FEDERAL SPECIFICATION

PALLETs, MATERIAL HANDLING,
WOOD, STRINGER CONSTRUCTION,
2-WAY AND 4-WAY (PARTIAL)

This specification was approved by the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, General Services Administration, for the use of all Federal Agencies.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This specification covers the design, materials, and fabrication of various sizes and styles of wood pallets for general storage and materials handling.

1.2 Classification. Pallets covered by this specification shall be of the following types, classes, styles, sizes, groups, and grades as specified (see 6.2):

Type I - Two-way, flush (see figure 1).

Class 1 - Assembled.

Class 2 - Unassembled (knockdown).

Style A - Nonreversible.

Length and Width (inches):

Size 1 - 32 by 40.

Size 2 - 40 by 48.
MN-F-71C

Size 3 - 48 by 48.
Size 4 - 48 by 60.

Style B - Reversible.

Length and Width (inches):
Size 1 - 32 by 40.
Size 2 - 40 by 48.
Size 3 - 48 by 48.

Type II - Two-way, wing, assembled, nonreversible (see figure 2).

Length and Width (inches):
Size 1 - 32 by 40.
Size 2 - 40 by 48.
Size 3 - 48 by 48.

Type III - Four-way (partial), flush, assembled, nonreversible (see figure 3).

Length and Width (inches):
Size 2 - 40 by 48.

Type IV - Four-way, partial, wing, assembled, nonreversible, single use, 40 x 48 (see figure 6 and 7).

Type V - Four-way partial, wing, nonreversible (see figures 6, 7 and 8).

Class 1 - Assembled.
Class 2 - Unassembled.
Length and Width (inches)

Size 1 - 32 by 40.
Size 2 - 40 by 43.

Type VI - Two-way, flush, assembled, 60 x 60 (for tire storage) (see figures 9 and 10).

Group I - Low density woods (softwoods and hardwoods).
Group II - Medium density woods (softwoods).
Group III - High density woods (hardwoods).
Group IV - Very high density woods (hardwoods).

Grade A - Untreated.
Grade 3 - Treated.

2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 The following documents, of the issues in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal, form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein:
Federal Specifications:

- Nails, Brads, Staples and Spikes: Wire, Cut and Wrought.
- Strapping, Steel, Flat and Seals.
- Wood-Preservative; Water-Repellent.
- Boxes, Shipping, Fiberboard.

Federal Standards:

- Marking for Domestic Shipment (Civil Agencies).

MIL-STD-105 - Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes.
MIL-STD-129 - Marking for Shipment and Storage.
MIL-STD-731 - Quality of Wood Members for Containers and Pallets.
MN-P-71C

(Copies of standards required by suppliers in connection with specific procurement functions should be obtained from the procuring activity or as directed by the contracting officer.)

2.2 Other publications. The following documents form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein. Unless otherwise indicated, the issue in effect on date of invitation for bids or request for proposal shall apply.

Uniform Classification Committee, Agent:

Uniform Freight Classification

(Application for copies should be addressed to the Uniform Classification Committee, ATTN: Tariff Publishing Officer, Room 1106, 222 South Riverside Plaza, Chicago, IL 60606.)

National Motor Freight Traffic Association, Inc., Agent:

National Motor Freight Classification

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Trucking Associations, Inc., ATTN: Tariff Order Section 1616 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.)

National Wooden Pallet and Container Association:

Specifications and Grades for Warehouse, Permanent or Returnable Pallets of West Coast Woods.

(Application for copies should be addressed to the National Wooden Pallet and Container Association, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036.)

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard:

E 18 67 - Rockwell硬度和 Rockwell Hardness of Metallic Materials
E 290 68 - Semi-Guided Bend Test for Ductility of Metallic Materials

(Application for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.)

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Description. Stringer pallets covered by this specification are of six different types: Two-way flush, two-way wing, four-way (partial) flush, four-way wing for single use, four-way (partial) wing, and two-way flush for tire storage. Some of the pallets are available either assembled or disassembled, the latter to provide economical shipment. As many as five different sizes are covered in both low density and high density woods.
3.2 First article (preproduction model). When specified (see 6.2), the supplier shall furnish one or more pallets for examination and testing within the time frame specified (see 6.2), to prove prior to starting production, that his production methods will produce pallets that comply with the requirements of this specification. Examination and tests shall be as specified in section 6.2 and shall be subject to surveillance and approval by the Government (see 6.3).

