

Obliteration of Old IPPC Marks

Pests can move from country to country on wood packaging material (WPM) so a program was created to treat WPM to prevent this movement of pests. When WPM is properly treated a mark is placed on it to show it meets the requirements. This mark allows it to move from one country to another.

What does the IPPC mark look like?

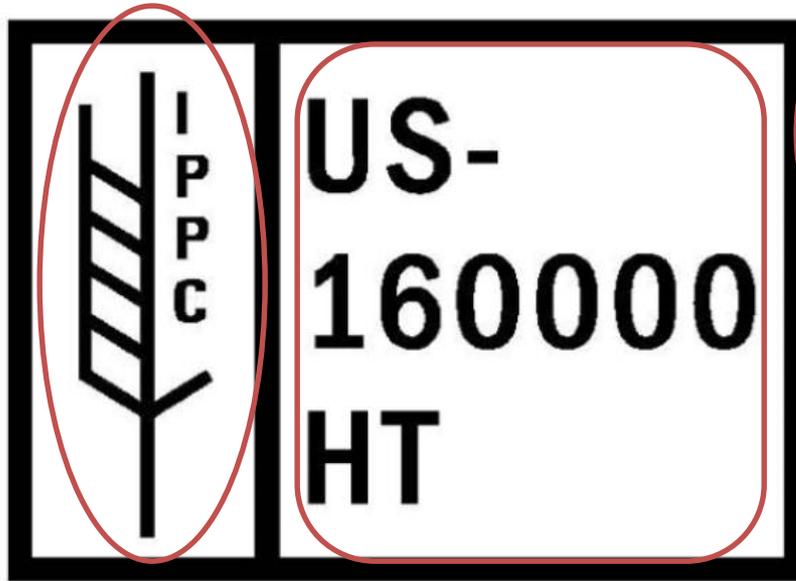


Anytime a pallet is repaired, it puts into question the conformance of the material it was repaired with. The American Lumber Standard Committee (ALSC) has stated that any pallet that appears to have been repaired or altered needs to have the old marks obliterated (made completely unreadable) before it can leave the facility. Retreatment must occur before a new IPPC mark can be applied.



4 Parts of the ISPM 15 Mark

1. - IPPC
"wheat" mark



2. - Agency
trademark
or name

4. Borders

3. - Information
related to country,
facility and
treatment type

For obliteration to meet requirements all 4 parts of the mark must be covered with a permanent substance (i.e. paint) that renders it undiscernible.

An example of obliteration that meets requirements.



All 4 parts of the mark are completely covered and unreadable.

If any of the 4 parts of the IPPC mark can be seen the mark is not considered obliterated and this is considered non-conforming.

Pallets with marks that have not been properly obliterated are non-conforming and are not allowed to ship from a facility until obliteration conforms to the requirements of the program.

Only marks that have the IPPC “wheat” symbol need to be obliterated. All other information on the pallet does not require obliteration.



Brands

Brands burn the IPPC mark into the wood leaving an impression in the wood with the residual burned area. Spraying these with paint will not remove the impression from the wood.

However . . .

As long as all the burned color is covered with the paint the mark is considered obliterated in spite of the remaining impression.

