



BPI QUARANTINE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO. !
Series of 2004

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR REGULATING WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 17 of the Presidential Decree No. 1433, the Director of Plant Industry hereby promulgates the following rules and regulations for the information and guidance of all concerned.

Definition of Terms

Commodity	A type of plant, plant product, or other article being moved for trade of other purpose (FAO, 1990; revised ICPM, 2001)
Dunnage	wood packaging material used to secure or support a commodity but which does not remain associated with the commodity (FAO, 1990; revised ISPM Pub. No. 15, 2002)
Fumigation	treatment with a chemical agent that reaches the commodity wholly or primarily in a gaseous state (FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995)
Mark/Marking	an official stamp or brand, internationally recognized, applied to a regulated article to attest its phytosanitary status (ISPM Pub. No. 15, 2002)
Phytosanitary measure	Any legislation, regulation or official procedure having the purpose to prevent the introduction and or spread of quarantine pests, or to limit the economic impact of regulated non-quarantine pests (FAO, 1995; revised IPPC, 1997; ISC, 2001)
Quarantine pest	a pest of potential economic importance to the area endangered thereby and not yet present there, or present but not widely distributed and being officially controlled [FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; IPPC 1997]

Raw wood	wood, which has not undergone processing, or treatment [ISPM Pub. No. 15, 2002)
Thin wood	considered to be 6mm thickness or less according to the Customs Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (the Harmonized System or HS)
Treatment	officially authorized procedure for the killing or removal of pests or rendering pests infertile (FAO, 1990; revised FAO, 1995; ISPM Pub. No. 15, 2002)
Veneer peeler cores	by product of veneer production involving high temperatures and comprising the center of a log remaining after the peeling process
Wood packaging material (WPM)	wood or wood products (excluding paper products) used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity (includes dunnage) [ISPM Pub. No. 15, 2002)

1. Rationale

The Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) approved the “*Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material In International Trade (ISPM 15)*” on 15 March 2002. The approval is brought about after the IPPC determined that the worldwide movement of Wood Packaging Material (WPM) made of unprocessed raw wood is a pathway for the introduction and spread of a variety of pests belonging to the family, *Anobiidae*, *Bostrichidae*, *Buprestidae*, *Cerambycidae*, *Curculionidae*, *Isoptera*, *Lyctidae*, *Oedemeridae*, *Scolytidae* and *Siridae* for insects, and *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*, a nematode.

The need to regulate was realized because the introduction of pests linked to WPM is a worldwide problem. More often than not, WPM’s are often re-used, recycled or re-manufactured, true origin cannot be determined and phytosanitary status cannot be ascertained.

This reflects the established regulatory guideline in International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No. 15: *Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Materials in International Trade*.

2. Coverage

This guidelines are for coniferous and non-coniferous Wood Packaging Materials which includes the following: *pallets, dunnage, crating, packing blocks, drums cases, load boards, pallet collars, skids*

This regulation does not cover WPM's made wholly of wood-based products such as *plywood, particle board, oriented strand board or veneer* that have been created using glue, heat and pressure or a combination thereof should be considered sufficiently processed to have eliminated the risk associated with the raw wood

Wood packaging material such as *veneer peeler cores, sawdust, wood wool, and shavings*, and *raw wood cut into thin pieces* may not be pathways for introduction of quarantine pests and will not be regulated unless the technical bases are available.

3. Measures for Implementation (For Philippines only)

3.1. Accreditation of Treatment Facilities/ Service Providers

Criteria for Accreditation

For Fumigation Companies

3.1.1 Licensed by the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) for fumigators

3.1.2 Should have at least the following equipment and safety devices/apparatus:

- Air Circulator
- Exhaust Fan
- Evaporator (as necessary)
- Distributor hose/applicator
- Gas Monitoring tubes/ devices
- Detector pump
- SCBA (as necessary)
- Full face mask
- Safety belts and harnesses (ladder, etc.)
- Marking equipment approved by BPI
- Sand snakes
- Tarpaulin/P.E. sheet
- First aid kit
- Others as may be necessary