3.3 Materials.

3.3.1 Wood. All wood shall be of any of the species, or combination thereof within a group, listed in MIL-STD-731. Quality of wood shall conform to class 2 structural classification of MIL-STD-731 with the following exceptions or additions. Moisture content of pallet components shall be in accordance with 3.3.1.1. Type IV pallets shall be fabricated of group III or IV wood.; other pallet types shall be of the wood group specified (see 6.2).

(a) Pith shall be firm and tight.
(b) White speck shall not be permitted except in type IV pallets for which the following applies. White speck shall not be permitted in stringers or edge deckboards. White speck may be in all other deckboards, but shall be limited in severity to scattered rather than honeycombed. Scattered white speck is characterized by the holes or pockets being filled with white cellulose material rather than the empty holes of areas considered as honeycomb.
(c) Insect infestation, as evidenced by fresh dust piles, shall not be permitted.
(d) Torn grain shall not exceed 1/16 inch in depth and shall not constitute in aggregate over 1/6 the surface of the individual piece.
(e) Deckboards and stringers for type IV pallets shall conform to the commercial grade and quality grade respectively as contained in Specifications and Grades for Warehouse, Permanent or Returnable Pallets of West Coast Woods except for the preceding requirements which constitute exceptions when applicable.

3.3.1.1 Moisture content. Unless otherwise specified (see 6.2), the moisture content of class 1 pallet components, except those for type IV pallets, shall be as follows at time of fabrication:

Deckboards - average of 19 percent with no single piece over 22 percent.
Group III and IV woods over 1 inch thick shall not exceed 26 percent.
Stringers - not over 25 percent except for type IV pallets which shall have no restriction.
Class 2 pallet components shall have the same moisture content as specified for class 1. Type IV pallets shall have no restriction on the moisture content. Components of preserved pallets shall be seasoned according to the above requirements prior to preservative treatment. Moisture content shall be determined as specified in 4.5.2.3.

3.3.2 Nails. Nails shall conform to FF-N-105, type II, style 16. The helical thread shall have a minimum of four flutes. Nails for pallets fabricated of groups 1 and 2 woods (softwoods) shall be 2-1/4 inches long by 0.120 inches in diameter. Nails for pallets fabricated of groups 3 and 4 woods (hardwoods) shall be 2-1/2 inches long by 0.120 inches in diameter. As an alternate fastener, a hardened steel nail having the following characteristics is acceptable:

- **Length:** 2-1/4 inches plus or minus 1/16 inch.
- **Wire Diameter:** 0.110 inch plus or minus 0.002 inch.
- **Head:** 1/4 inch diameter plus or minus 5 percent.
- **Hardness:** Rockwell C42 minimum.
- **Point:** Diamond or chisel point 5/32 inch long plus or minus 1/16 inch.
- **Pitch diameter:** 0.138 inch plus or minus 0.005 inch.
- **Thread:** Helical, minimum of four flutes, forming an angle of 60 degrees plus or minus 5 degrees with a plane perpendicular to the axis. Threads shall extend from the point up to at least 2/3 of the shank length.

The alternate hardened nails shall be ductile enough to bend 90 degrees over a mandrel the same diameter as the nail without fracture. Ductility of nails shall be determined in accordance with 4.5.2.2. Hardness of the nails shall be determined in accordance with 4.5.2.1.

3.4 Design and construction. Design and construction of class 1 pallets shall be in accordance with the requirements specified herein. Except for final assembly, class 2 pallets shall conform to the same requirements. Figures 1, 2, and 3 contained herein are for the convenience of identification and are not intended to preclude the purchase of pallets which are otherwise in accordance with the requirements of this specification. Figures 4 through 10 show detail requirements for the various types of pallets covered herein.

3.4.1 Tolerances and positioning of components. A plus or minus tolerance of 1/4 inch will be permitted on the overall length and width of the assembled pallet. The deckboards and stringers of any one pallet shall be uniform in thickness and width, with a tolerance of 1/16 inch over the
minimum sizes specified in 3.4.2. Stringers shall not protrude on any side and shall be cut square on the ends. Assembled pallets shall have an out-of-square deviation not to exceed 3/8 inch (3/4 inch difference in diagonals). Intermediate deckboards shall be parallel with the edges and with each other.

