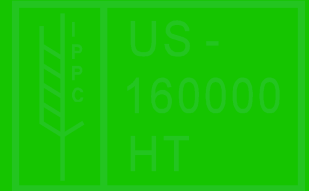


TP

HT NEWS



May 21, 2009

NEW BARK INSPECTION (Enforced on June 1, 2009)

TP is implementing the American Lumber Standard Committee's new bark inspection procedure for reviewing bark associated with all [i.e., not just material bound for the European Union] IPPC stamped wood packaging and dunnage. Inspectors will be working with you to identify certified material to be sampled as well as any potentially suspect material found during the routine inspection process.

- In many cases, sampled material will have to be handled and/ or opened to thoroughly review the solid wood components.
- If any IPPC stamped material is found exceeding the bark restrictions, then the bark (or IPPC stamp) will have to be removed.

AMERICAN LUMBER STANDARD COMMITTEE MEMO

To: Accredited Wood Packaging Material Agencies
From: John McDaniel
Subject: Implementation of Bark Requirement of ISPM 15

The revised ISPM 15 (2009) under Annex 1 requires that wood used to manufacture ISPM 15 compliant WPM must be made from debarked wood. The specific language is shown below for your reference:

"Use of debarked wood

Irrespective of the type of treatment applied, wood packaging material must be made of debarked wood. For this standard, any number of visually separate and clearly distinct small pieces of bark may remain if they are:

- less than 3 cm in width (regardless of the length) or
- greater than 3 cm in width, with the total surface area of an individual piece of bark less than 50 square cm."

Since the "debarked wood" requirement has not been in previous versions of the standard, an implementation procedure needs to be established. ALSC will immediately begin informing WPM facilities and the supervising agency of any ISPM 15 marked WPM that is observed in inventory during its inspections. This procedure will remain in effect until June 1, 2009, after that time the WPM facilities will be requested to hold for agency review any ISPM 15 marked WPM that is found to exceed the specifications for "debarked wood" as shown above.

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