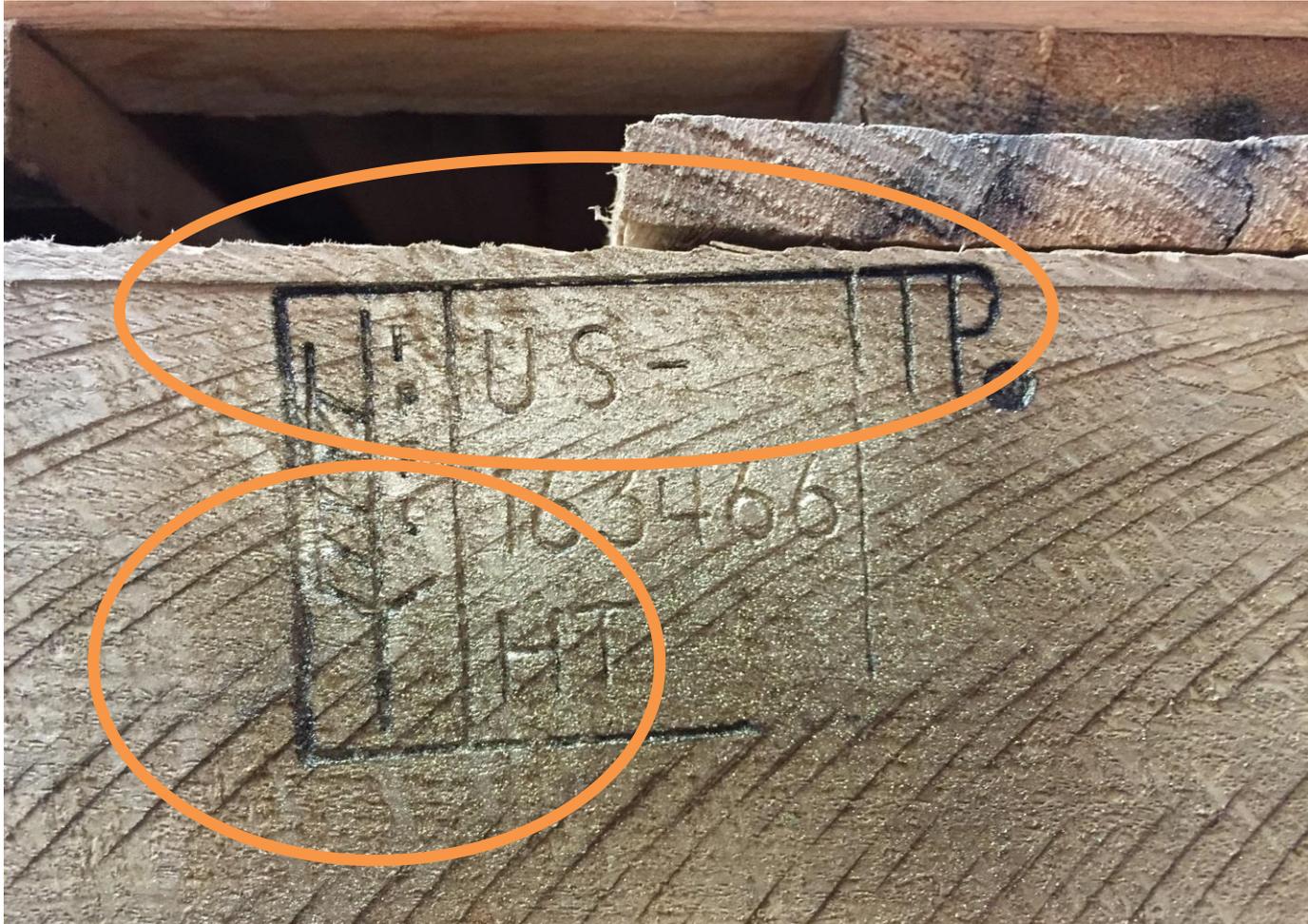




All burn marks are covered on this brand and it is considered obliterated. CONFORMING!



Burn marks covered?