3.1.3 Pass the actual (fumigation) test to be supervised by an officer authorized by BPI.

For Heat Treatment Companies

3.1.4 Should have at least the following equipment/apparatus:

- Sufficient number of temperature probes (minimum of 5 sensor probes/chamber)

- Heat treatment chamber
- Temperature and Data Logger
- Others as may be necessary

3.1.5 Pass the actual (heat treatment) test to be supervised by an officer authorized by BPI.

Steps for Accreditation for Fumigation Companies/ Facilities

- I. Fumigation companies should apply for accreditation to the BPI.
- II. Present the original and photocopy of the following documents: FPA license, DTI/SEC Registration, Mayors Permit and TIN number for evaluation
- III. BPI-PQS shall inspect and evaluate the facilities and equipment of the fumigation company
- IV. Conduct actual fumigation test.
- V. Recommendation by the PQS Chief prior to the final approval of the BPI Director.
- VI. Certificate of Accreditation shall be issued with the assigned code.

Steps for Accreditation for Heat Treatment Companies

- I. Heat Treatment companies should apply to the BPI.
- II. Present the following documents: FPA license, DTI/SEC Registration, Mayors Permit and TIN number for evaluation
- III. BPI-PQS shall inspect and evaluate the facilities and equipment of the heat treatment company
- IV. Conduct actual heat treatment test.
- V. Recommendation by the PQS Chief prior to the final approval of the BPI Director.
- VI. Certificate of Accreditation shall be issued with the assigned code.

Monitoring/ Reporting

The accredited company/ service provider conducting treatment is required to submit to BPI the following information on a weekly basis:

- I. Number of WPM treated and estimated weight
- II. Number of WPM used and its destination
- III. Kind of treatment applied
- IV. Company/ Exporter who used the WPM

3.2. Treatments

- Treatment should be done only by accredited treatment companies/ service provider
- Treatment of WPM is mandatory to all countries implementing ISPM 15.

- Treatment **should be done** in the presence of a Plant Quarantine Officer/inspector.
- Treatment report with approved PQS codes shall be prepared and signed by the attending PQO
- Approved PQS codes should match to the codes displayed on the markings of the WPM.
- Recycled, remanufactured or repaired wood packaging material should be **re-certified** and **remarked**. Any traces of the previous marks should be properly removed. All components of such material should be treated.

3.2.1 Methyl Bromide Fumigation

1. Methyl Bromide (MB) fumigation – treatment should be indicated by **MB** mark, following the minimum standard for MB fumigation treatment for wood packaging material.
2. **The minimum temperature should not be less than 10°C and the minimum exposure time should be 16 hours.**

<i>Temperature</i>	<i>Dosage rate</i>	Minimum concentration (g/m³)			
		0.5hrs	2hrs	4hrs	16hrs
21°C or above	48	36	24	17	14
16°C or above	56	42	28	20	17
11°C or above	64	48	32	22	19

3.2.2 Heat treatment

1. Wood packaging material should be treated in accordance with the specific time temperature schedule required to meet the **minimum wood core temperature of 56°C for a minimum of 30 minutes**.
2. Treatment should be indicated by **HT mark**.

