

September 7, 2001

**MEMORANDUM**

Subj: European Union Emergency Measures for Non-Manufactured Wood Packaging Material

Effective October 1, 2001, all 15 countries of the European Union (EU) began enforcing emergency measures requiring the treatment and marking of all new and used non-manufactured wood packing material (NMWP) originating in the United States, Canada, Japan, or China. The purpose of this emergency measure is to prevent the introduction of the pinewood nematode into European Communities.

The pinewood nematode is a microscopic eelworm that causes extensive mortality in pines. For the purpose of the EU's emergency measures NMWP includes pallets, crating, packing blocks, drums, cases, load boards, pallet collars, skids, etc.

It is incumbent upon you, as one of our supply chain partners, to ensure that any and all product moving in or on NMWP is compliant with EU requirements. The EU has indicated that goods moving in or on any NMWP that do not comply with the requirements will be refused entry, destroyed, or treated to eliminate the risk of the pinewood nematode prior to entry. This will likely necessitate the off loading of any cargo from NMWP, and may cause considerable delay and expense. It is NEXCOM's policy to ensure 100% compliance with the EU's emergency measures.

The emergency measures adopted by the EU may be found on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Web page at [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov). At this site you will also find a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) relating to this subject along with points of contact for additional information.