3.4.2 Details of components.

3.4.2.1 Stringers. Stringers except for type VI pallets, shall be nominal 2 x 4 inches, surfaced or smooth sawn on both top and bottom surfaces. Stringers shall have minimum uniform width of 3-1/2 inches and a uniform thickness of 1-1/2 inches. The difference in width between the two ends of stringers shall not exceed 1/16 of an inch. The outside stringers shall be surfaced or smooth sawn on the outside face, in addition to the top and bottom. Outside stringers for type VI pallets shall be nominal 3 x 4 inches; center stringer shall be nominal 2 x 4 inches with minimum sizes as shown in figure 9.

3.4.2.1.1 Number and spacing of stringers. Types I and II pallets in the various widths, type IV pallets, and type V, size 1 pallets shall have the number of stringers as specified below. Stringers shall be spaced uniformly, except that the second and fourth stringers on pallets 48 by 60 inches shall be spaced a minimum of 28 inches to a maximum of 30 inches between their inside surfaces, and located equidistant from the center stringer. Types III and V, size 2 pallets shall have four stringers with the two inside stringers located so that their outside edges are 8 inches apart and equidistant from the outside stringers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stringer Requirements (Types I, II, IV and V Size 1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Width of Pallet (Inches)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Stringers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Types I, III, and VI pallets shall have the outside stringers flush with the ends of the deckboards. Types II, IV, and V pallets shall have the outside stringers located as shown in figures 6 and 8.
3.4.2.1.2 Fork notches and strap slots. Types III, IV, and V pallets shall have each stringer notched for fork truck entry. Each stringer shall have two notches 1-1/8 inch minimum to 1-1/4 inch maximum in depth. The bottom of each notch shall be a minimum of 8-1/2 inches and not over 10-1/2 inches in length, except that on type V, size 1 pallets the notch shall be 6-1/2 plus or minus 1/8 inches long. Distance of the center of the notch to the end of the stringer shall be as follows:

Size 1 - 9-1/4 inches plus or minus 1/8 inch
Size 2 - 10-7/8 inches plus or minus 1/8 inch

The top of the notch shall be not less than 7 inches long. Strap slots shall be provided in the upper edge of all stringers for all wing type pallets as shown on figures 7 and 8.

3.4.2.2 Deckboards. Deckboards shall be of a length corresponding to the width of the pallet being fabricated. Deckboards shall be surfaced on one side to a thickness of not less than 11/16 inch. Top deck end and bottom deck entry boards shall be free of wane on their outer edges and shall be mounted flush with the ends of the stringers. Top deck end and bottom deck entry boards shall be not less than 5-1/2 inches wide. Deckboards located over strap slots shall be a minimum of 4-1/2 inches wide to provide adequate nailing space on either side of the slots. The balance of top deckboards shall be random widths with none less than nominal 4 inches nor more than nominal 8 inches. Spacing between top deck boards shall not exceed 1-1/2 inches except that type IV pallets shall have a spacing of 3 inches and type VI pallets shall be as shown in figure 9. On reversible pallets spacing of bottom deckboards shall be the same as for top deckboards. Bottom deckboards shall be of sizes and spaced as indicated on figures 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10 unless otherwise provided for. The upper edges of all bottom deckboards of most non-reversible pallets shall be chamfered. Chamfers shall be 12 inches long and cut at a 45-degree angle to the face to within 1/4 to 3/8 inch of the bottom surface. Chamfers shall be centered within the spaces between stringers. Type IV and VI pallets shall not have chamfers. Deckboards shall be predrilled if necessary to prevent splitting during assembly, especially group III and IV woods. Deckboards of all unassembled pallets of group III and IV woods shall be predrilled. A 3/64 inch (0.075) diameter drill shall be used for predrilling. Figures 6 and 7 depict the type IV pallet, except for deckboard spacing and chamfering of lower deckboards which shall be as specified herein.
3.5 Fabrication of pallets.

