

PSV

February 28, 2007

NOTICE TO THE TRADE – DeCA NOTICE 07-48

SUBJECT: New Requirements for Japan/Okinawa Shipments

Effective April 1, 2007, Japan (including Okinawa) will only accept non-manufactured wood packing material that has been heat treated (HT) and marked in accordance with the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures regulations – this includes all pallets; CHEP pallets do not meet this requirement. This process is being implemented to prevent the introduction of the pinewood nematode into their country. The nematode is a microscopic eelworm that causes extensive mortality in pines. This restriction will affect all shipments originating from the United States.

The American Lumber Standards Committee (ALSC) administers the U.S. certification program for heat treatment. More detailed information can be found by contacting ALSC, 301-972-1700, or Timber Products Inspection, 770-922-8000.

It is strongly urged that DeCA suppliers get involved in this issue and consult with their shipper (FDS distributor or source load) supporting Japan and Okinawa and determine a course of action to comply with this regulation. Point of contact for this notice is Ms. Arlene Ripp, Chief, Transportation Division, Marketing Business Unit, 804-734-8314.

/s/

J.T. Kinsey
Director, HQ Operations