be marked with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) logo. Paper certificates of treatment will no longer be required or accepted.**

**ISPM 15 compliant stamp**

Timber packing and dunnage bearing the mark below is certified as having been subjected to an **ISPM 15** approved treatment.

**ISPM 15 mark**



An **ISPM 15** compliant mark must include:

- **IPPC** certification symbol.
- **XX**: represents the two letter ISO country code (e.g. IL for Israel, AU for Australia, US for United States, NZ for New Zealand, GB for United Kingdom).
- **000**: represents the unique certification number issued by AQIS to the treatment provider or wood packaging manufacturer. Inclusion of this certification number ensures that the wood packaging material can be traced back to the treatment provider and/or manufacturer.
- **YY**: is the treatment abbreviation where:
  - **HT** is the code for heat treatment to a minimum of 56° C for a minimum of 30 minutes
  - **MB** is the code for methyl bromide fumigation.

The letters 'DB' represent debarking. DB may be added to the abbreviation of the **ISPM 15** approved treatment. For example, 'HT DB' represents heat treatment and debarking and 'MB DB' represents methyl bromide fumigation and debarking.

**Note**

WPM that does not meet these requirements will be delayed at the port of entry.

Importers whose consignments does not meet these requirements will have the option to have the shipment re-exported.

Shipments containing WPM that violate the rule may be allowed entry only if the Israeli Customs Authority or The Plant Protection and Inspection Services (**PPIS**) ([www.ppis.moag.gov.il/ppis](http://www.ppis.moag.gov.il/ppis)) determines that it is possible to separate the approved material from the noncompliant portion of the shipment.

Arrangements to have the noncompliant WPM exported from Israel or treated would be required before the approved cargo can be released to the consignee.

All costs associated with this process are the responsibility of the importer.

**Faithfully yours**

**Barry Pintow**