

Milan, 16 February 2011  
Prot. 068-11 SC/gf

TO ALL PRODUCERS AND DEALERS OF ISPM-15 TREATED  
SEMI-PROCESSED MATERIAL  
TO ALL COMPANIES CONCERNED



**Re: REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN SEMI-PROCESSED MATERIAL FOR THE PRODUCTION OF FITOK PACKAGING IN COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARD ISPM-15**



On 15 December 2010 the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies communicated the approval of amendments to Regulations on the Use of the FITOK Voluntary Phytosanitary Mark by the National Phytosanitary Committee in Italy. Here below are the specifications and requirements, **starting 16 March 2011**, for semi-processed wood material used by authorized Italian companies in the manufacture of IPPC FAO FITOK packaging in compliance with ISPM-15.



**Producer and dealer companies of foreign semi-processed material** must provide authorized Italian companies with semi-processed **material** that **complies with ISPM-15** and with the requirements listed here below. These requirements will be carefully checked by the inspection agencies and will be necessary to guarantee the compliance of the materials as set out in the standard:



- a copy of the License to use the Mark issued by the Phytosanitary Service – NPPO for the territory (or similar Body) where the treatment has been performed, certifying that **the supplier company is qualified** to perform Phytosanitary Treatment. This documentation must be supplied on a yearly basis and not necessarily with each supply of material;



- commercial documents proving that the wood used comes from a lot that has been treated as prescribed (**DDT Transport Document and Invoices**);

- **a copy of the Treatment Protocol** (chart or data sheet for the heat treatment process proving that a minimal wood core temperature of 56° C has been reached for 30 minutes<sup>1</sup>) for the Heat Treatment process, or similar document **with the original stamp and signature**;

<sup>1</sup> For heat treatment facilities that do not have a direct method for measuring the wood core temperature it is sufficient to attach charts or data sheets for the heat treatment process, demonstrating that the material shown in the invoice or transport document has been exposed to heat, so as to guarantee that the wood has reached a minimal temperature of 56° C for at least 30 minutes. Here, it is possible to make reference to the parameters employed and monitored using the indirect temperature measuring method adopted in France (*PROGRAMME DE CONFORMITE PHYTOSANITAIRE DES EMBALLAGES EN BOIS DESTINÉS A L'EXPORTATION*). All heat treatment facilities or drying kilns can register the air temperature and monitor moisture during treatment and render these in a chart or data sheet. Clearly for sawn woods, it is understood that spacers/stickers must be used for the packs during phytosanitary treatment. A large amount of foreign wood is sold solely as *KD (Kiln Dried)* wood. However, this kind of treatment does not guarantee compliance with ISPM-15. Numerous studies have, in fact, demonstrated that KD treatment alone is not sufficient to guarantee the elimination of pests from quarantine, such as Pine Wood Nematode (PWN).



- the presence of at least one Mark, affixed on the pack, in compliance with ISPM-15 (the mark can also be a special non-removable label having the same graphic and descriptive features, in compliance with ISPM-15);



**If only one of the aforesaid requirements is lacking, the Wood Packaging – Semi-Processed – Semi-Finished Material is considered to be non-compliant and cannot be used in the production of Phytosanitary Mark material until the irregularity has been resolved.**



The Italian authorized party will also be responsible for checking that the material he has used for Mark-compliant production has been debarked as set out in the Regulations. All the aforesaid documentation, as well as any other accompanying documentation for the purchased goods that is required by any other Phytosanitary Service, must be kept on file in the company's premises.



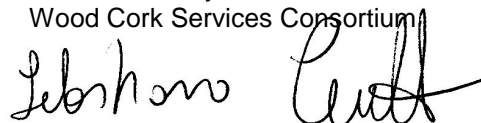
**Note:**



Material from foreign countries<sup>2</sup> does not always arrive with a copy of the **Treatment Protocol** or the **Fumigation Protocol**, often the treatment charts are not significant or do not really represent the material that has been purchased, therefore these certificates must be examined carefully when the material is accepted and inspected by the competent agencies.



Sebastiano Cerullo  
Secretary General  
Wood Cork Services Consortium



<sup>2</sup> For material arriving from a non-EU country, a Phytosanitary Certificate issued by the competent agency of the exporting country certifying that phytosanitary treatment of the wood and the type of treatment (HT or MB) has been performed in compliance with ISPM-15, is also requested.

Material arriving from a non-EU country and that has undergone Methyl Bromide (MB) treatment must be accompanied by a copy of the Fumigation Protocol with a complete data sheet showing the parameters of Methyl Bromide Fumigation Treatment in compliance with ISPM-15 or similar document with the original stamp and signature.