

FACT SHEET

Implementation of the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) #15 《Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade》

I. ISPM guidelines

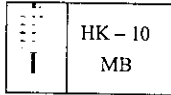
1. The International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) #15 《Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade》 (ISPM guidelines) is an international standard applied by members of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The standard aims at reducing the risk of introduction and/or spread of quarantine pests associated with wood packaging materials in international trade. The standard will be adopted by Hong Kong's major trading partners including the United States, China, the EC countries and a number of other countries.
2. The standard requires treatment of wood packaging materials with approved measures of methyl bromide fumigation or heat treatment. Wood packaging materials subjected to these approved measures should display a specified mark. Full document of the ISPM guidelines can be found in:
http://www.ippc.int/servlet/BinaryDownloaderServlet.ISPM_15_English.pdf?filename=1055161712885_ISPM15_e.pdf.
3. Wood packaging material is defined in the standard as wood or wood products such as pallets, dunnage, crating, packing blocks, drums, cases, load boards, pallet collars and skids used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity. Paper products, processed wood / wood based products such as plywood, particle board and veneer, and raw wood cut into thin pieces such as sawdust and shavings used in packaging are not regulated by the standard.
4. Wood packaging material that does not comply with the requirements of this standard will be treated, disposed or refused entry in the importing country.
5. Phytosanitary and / or fumigation certification on wood packaging materials currently required by some overseas countries will be removed or will remain in force as an alternative to the specified mark upon full implementation of the standard.

II. The new marking system in Hong Kong

6. In Hong Kong, no commercial heat treatment service for wood packaging material is available at present. There are, however, ten commercial fumigators approved by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to conduct methyl bromide fumigation.
7. Under the new marking system, each fumigator will paint their own specified mark, apply it with ink or brand it into the wood which they have treated with approved measures. The list of fumigators approved by the AFCD and their specified marks are tabled in Section III.
8. To control the use of the specified mark, the AFCD requires fumigators to submit information which includes, among others, bill of lading / shipping order number and registration number of vessels or trucks exporting the goods with the fumigated wood packaging material.

III. List of fumigators approved by the AFCD and their specified marks

Name of company	Mark
Asia Pest Control Ltd. G/F, 8-10 Prince's Terrace, Caine Road, Central, Hong Kong Tel.: 2523 8855 Fax: 2868 1698	
Century Strong Ltd. Flat F, 12/F, Gee Tung Chang Industrial Building, 4 Fung Yip St., Chai Wan, Hong Kong Tel.: 2896 5272 Fax: 2556 4797	
Dicken International Pest Specialists Ltd. G/F, Suite 2, 80-82 Peel Street, Central, Hong Kong Tel.: 2810 7728 Fax: 2810 6552	
Fabri-Technic Purification & Pest Control Co. Ltd. Rm. 405, 4/F, Cheung Tat Centre, 18 Cheung Lee Street, Chai Wan, Hong Kong Tel.: 2850 7772 Fax: 2850 6685	
Flick Pest Control Ltd. 18/F, Guangdong Finance Building, 88 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong Tel.: 2889 8028 Fax: 2590 0255	
Hong Kong Ships' Fumigation Co. Ltd. Rm. 1509, International Trade Centre, 11-19 Sha Tsui Road, Tsuen Wan, N.T. Tel. : 2891 2730 Fax: 2838 2149	
Johnson Group Pest Specialist Ltd. Flat A, G/F, Kwai Shing Industrial Building (Phase 1), 36-40 Tai Lin Pai Road, Kwai Chung, N. T. Tel.: 2481 3988 Fax: 2425 9251	
Rentokil Initial Hong Kong Ltd. 15/F, Westley Square, 48 Hoi Yuen Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon Tel.: 2954 6888 Fax: 2954 6868	
China Inspection Co., Ltd. 29/F East Tower, Shun Tak Centre, No. 168-200 Connaught Road, Central, Hong Kong Tel.: 2807 9328 Fax: 2566 0607	

Name of company	Mark
Worldwide Fumigation Ltd. G/F, 5 Kennedy Street, Wan Chai, Hong Kong Tel.: 2893 6169 Fax: 2591 9677	

IV. List of countries implementing the ISPM guidelines

A number of countries are considering the implementation of the ISPM guidelines. The list below summarizes the information of implementation announced by individual countries as at **22 September 2004**. Please visit our website http://www.afcd.gov.hk/quarantine/pprd/plant/pli_index.htm to obtain the latest information.

Country	Date of implementation	Remarks
Australia	Already implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fumigation certification requirement remains as an alternative to the requirement of specified mark. • Fumigation with methyl bromide fumigation should be conducted for 24 hours.
Columbia	Already implemented	--
India	Already implemented	Phytosanitary certification requirement (with endorsement of the required treatment) remains as an alternative to the requirement of specified mark.
New Zealand	Already implemented	Phytosanitary / fumigation certification requirement remains as an alternative to the requirement of specified mark.
Mexico*	Already implemented	--
Taiwan	1 October 2004	--
Philippines	1 January 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partial implementation (treatment is required) on 1 January 2005. • Full implementation (treatment and marking are required) on 1 June 2005.
South Africa	1 January 2005	--
Member States of the European Communities (EC)	1 March 2005	--

<u>Country</u>	<u>Date of implementation</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Canada*	1 April 2005	Phytosanitary certification requirement (with indication of the required treatment) remains as an alternative to the requirement of specified mark.
Chile	1 June 2005	--
United States of America*	16 September 2005	Containers with wood packaging material undergoing methyl bromide treatment should be aerated before shipment.
Costa Rica	To be determined	--
The People's Republic of China (PRC)	To be determined	--
Republic of Korea	To be determined	--

- * North American Plant Protection Organization (members include Canada, Mexico and the United States of America) has announced implementation of the ISPM guidelines with effect from 2 January 2004 and are targeting the middle of 2005 for strict enforcement. During the interim period, NAPPO countries may issue notices to exporting countries / regions informing them of incidents of non-compliance with the ISPM guidelines. If materials are found to contain pests, appropriate phytosanitary procedure will be implemented.

Note:

Please note that this information is provided as a guide only. Individual country implementation dates may change prior to updating of this information and it is the responsibility of the exporter to comply with importing country requirements at the time of export. This Department cannot guarantee the accuracy of this information and will not be held liable for any reliance placed on the same.

V. Further enquiries

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Plant and Pesticides Regulatory Division

Website: http://www.afcd.gov.hk/quarantine/pprd/plant/plt_index.htm

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