

Information Notice

Customs and Border Protection, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

Number: 3801-06-006

Date : February 01, 2006

TO : Brokers, Importers, and Other Interested Parties

FROM : Port Director
Detroit, Michigan 48226

SUBJECT: Wood Packing Materials, Effective **February 1, 2006**, Phase II
Implementation of USDA Import Regulations, Crates & Pallets

USDA revised its import regulations for wood packaging materials (WPM), effective, September 16, 2005, requiring that WPM coming into the U.S. must be treated and marked. Paper certificates of treatment or fumigation were no longer acceptable. The approved treatments are either heat treatment to a minimum wood core temperature of 56° C for a minimum of 30 minutes or fumigation with methyl bromide (MB).

An acceptable mark is determined by the national plant protection agency of each country and must include the trademarked ISPM-15 stamp. Contact information for representatives of national plant protection organizations can be accessed at:

<https://www.ippc.int/IPPC/En/nppo.jsp>

In cases of noncompliance, a CBP Officer or Agriculture Specialist at the port of first N9C 2M1 arrival may have ordered the immediate export of regulated wood packaging materials (along with the accompanying cargo) at the expense of the responsible party. Since September 16, 2005, CBP exercised discretion and did not order re-exportation of violative WPM.

This discretionary enforcement period will cease on February 1, 2006, for crates and pallets. Non-compliant crates and pallets detected by CBP Officers or Agriculture Specialists will be subject to immediate exportation AT THE EXPENSE OF THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY.

There are certain exceptions to the new requirements. More information is available from USDA at 1-866-738-8197 or at www.cbp.gov. Questions may also be directed to the Fort Street Cargo Facility, shift supervisor at 313-226-2980.

/s/

Robert E. Perez