

CBP to Crack Down on Wood Packing Material Violations

by Danielle Leonard - Tuesday, October 10, 2017



To encourage compliance for wood packing materials (WPM)—which include crates, pallets, skids, blocking and bracing, etc. used for packing cargo—Customs will change the way it issues penalties on WPM violations, beginning November 1, 2017. In a recent CSMS [message](#), Customs explains this change, “responsible parties with a documented WPM violation may be issued a penalty under [19 USC § 1595a\(b\)](#) or under [19 USC § 1592](#).” There will no longer be a five violation threshold, as there was in the past. Instead, each WPM violation may incur a penalty.

Common violations are wood packing materials that are unmarked or inappropriately marked and infestations. Possible penalties could include fines equal to the value of the product that is in violation, as

well as immediate exportation of said product at the expense of the responsible importer, carrier, or bonded custodian.

With U.S. Customs decreasing its lenience, it will be even more important to make sure your wood packing materials are up to standards.

Read up on our previous [article](#) on getting serious about wood packing materials.



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