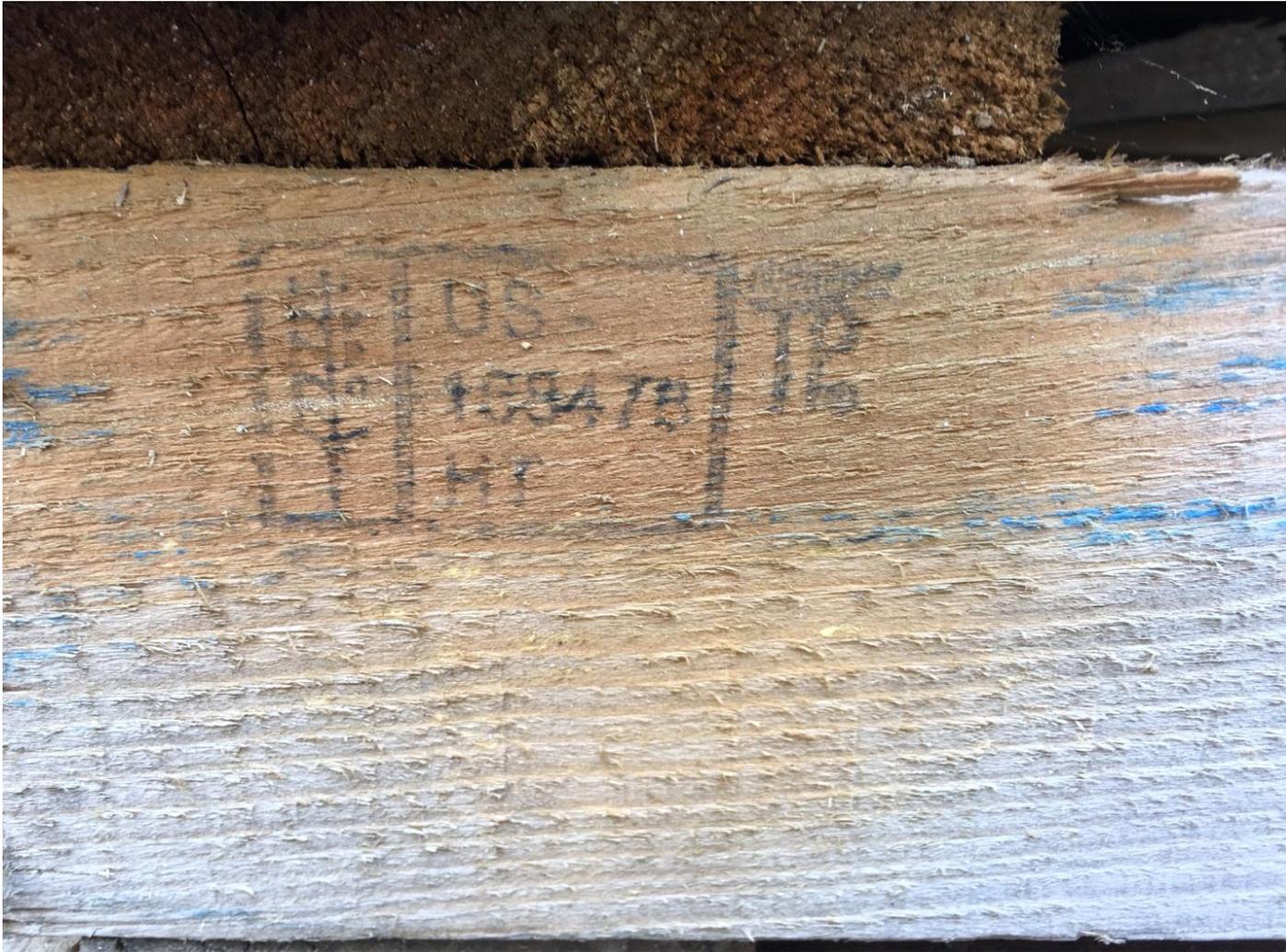
The burn marks on this brand are not completely covered with paint. This is not considered obliterated. **NON-CONFORMING!**





This is NOT obliterated since part of the mark can still be seen. NON-CONFORMING!





This is NOT obliterated since mark can still be seen under the paint...NON-CONFORMING!

