



Australian Government

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service

Notice to Industry (Update)

19/2003-04

**Australian Implementation of the *International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) # 15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (ISPM 15)*.**

On 1 September 2004, Australia will implement the new international standard for solid wood packing<sup>1</sup> and dunnage - the *International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) # 15: Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (ISPM 15)*.

**Purpose**

This notice is to provide information about facilitated clearance procedures for containerised solid wood packing compliant with ISPM 15.

**CHANGES IN EFFECT FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2004**

**ISPM 15 Treated Wood Packaging**

From 1 September 2004, AQIS will accept solid timber packaging and dunnage compliant with ISPM 15 in addition to packaging which meets existing AQIS requirements.

For AQIS purposes, ISPM 15 treated packaging:

- ? Will **not** require a treatment certificate (providing that the packing declaration indicates ISPM 15 compliance and freedom from bark).
- ? Will **not** need to satisfy the 21day rule. There is no limitation on time between treatment and shipping (please note this rule is being reviewed for Australia's existing wood packaging import conditions).
- ? Will be considered acceptable under existing AQIS Compliance Agreement arrangements.

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<sup>1</sup> Solid wood packaging **excludes** packaging made **entirely** from composite boards, plywood, and medium density fibre board. Please see ICON ([www.ICON.gov.au](http://www.ICON.gov.au)) for import conditions for these products.

## **Packing Declaration**

For AQIS, the packing declaration is an essential quarantine risk management tool as it identifies if ISPM 15 compliant wood packaging has been used within a consignment (Attachments 1 and 2).

In order for a packing declaration to be acceptable it must contain the following information:

- ? Letterhead or company stamp
- ? Date or vessel/voyage reference
- ? Consignment identifier or numerical ink
- ? Straw declaration
- ? Timber declaration and bark declaration where required
- ? Signature

The revised packing declaration includes a new question relating to timber packaging.

Question 2b asks if all solid timber packing in the consignment has been marked with ISPM 15 compliant stamps.

- ? If **yes**, this means that an acceptable treatment has been performed on the packing.
- ? If **no**, consignments must be accompanied either by an acceptable treatment certificate or directed for AQIS inspection (a **no** response means that some or all of the packing is not marked with the ISPM15 stamp).

All other packaging is subject to existing AQIS requirements and approved treatments. Further information on these requirements can be found on the AQIS website at [www.aqis.gov.au/cargoqap](http://www.aqis.gov.au/cargoqap).

For further information regarding ISPM 15 compliant packaging clearance, please contact Mr Doug Walsh on telephone 02 6272 4989.