3.2.3 Other alternative treatment method as may be prescribed by the IPPC in the future.

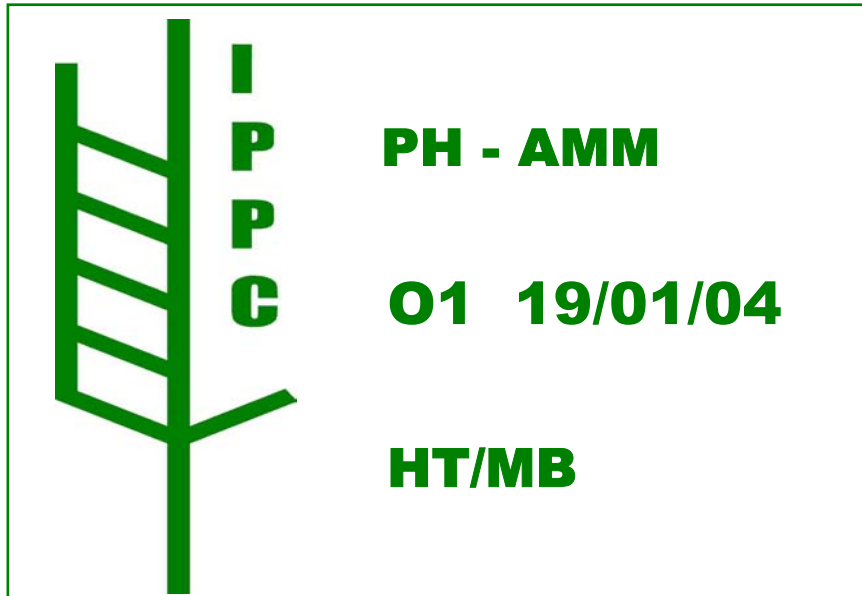
3.3. Recommended Marking (For Philippine WPM only)

Wood packaging materials subjected to the approved measures should display the approved marking using spray paint. The marking should be placed on at least two (2) opposite sides of the WPM.

Approved Marking Should Be:

- **S I Z E** - should not be more than 3" x 4"
- **GREEN** in color

- Spray painted
- According to the model
- Legible
- Permanent and non-transferable
- **Placed in a visible location, in two opposing side**
- **MB** (methyl bromide) or **HT** (heat treatment) mark should appear on the marking to indicate the kind of treatment applied



System of Coding

PH AMM 01 19/01/04

PH	- ISO Country Code
AMM	- Company
01	- Batch
19/01/2004	- Date of Fumigation

The Bureau of Plant Industry being the NPPO shall have its own code for marking and will be used whenever necessary.

3.4. Sanctions for non-compliance

1. **Non-compliance** of the treatment covers the following:

- I. Misuse/ improper marking
- II. Non-acceptance of the importing country due to treatment failure

- III. Non-submission of reports
 - IV. Failure to inform the PQO prior to treatment
2. First offense
 - Reprimand in writing
 3. Second offense
 - Revoked accreditation

EXPORT

1. All shippers or exporters using WPM should apply and accomplish an application form for WPM prior to exportation at least 72 hours before treatment (to give time for PQO scheduling)
2. For destinations that does not yet implement ISPM 15, inspection should be deemed sufficient until the destinations decides to implement the standard
3. Treated WPM's should be properly secured after treatment to avoid recontamination/re-infestation
4. All WPM's should bear the APPROVED MARK indicating the date of the treatment, code and the kind of treatment used.
5. Treatment of WPM's should be done only by **accredited treatment companies/ service providers of BPI.**
6. Treatment of WPM's should be done in the presence of a PQO.
7. Approved marking should be placed after a successful completion of the treatment

IMPORT (Arriving at Philippine Ports)

1. All importers should apply for inspection/clearance at least 24 hours prior to arrival of cargo for all commodities accompanied with WPM
2. Upon arrival, WPM shall be subjected to inspection and clearance by PQ Officer.
3. All trans-shipment shall be inspected/cleared at the final port of destination
4. **All WPM should have the required/approved minimum marking as prescribed under ISPM 15.** The marking should be placed on at least two opposite sides of the WPM. The exporting country may adopt its own system/manner of marking provided they are within the parameters of ISPM 15 and the Philippines is notified of such system prior to the first shipment.
5. The following Phytosanitary Measures should be followed in the event of the following situations:

Without approved marking

- Commodity must be put on hold and shall be under guard by PQ Officer

- Should the main commodity with the WPM will not be affected by treatment, conduct treatment at once, if not, stripping off the commodity will be required, recommended treatment will be conducted immediately.
- **Any non-compliant wood packaging materials must be at all times stored in a closed container that is effective in ensuring that pests may not be allowed to enter the environment. Storage areas of non-compliant wood packaging materials must be isolated from other domestic wood commodities, materials that have already undergone processing.**
- **If the non-compliant wood packaging material is buried, it should be buried at a minimum depth of 3 meters below the surface of the ground. The wood must be buried at a site where-re-excavation of the material will not occur. Woods must not be left exposed within the burial pit.**
- If treatment or burying is not readily available, WPM should be destroyed immediately.
- Non-compliance report shall be prepared by the PQO to be submitted immediately to the NPPO of the country of origin, copy furnished the PQS and importer

