

# Kiln Drying Certification Program

Presented By:

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NHLA Chief Inspector



STRONG ROOTS. GLOBAL REACH.

# APHIS Overview

- Established in 1972
- Multi-faceted agency with a broad mission area
- Mission to protect agricultural health and integrity
- Issues Phytosanitary Certificates
- Continually working to improve inspection process



# Increased Exports Challenging APHIS

- Shortage of available APHIS Inspectors
- Rural areas impacted most
- Difficulty in arranging multiple bookings
- Missed bookings
- Increased cost to customer and supplier



**Better Option:**

**Third Party Audited –  
Certification of Kiln Dried  
Sawn Hardwood Lumber**



**NHHL**

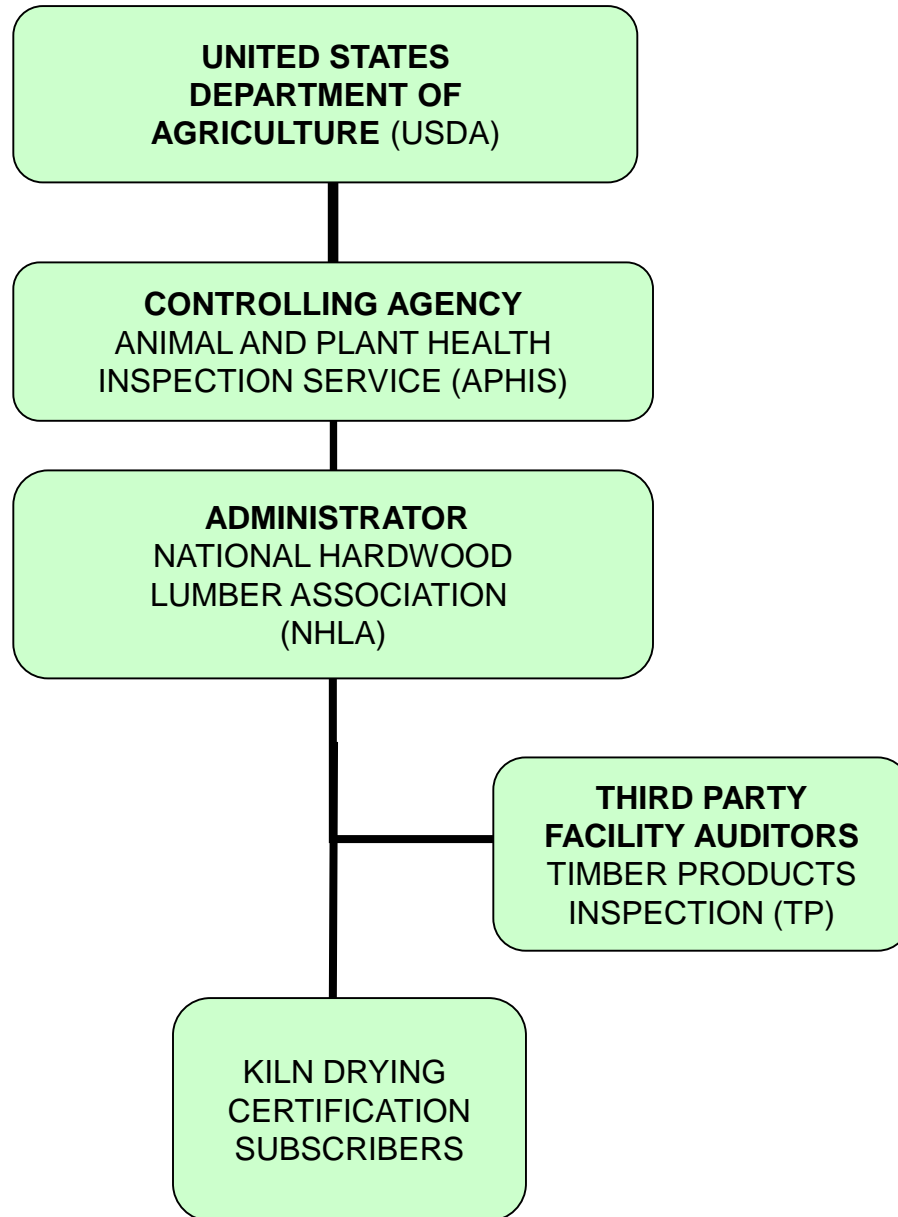
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# Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with APHIS as option to PHYTO

