



FACTSHEET

This factsheet has been prepared for general information purposes only and is provided as a guide for builders and buyers of Log and Timber Structures.

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Importing - Europe

- Importing Log and Timber products from Canada requires the importer, to meet all rules and regulations for the country of import. Rules can be different in various jurisdictions.
- The only regulatory barriers for log homes being shipped to Europe are phyto - sanitary regulations saying that all softwood NON-European countries have to be heat-treated. These regulations don't apply to Western Red Cedar (WRC) products. This is one of the reasons why WRC has become the preferred material for this sector. Other log species shipments to Europe require a Phyto-Sanitary inspection that must be completed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, prior to loading. They then issue a certificate, which must be forwarded, to you the importer/agent or the consignee. Failure to obtain this certificate or failure to forward this certificate to you or your agent or the consignee will result in your shipment not being accepted in port. Make sure your builder is aware of the Phyto-Sanitary inspection requirement and has it included as a requirement in your sales contract. For general information on International Standards for Phyto-Sanitary Measures:
<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/toc/exporte.shtml>.
- If lumber or other wood products material is to be shipped with your log or timber package, a heat treatment certificate must also be provided again with Western Red Cedar being exempt from this requirement in some European jurisdictions. Be sure your builder is aware of this requirement, have this requirement included in your sales contract, and obtain the heat treatment certificate from your builder before the products are included in the container with your log or timber package.
- If you are purchasing dimension wood products, be aware that different jurisdictions will have different size requirements that can be difficult for your builder to access in Canada. For example, floor joists, framing timbers and roof joists are cut to different dimensions in Canada and may not meet your market codes and regulations.
- Sometimes, getting things expedited can be very difficult when you are half a world away. For information on the basic terms used in international sales contracts:
http://www.iccwbo.org/index_incoterms.asp.
- To be notified of proposed regulatory changes in the international market register at:
http://www.scc.ca/en/news_events/subscriptions/export_alert.shtml
- The BC Wood Specialties Group has personnel in Europe that can assist you in developing your import plans. Visit: <http://www.bcwood.com/Prod/contact/contactEurope.html> to contact your European representative.

- The Canadian Trade Commissioner Service has offices in many European countries and can also assist you in developing your trade with Canadian Log and Timber suppliers. For a listing of offices and services: <http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/ie-en/EmbassyCountryListing.jsp?rid=12>
- Additional import regulation sources can be obtained from http://www.germany-info.org/relaunch/business/doing_business/import.html, and <http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/ie-en/DisplayDocument.jsp?did=42767>