



HT NEWS



September 25, 2008

BARK RESTRICTION UPDATE

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Board of Review

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VIA E-MAIL

TO: WPM AGENCIES

FROM: THOMAS D. SEARLES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2008

SUBJ: EU BARK LIMITATIONS

This is a reminder that the EU has its debarking requirement in place to be implemented on January 1, 2009. We have not been able to get any firm information on this matter. The ISPM 15 proposed amendments are still out for country review, so the EU will not have a revised standard to implement on January 1, 2009. Given what we know about the workings of the EU it may implement its legislation on January 1, 2009. Hopefully, it will accept the proposed bark limitation in ISPM 15 (up to 3 cm wide unlimited in length if over 3 cm wide credit card size) as the definition for “debarked” and hopefully grant a reasonable implementation period. (18 months?)

The EU met this week to consider this matter but did not have time to consider it. We can expect further information after October 20, 2008. You might want to advise your WPM clients to start limiting bark on a voluntary basis based on the proposed ISPM 15 limitation. We will forward information as it develops.

TDS:tw

cc: ALSC Members & Alternates

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