- Third party certification of kiln process
- Currently accepted on softwood lumber for 20+ years
- Considered a more scientific and thorough inspection
- Already approved in major markets



# Overview of the NHLA Kiln Drying Certification Audit



## Approval Timeline

- **USA 2007**
  - Accepted as alternative to APHIS Inspection December 2012
- **China 2008**
  - Awaiting approval
- **European Union 2009**
  - Accepted for all species except ash December 2013
- **Viet Nam 2010**
  - Accepted January 2011
- **Mexico 2010**
  - Accepted December 2014
- **Australia, Brazil, Venezuela**
  - Accepted 2008



## European Union Update on Ash

- **EU to accept Ash under program**
  - **Tentatively January 2017**
    - **Awaiting final approval to mirror Canadian systems approach**
  - **Allows debarked, kiln dried lumber with minimal bark**
  - **Heated to 160°F (71°C) for 1200 Minutes (20 Hours)**





# China Timeline

January 28 Sent Outline of Program  
February US-CHINA Bilateral Talks - No Response

October 19, 2010 Reiterate the '08 Information and  
Requesting a Response

May 5, 2011 -CHINA Response Must use Information and  
November 16, 2011 Addressed at Bilateral Discussion  
Safeguarding Details and MOU Requested  
PHYTO

December 20, 2011 -CHINA Response Must use  
PHYTO

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

# APHIS Certificate Acceptance



- Australia, Brazil, Mexico, United States, Vietnam, Venezuela
- European Union - 27 countries and their Territories
- Represents majority of hardwood shipments



# Program Details



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# IPPC Standards

## International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

- **Creates International Standards for Trans-Boundary Shipments of Plants and Plant Products**
- **Most countries are members including China and US**



# ISPM 15 vs. Kiln Drying

## International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM)

- ISPM15 - Wood Packaging Material (WPM)
  - Food Packaging Pallets
  - Parts and Equipment Pallets
  - Packaging Stabilizers
- Not required to be dry
- Heat treated to 56 degree C to the core for 30 minutes or
- Fumigated with Methyl Bromide
- Most countries accept ISPM 15



# ISPM 15 vs. Kiln Drying

## Kiln Drying Hardwood

- Needed to stabilize hardwood for further manufacturing
- Temperatures in excess of 60 degrees C for minimum of 120 hours
- Hardwood lumber must be kept dry to meet consumer's needs
- Moisture Content less than 20% (Average 6% to 10%)

Kiln Drying exceeds ISPM 15 standard by temperature and duration of treatment.

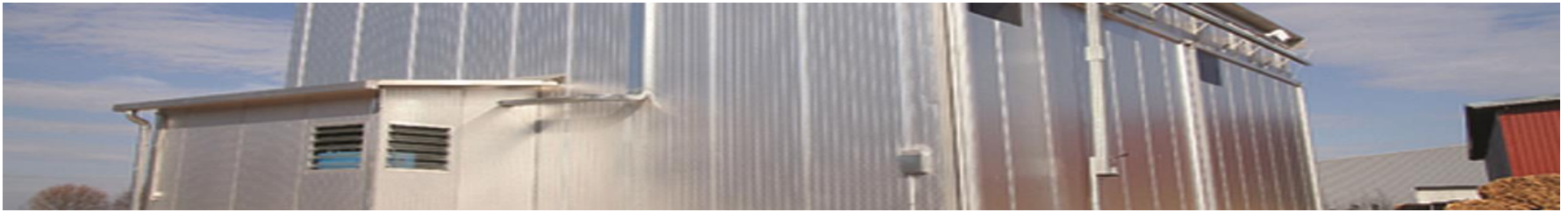




**Participating facilities required to create a Plant Process Manual documenting:**

- **Production facility name and location.**
- **Thorough description of products produced.**
- **Detailed explanation of production/kin drying processes.**
- **Designation of employee(s) who will supervise/implement the program.**





## All Kiln Drying Certification subscribers must:

- Have an initial audit of their kiln drying equipment.
- Be inspected each month that a shipment is scheduled.
- Request additional inspections as necessary.







**Participating facilities must provide/maintain information regarding:**

- Volume of kiln dried lumber produced each month.
- Kiln treatment records.
- Moisture testing records.
- Proof of segregation of kiln dried lumber from other non-treated wood.
- All records must be maintained for three years.





