

WARNING!!

⊘ HELP STAMP OUT MARK FRAUD ⊘

Mark Fraud Is Risky Business!

Are you shipping on wood packaging materials (WPM) that is compliant with international phytosanitary (plant health) regulations? Are you sure?

Some companies are trying to get around the standard by stamping WPM with fraudulent marks. Just because your supplier claims to be certified and the WPM has a mark on it, the only way to know for sure is to check.

Why should you care? Any WPM that is not compliant with the importing countries' regulations may be stopped at the border at great expense and time delay to the shipper. The importing country could refuse entry of the shipment, require treatment or demand that a load be transferred to compliant packaging. Unless a shipment is loaded onto treated and marked WPM from a licensed supplier, you have no way of knowing if your shipment will pass inspection. It's just not worth the risk!

Peace Of Mind Check First To Be Sure!

The official agencies investigate every report of alleged fraud and encourage the industry to police itself. If you suspect a company is illegally using a heat treatment mark, **contact the American Lumber Standard Committee (ALSC) at 301-972-1700 or alsc@alsc.org**. The ALSC will take anonymous tips. If you suspect a company is illegally using a methyl bromide fumigation mark (once the fumigation program is launched), **contact the National Wooden Pallet & Container Association (NWPCA) at 703-519-6104 or palletinfo@palletcentral.com**.

Packaging users should request written documentation or call the ALSC or NWPCA to check up on suppliers. If you suspect mark fraud, do not hesitate to contract the appropriate certification authority.

Visit **www.palletenterprise.com/pests** for more information on international phytosanitary regulations for WPM.