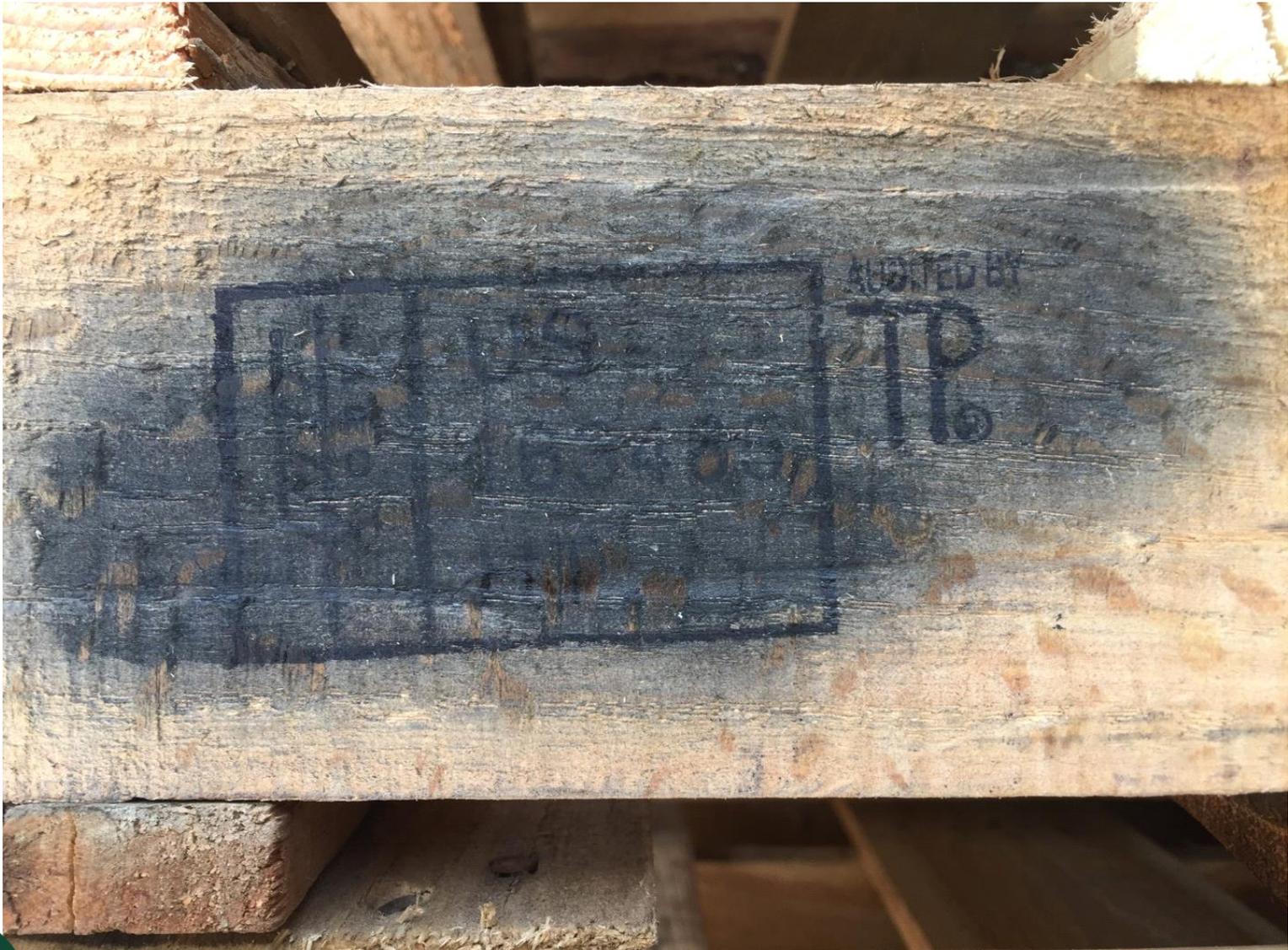


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All marks with the wheat symbol on the inside of the pallet need to be obliterated.





This mark is NOT obliterated since it can be seen through the paint...NON-CONFORMING!





This mark is NOT obliterated.
Not all parts of the mark are covered...NON-CONFORMING!





This Brand is NOT obliterated.
You can still see burn marks in the wood...NON-CONFORMING!



This mark can be seen and needs to be obliterated.





Partial marks with wheat symbol present still require obliterating.





A sticker covering a mark is NOT obliterating the mark. The stickers should be removed and the mark covered with paint.





This mark can still be seen and is NOT considered obliterated...
NON-CONFORMING!



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This is good obliteration. There is no evidence of the mark...CONFORMING!

Do the following marks require obliteration?

