GE VERNOVA

Wood Packaging & IPPC Requirements for Shipment to China

For GE Onshore Wind Suppliers

Overview

This guidance applies to all GE Onshore Wind cargo shipped into China. Wind turbine components including gearboxes, generators, large castings and bearings are heavy and commonly secured on solid wooden pallets, wooden crates or timber bracing. Non-compliant wooden packaging will trigger quarantine inspection by China Customs, leading to cargo detention, extra costs and shipment delays.

1. What counts as solid wood packaging?

Solid wood packaging refers to packaging manufactured from raw solid timber. Common examples for GE wind shipments:

- Wooden pallets/ wood skids (widely used for heavy wind components)
- Wooden crates or cases for spare parts protection
- Wooden blocks, dunnage and bracing to stabilize cargo inside containers

Composite wood materials such as plywood are not defined as solid wood packaging and follow different rules.

2. ISPM 15 & IPPC Mark Basics

ISPM 15(International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures No.15) is the global phytosanitary standard created by the International Plant Protection Convention. It sets requirements for treating solid wood packaging to eliminate wood-boring pests and stop cross-border pest spread.

A valid IPPC stamp proves the wood packaging has completed approved pest treatment. China Customs only accepts marks permanently branded or ink-stamped directly onto the wood surface. Stickers, paper labels and handwritten stamps are invalid and will be rejected.

Accepted treatment codes

- HT (Heat Treatment): Preferred for GE wind shipments. Wood core temperature must reach 56 Degree of Celsius and be maintained for at least 30 minutes.
- MB (Methyl Bromide Fumigation): Fumigation treatment. Restricted globally, and not permitted for timber with cross-section over 20 cm.
- DH (Dielectric Heating): Microwave heating method, rarely used for heavy wind equipment shipments.

- SF (Sulfuryl Fluoride Fumigation): Fumigation treatment as an alternative to methyl bromide.

Required components of a compliant IPPC mark

All four elements must sit inside a single border on the wood:

a) IPPC official sheaf logo
b) Two-letter ISO country code (the country where the pest treatment was performed, not necessarily the shipment origin country)
c) Unique registration number assigned by the local plant protection authority to the approved treatment facility
d) Treatment code (HT/MB/DH/SF)

Mark placement: Stamp on visible outer faces of the wood packaging. We recommend marking at least two opposite sides of pallets or crates for easy inspection. Red or orange ink cannot be used for IPPC stamps; these colors are reserved for dangerous goods labels.

3. Packaging materials EXEMPT from IPPC treatment & marking

These engineered composite wood products do not require IPPC stamps:

- Plywood, particle board, OSB, fiberboard, hardboard and other man-made wood panels
- Solid wood pieces thinner than 6 millimeters
- Fully processed recycled wood packaging

4. Consequences of non-compliance

If solid wood packaging arrives in China without a valid, legible IPPC mark:

- China Customs will detain the shipment.
- Remedial options include on-site fumigation, re-export of goods or destruction of the non-compliant wooden packaging.
- All related fees, production downtime and delivery delays are the sole responsibility of the shipper. This is a frequent issue for large wind component shipments.

5. Supplier Pre-Shipment Checklist

Before dispatching goods to China, suppliers must complete these checks:

- Inspect every wooden pallet, crate and wood block to confirm a valid, readable IPPC stamp is present.
- Check wood for bark, insect holes, pest traces or rot. Wood packaging with residual bark will be rejected.
- Clearly declare on shipping documents whether solid wood packaging is used.
- Do not mix treated and untreated solid wood packaging within a single shipment.

Contact

Contact the GE China Customs & Trade Compliance team with any packaging compliance questions **before shipment**.