**All kiln dried sawn hardwood lumber shipments shall include a corresponding APHIS Certificate containing:**

- **Unique identification number.**
- **The Certificate Standard statement.**
- **Description of the products.**
- **Individual pack identification numbers.**
- **The kiln drying facilities name and address.**
- **Approval and signature of an NHLA program administrator.**



**CERTIFICATE OF KILN DRYING**  
Sawn Hardwood Lumber

**Lumber Kiln Dried by**

Name of Company: National Hardwood Lumber Assn.  
 Address: 6830 Raleigh-LaGrange Road  
 City/State/Zip: Memphis, TN 38134  
 Phone: +1-901-377-1818

Order #: 1  
 Invoice #: 1  
 Date: 3/1/2012 3:36:32PM

Certificate Standards: This certifies that the lumber described below is 75 mm or less and has been kiln dried resulting in all parts having reached a temperature of at least 165 degrees F (74 degrees C) for 8 hours and a moisture content of less than 20% at the conclusion of the drying process.

**Description of Consignment:**

List species, thickness, grade of various items contained in shipment:  
 4/4 White Oak 1 Com  
 5/4 White Oak 2 Com

Bundle Numbers	Clip ID Numbers	Board Footage	Cubic Meters
1245	301	895	2.112
25891	302	1,258	2.969

Totals:	# Bundles:	2	BdFt:	2,153	Cubic Meters:	5.080
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(This document is issued under a program officially approved by the Animal, Plant, Health, and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The products covered by this document are subject to pre-shipment inspection by that Agency. No liability shall be attached to the U.S. Department of Agriculture or any representatives of the Department with respect to this certificate.)

**AUTHORIZED PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION**

NAME (PRINT) Dana Spessert TITLE Kiln Drying Certificates

I certify that the products described above satisfy the Kiln Drying requirements listed under Certificate Standard.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 3/1/12

**NATIONAL HARDWOOD LUMBER ASSOCIATION VALIDATION**

NAME (PRINT)	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	TITLE	DATE
Dana Spessert	_____	Chief Inspector	4/25/12



**All kiln dried sawn hardwood lumber bundles must:**

- **Conform to the Certificate Standard.**
- **Contain minimal bark.**
- **Include an attached steel ID clip with unique serial number.**







