



Import Regulations for Solid Wood Packaging Containers

IPPC International Plant Protection Convention

Many countries have implemented quarantine regulations to protect their native forests from the introduction of wood pests. To prevent the proliferation of different import regulations, the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), part of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, has issued ISPM 15 (International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures) "Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade".

Federal Plant Protection Service EPSD approved and licensed the Swiss company that produces TPP wooden pallets according to the ISPM 15 standard and carries out heat treatments for packaging wood.

ISPM-15 Standard, phytosanitary treatment

The ISPM-15 standard regulates the phytosanitary treatment of raw wood to prevent the spread of wood pests. The approved method for Switzerland is heat treatment.

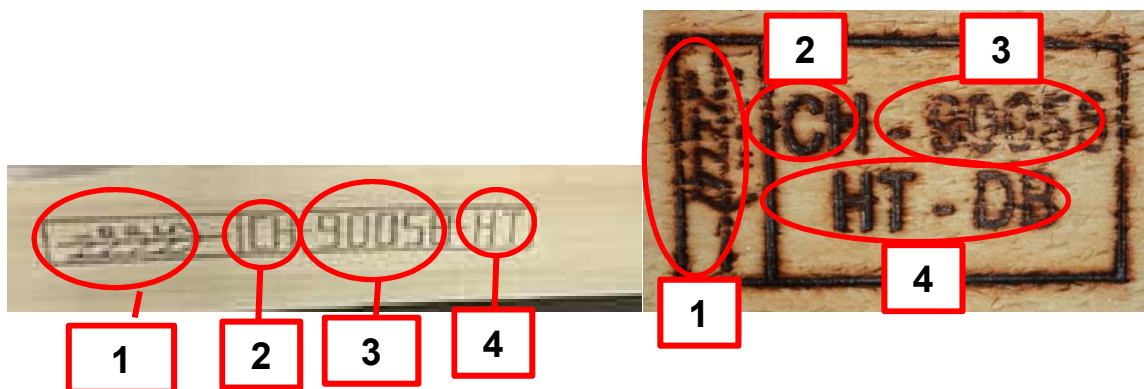
Heat treatment kills insects, larvae, and eggs still alive in the wood by heating the wood for a certain time in a controlled chamber climate. The treatment time depends on the initial temperature, the selected chamber temperature and the thickness of the wood.

Key features of IPSM 15:

- ISPM 15 applies only to solid wood, excluding wood-based materials and solid wood thinner than 6 mm (according to the EU Harmonized System).
- Treatment of the packaging by approved measures including heat treatment (HT) to a core temperature of 56 °C for at least 30 minutes, e.g. by kiln drying (KD), provided that the above specifications are met.
- The packaging shall bear a permanent and legible marking. The mark consists of the ISO 3166 two-letter country code (e.g. DE for Germany), the regional identifier (e.g. NW for North Rhine-Westphalia) and a registration number (unique number beginning with 49) issued by the regional plant protection organization to the packaging container manufacturer, packer or shipper. The treatment method is indicated by the abbreviation HT for heat treatment or MB for methyl bromide fumigation. The letters DB are added when debarking is required.



Example of TPP IPPC mark



Stamp on TPP pallets

Stamp on EUPL pallet

1. IPPC symbol.
2. Country code to ISO 3166, e.g., CH for Switzerland.
3. Registration number, unique number.
4. Treatment method, e.g., HT (heat treatment), MB (methyl bromide), if applicable, DB (debarked).