

## *Exporting AdvanTech® and ZIP System® Sheathing*

Many countries have regulations for solid wood packing material (SWPM) imported from the United States. According to these regulations, all SWPM, bracing and dunnage made from coniferous trees need to be heat-treated and certified in order to prevent further introduction of the pinewood nematode as well as other wood destroying organisms.

Huber Engineered Woods uses extremely high temperature levels during the manufacturer of AdvanTech, ZIP System, and other OSB products. Initially, wood strands are dried at temperatures in excess of 1,200°F (approx. 650 °C). A mat of dried strands is then formed and pressed at temperatures exceeding 400 °F (approx. 200 °C) for up to 15 minutes. Temperatures at these levels are sufficient to kill any insects and other organisms that may be present in the wood.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, oriented strand board products should be used in place of SWPM, bracing, and dunnage to avoid any export delays that may occur with solid coniferous wood products. Since Huber Engineered Woods AdvanTech and other OSB products are manufactured following the above criteria, they are suitable for use as a packing material for shipments to other countries without further processing.

Reference: United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS/PPQ Industry Alert. December 1999.

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