

## Wood Packaging: European Union Requirements (Update October 2013)

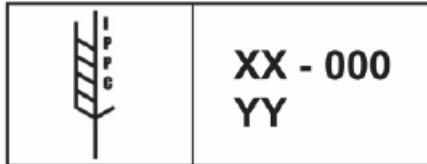
Dear Supplier,

With the present communication, we inform you that all shipments from outside the European Union (except Switzerland) to a TVH delivery address within the European Union<sup>1</sup> must comply with the FAO's International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No 15 ("ISPM 15") concerning wood packaging material in international trade.

- A full text version of the ISPM 15 standard is available through the link below:  
<https://www.ippc.int/publications/regulation-wood-packaging-material-international-trade-0>
- The European Union Directive on this matter (Directive 2004/102/EC) is available through the link below:  
<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:309:0009:0025:EN:PDF>

In brief, these are main requirements for wood packaging imported into the European Union:

- It must be made from debarked wood; and
- It must have undergone heat treatment or fumigation with methyl bromide; and
- It must be marked with three codes: country, producer and measure applied, as well as the ISPM15 mark below.



The mark can only be applied by wood production and treatment facilities who were successfully audited and mandated by their own National Plant Protection Organization to do so.

Any wood packaging material found not to be in compliance with the import requirements specified above will either be made subject to quarantine at the border of the European Union, or returned to its port of departure or will be treated at destination.

Any costs incurred thereby must be borne by the company who provided the original packaging. As you know, delivery times are of the essence for TVH, therefore TVH will hold you liable for any delay and additional expense caused by non-compliant wood packaging.

Please ensure strictest compliance with these requirements. We thank you for your attention to this matter.

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TVH Materials and Logistic Departments

*Further reading:*

- European Commission Overview of EU Rules on Wood Packaging Material:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/organisms/imports/overview\\_eu\\_rules.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/organisms/imports/overview_eu_rules.pdf)

- International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) website  
<https://www.ippc.int/>

The International Plant Protection Convention is an international plant health agreement established in 1952 that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests. To date, the IPPC has 179 signatories.

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<sup>1</sup> The European Union consists of the following Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, United Kingdom