# AUDIT PROCEDURES



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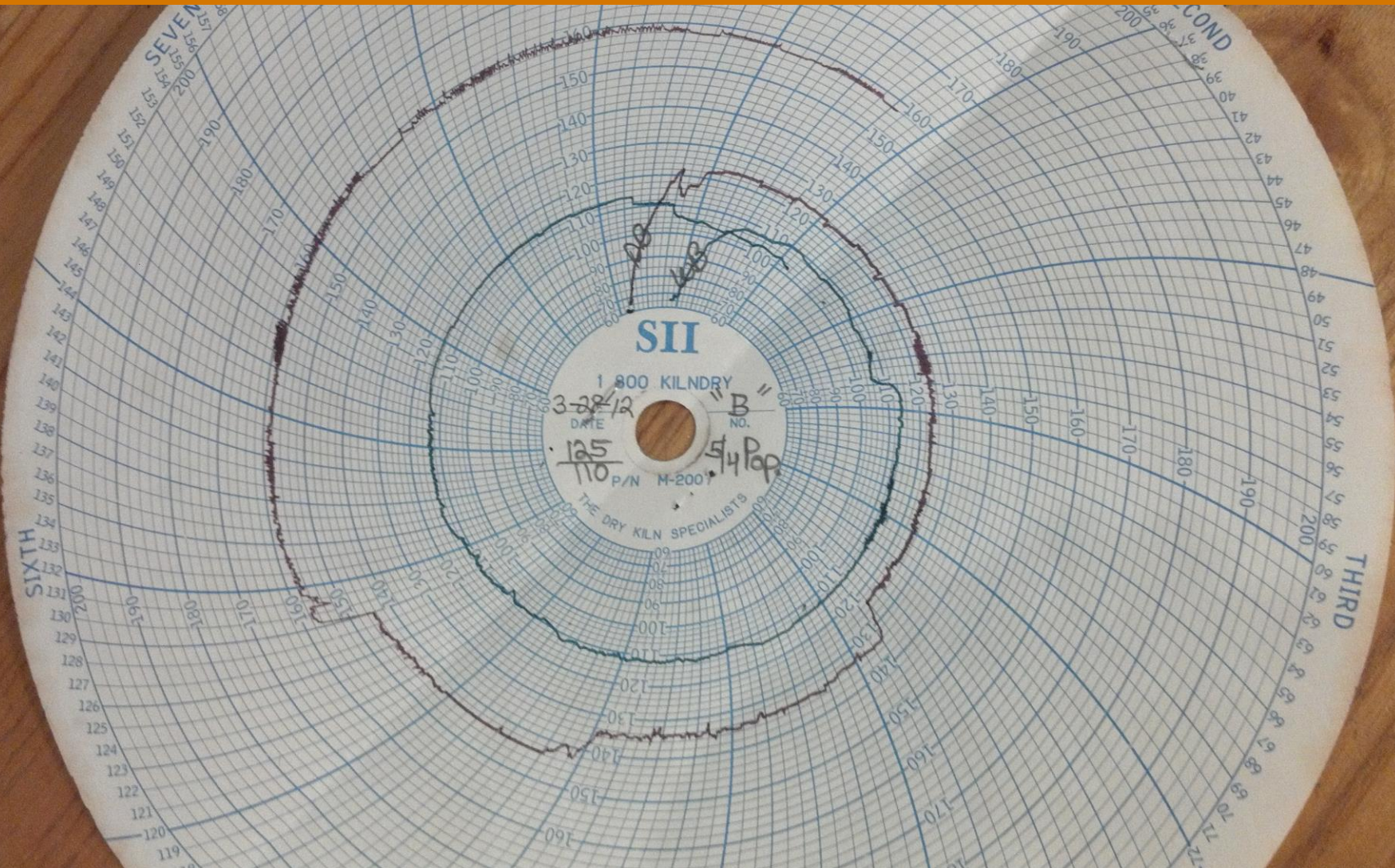


## Program participants must be inspected monthly for:

- Kiln treatment records
- Moisture testing records
- Any other data pertinent to ensure compliance to the standards such as:
  - Kiln sample readings must be documented onto the relevant kiln treatment records.
- Packages containing minimal bark.
- Segregation of treated material.
- Packages including steel id tags.
- Properly filed certificates.









# USDA Audit of Program

Program is audited on a Bi-Annual Basis by;

Forestry and Forest Products Trade Director  
USDA;APHIS;PIM  
Mr. John T. Jones



### Biannual Audit Checklist for Certification Programs

See **Figure 5-2-19** below for an example of a Biannual Audit Checklist for Mill Certification Programs.

#### BIANNUAL AUDIT CHECKLIST FOR THE WOOD MILL CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

DATE OF AUDIT: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY or MILL AUDITED/address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON/ phone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

MOU(s) Audited	(check)
Coniferous Sawm Wood for Heat Treatment Moving to European Union (EU)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kiln Drying MOU	<input type="checkbox"/>
Debarking, and Grub Hole Control of Thuja sp to European Union (EU)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

AUDIT RESULTS:

	Yes	No	N/A
Agency maintains the signed agreements (MOU's) with the participating mills:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agency maintains a list of participating mills and their representatives that are approved to issue mill certificates:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintains copies of all certificates issued:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training provided to mill inspectors:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agency maintains a list of Lumber Grading Agency employees eligible to validate mill certificates:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agency completes monthly review of the Certification Programs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Milled products shipped meet conditions of the programs:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

AUDITOR's SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRINT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

**FIGURE 5-2-19: Example of Biannual Audit Checklist for Mill Certification Programs**

# Conclusions and Action Plan



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# Conclusion

- KD Certificate approved in the majority of major hardwood markets
- KD Certificate approved as alternative to PHYTO by USDA and has been successful as alternative for softwoods for over 20 years
- Scientifically of a higher standard than ISPM 15 and PHYTO
- Administratively and logistically more efficient for exporter and customer
- China is the only major market not accepting KD Certificate and is at a logistical disadvantage



# Action Steps

- China industry to collaborate with AHEC and NHLA
- Educate and inform Chinese government agencies on technical advantages of KD Certificate
- Make them aware of competitive and logistical disadvantage
- Advocate approval of KD Certificate consistent with all other major markets by year end



# Questions?