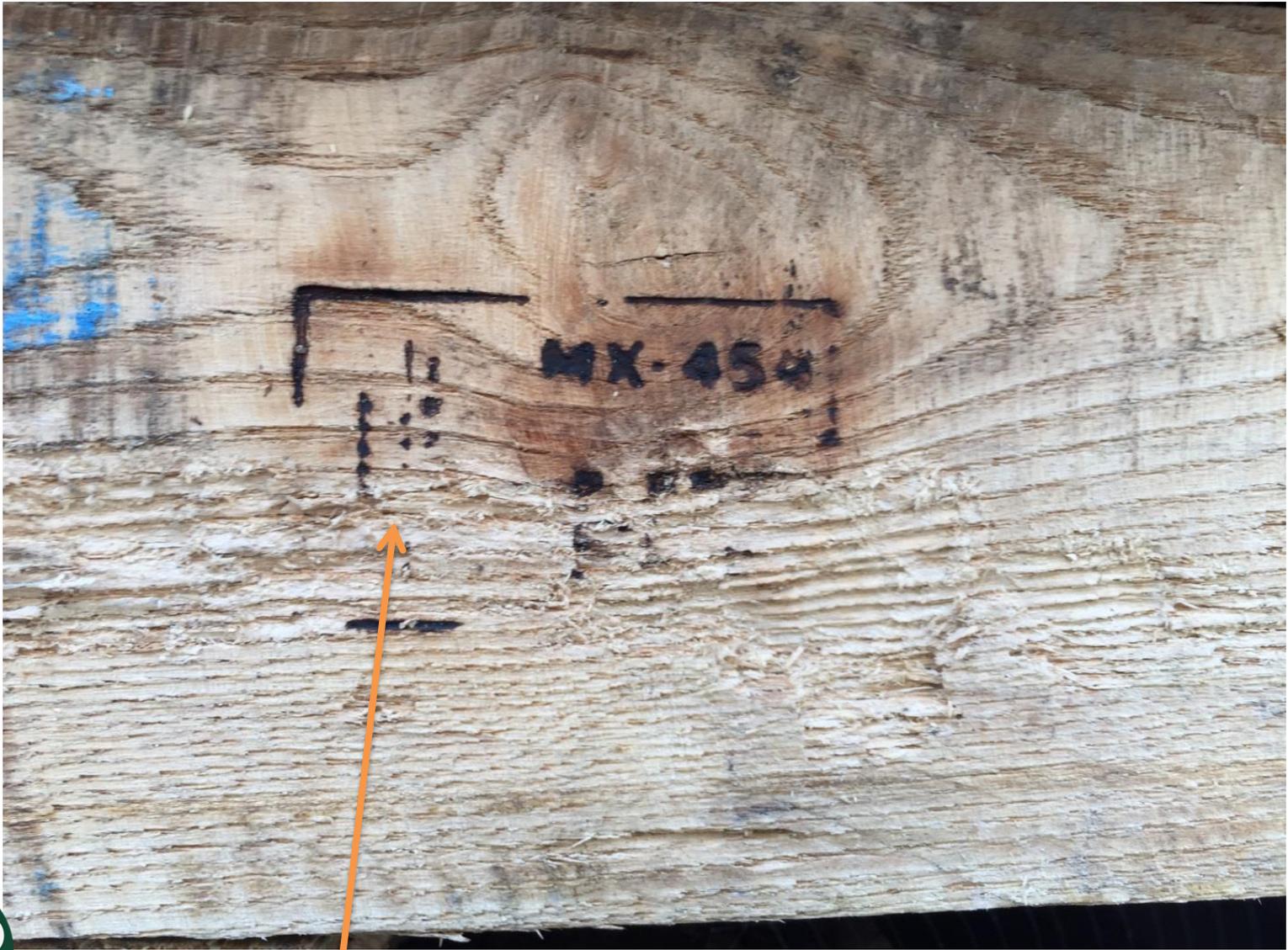
The mark below does NOT have the wheat symbol and does not require obliteration.





No wheat symbol – No obliteration required.





Wheat symbol can be seen so obliterate this mark.





No wheat symbol = No obliteration required.





Wheat symbol is present so obliteration is required.





No wheat symbol = No obliteration required.