With approved marking but with live quarantine pest found

- Commodity together with the WPM should be subjected to treatment at once under the direct supervision of Plant Quarantine Officer at the importer's expense.
- or the whole consignment returned to sender/country of origin at the importer's expense.
- Non-compliance report shall be prepared by the PQO to be submitted immediately to the NPPO of the country of origin, copy furnished the PQS and importer

NON-AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES WITH WPM

1. All importers should apply for inspection/clearance at least 24 hours prior to arrival of cargo for all commodities accompanied with WPM
2. Upon arrival, WPM shall be subjected to inspection.
3. All trans-shipment shall be inspected/cleared at the final port of destination
4. All WPM should bear the required/approved marking.
5. The following Phytosanitary Measures should be followed in the event of the following situations:

Without approved marking

- Commodity must be put on hold and shall be under guard by PQ Officer
- Should the commodity with the WPM will not be affected by treatment, conduct recommended treatment at once at the port area.

- **Should the treatment be done to a specified site or processing, the non-compliant wood packaging material must be moved in a closed container directly to the site at which disposal or processing is going to take place.**
- **Any non-compliant wood packaging materials must be at all times stored in a closed container that is effective in ensuring that pests may not be allowed to enter the environment. Storage areas of non-compliant wood packaging materials must be isolated from other domestic wood commodities, materials that have already undergone processing.**
- If treatment is not readily available, WPM should be destroyed immediately
- Non-compliance report shall be prepared by the PQO to be submitted immediately to the NPPO of the country of origin, copy furnished the PQS and importer

With approved marking but with live quarantine pest found

- Commodity together with the WPM should be subjected to treatment at once under the direct supervision of Plant Quarantine Officer at the importer's expense.
- or the whole consignment returned to sender/country of origin at the importer's expense.
- Non-compliance report shall be prepared by the PQO to be submitted immediately to the NPPO of the country of origin, copy furnished the PQS and importer

For Exporting Countries Not Yet Implementing ISPM 15

For those countries without system of marking WPM, they shall be given until June 1, 2005 to comply with the necessary marking.

From January 1, 2005 until the full implementation in June 1, 2005, a Phytosanitary Certificate will be required for all WPM lacking the approved mark. The Phytosanitary Certificate shall state that the prescribed treatment is carried out at the country of origin.

This order shall be published immediately and will take effect January 1, 2005.


CLARITO M. BARRON, CESO IV
 Assistant Director
 Officer In-charge, BPI

21 October 2004



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
Manila

December 29, 2004

CUSTOMS MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 3-2005

TO: All Deputy Commissioners
All Directors & Chiefs
All District/Port Collectors
And Others Concerned

SUBJECT: Guidelines For Regulating Wood Packaging Material Involved in International Trade

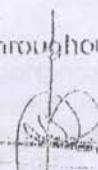
Attached is the letter dated December 20, 2004 of Assistant Director Clarito M. Barron, Officer-In-Charge, Bureau of Plant Industry endorsing a copy of BPI Quarantine Administration Order No. 1, series of 2004 entitled: "GUIDELINES FOR REGULATING WOOD PACKAGING MATERIAL INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE."

The regulation which will take effect on January 1, 2005 will cover all imported and exported consignments with wood packaging material (WPM).

Also, kindly take note of the third paragraph thereof which states:

" x x x Basically, the regulation requires that all incoming consignments with WPM should be inspected and cleared by the BPI Plant Quarantine Service prior to clearance by the Bureau of Customs."

Please confirm the dissemination of this circular throughout your offices within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof.


ATTY. ROBERTO D. GEOTINA
Deputy Commissioner
Internal Administration Group

Cc: Commissioner of Customs