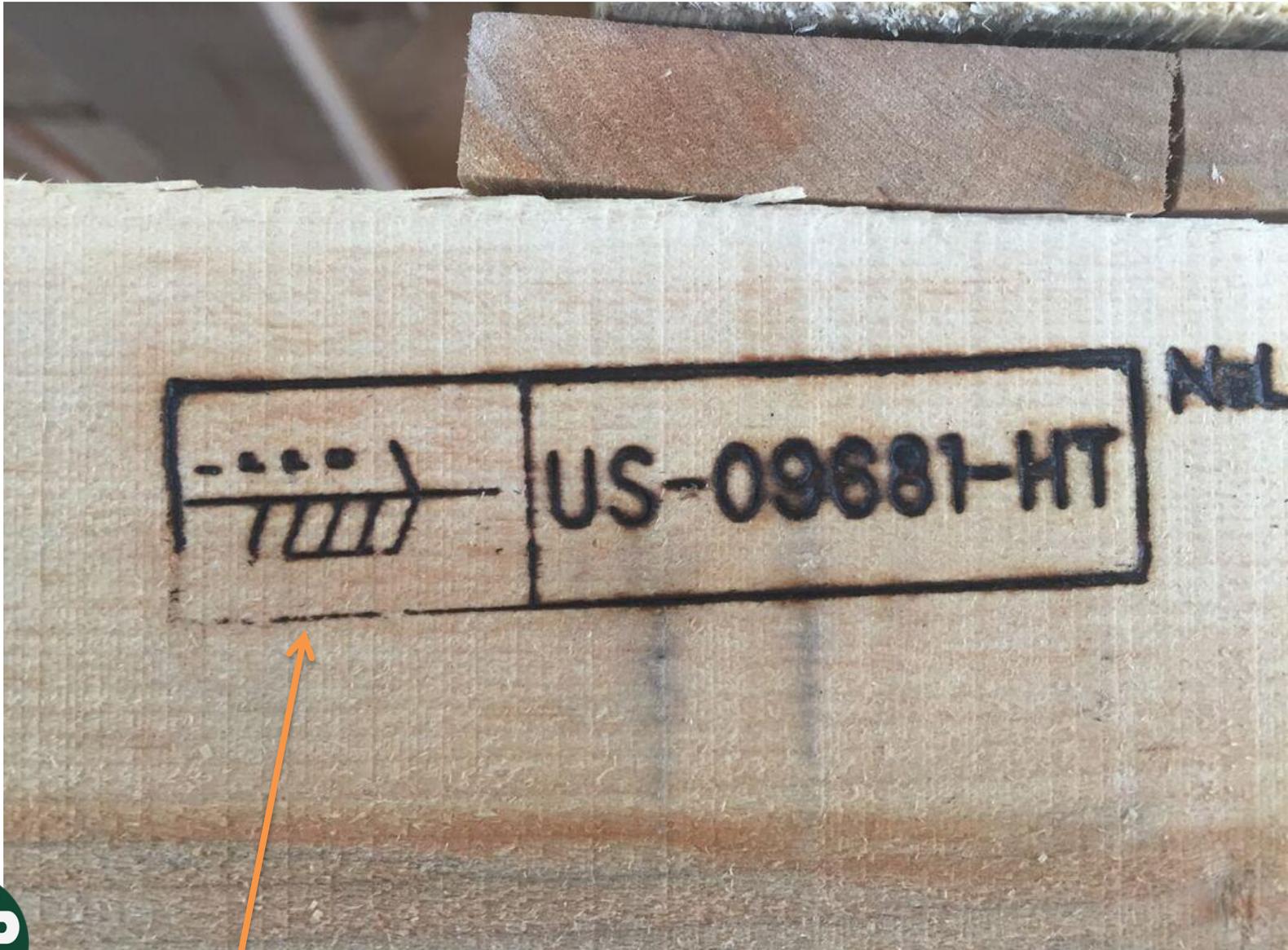
Wheat symbol is present so obliterate this mark.





No wheat symbol = No obliteration needed.





Wheat symbol is present so obliteration is required.





There is no wheat mark present so obliteration of this mark is not required.



In summary:

1. The used pallet cannot leave the facility with old marks on it.
2. If the IPPC “wheat” mark is present, **SPRAY OUT THE WHOLE MARK.**
3. If the mark has bled through the paint, **SPRAY IT AGAIN.**
4. If the mark is only partially covered by paint, **SPRAY IT AGAIN.**
5. Brands require **ALL** the burn marks covered with paint.

For more information
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