3.5.1 Nailing. Nailing of top and bottom deckboards to stringers shall have the following number of nails at each intersection:
Deckboards 5-1/2 inches wide, two nails; deckboards 5-1/2 to 7-1/2 inches wide, three nails; deckboards over 7-1/2 inches wide, four nails.
All nails shall be staggered to prevent wood splitting. End nails shall be driven not less than 3/4 inch from the end edges of the deckboards. Edge nails shall be driven not less than 1 inch from the side edges of the deckboards, with the remaining nails uniformly spaced between them. The heads of all nails shall be driven beneath the surface of the wood. No nails shall be driven through the strap slots. In each deckboard over a strap slot, a minimum of one nail shall be used on either side of the slot. All nails bent in driving shall be removed or broken off below the wood surface and replaced.

3.5.2 Assembly of class 2 pallets. Class 2 pallets shall be capable of easy and final field assembly without finishing adjustments, using available handtools and the pallet components and hardware supplied. Class 2 pallets shall meet all material and fabrication requirements of this specification. Assembly instructions shall be furnished with each unitized load of class 2 pallets.

3.6 Marking. When specified (see 6.2), each class 1 pallet shall be marked with the letters "U.S." and the manufacturers identification. The "U.S." shall be branded with 1- to 1-1/2-inch-high letters located near the center of the outer face of one of the outside stringers. The manufacturers identification shall be stenciled on the same stringer face in letters 1/4 to 1/2 inch high. Class 2 pallets shall not be so individually marked.

3.7 Wood treatment. Grade B pallets shall be completely immersed in a wood preservative solution, conforming to composition A or B of TT-W-572. The solution shall be maintained within a temperature range of 70° to 100° F. and immersion of pallets shall be for a duration of 5 minutes. Upon withdrawal, pallets shall be allowed to drain thoroughly before shipment. An oil soluble dye shall be added to composition A preservative so as to impart a light to medium green color to preserved pallets or unassembled pallet components. Pallet components to be preserved shall be dried prior to preservation, to the moisture content specified in 3.3.1.1 to permit greater take-up of the wood preservative. Pallet components shall be completely cut to the size desired prior to preservation; no cutting is permitted after preservative treatment.
3.8 Workmanship. Except for permissible defects, assembled pallets shall be clean and assembled properly. Surfaces shall be smooth and free from slivers or damage. Nail heads or points shall not protrude from deckboards or sides of stringers. In addition to the foregoing, unassembled pallets shall be free of defects which would affect proper and easy field assembly.

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the supplier is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as otherwise specified in the contract or order, the supplier may use his own or any other facilities suitable for the performance of the inspection requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in the specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.1.1 Component and material inspection. The supplier is responsible for insuring that components and materials used are manufactured, examined, and tested in accordance with referenced specifications and standards, and the requirements specified herein.

4.2 Classification of inspection. Inspection shall be classified as follows:

(a) Reproduction model inspection (see 4.3).
(b) Quality conformance inspection (see 4.4).
(c) Inspection of preparation for delivery (see 4.6).

4.3 Reproduction model inspection.

4.3.1 Examination. The pallet shall be examined for the defects specified in 4.5.1. Presence of one or more defects shall be cause for rejection.

4.3.2 Test. The pallet shall be tested in accordance with 4.4.1. Failure of any test shall be cause for rejection.
4.4 Quality conformance inspection.

4.4.1 Sampling. Sampling for examination and test shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-105, inspection levels and AQL's as specified herein.

4.4.2 Lot. For pallets, a lot shall be all those of the same type, class, style, size, group and grade offered for delivery at one time. For nails, the lot shall be all those on hand which are intended to be used in fabrication of the pallets under contract.

4.4.3 Inspection of nails. Prior to starting production, the supplier shall provide assurance that nails proposed for use in pallet fabrication comply with the requirements specified herein. In the absence of certification from the nail supplier, the pallet supplier shall perform or have performed the inspection necessary to assure conformance. If the nails are acceptable no further inspection need be performed if the supplier continues to use the same type by the same manufacturer as originally accepted.

4.4.3.1 Examination. Nails selected in accordance with 4.4.1 shall be examined for the defects specified in 4.5.2.1. A double sampling plan shall be used with an AQL of 2.5 percent defective and an inspection level of S-4. Samples shall be chosen randomly, one from each box of nails on hand.

4.4.3.2 Tests. Nails selected in accordance with 4.4.1 shall be tested as specified in 4.5.2.1 and 4.5.2.2. A double sampling plan shall be used with an AQL of 2.5 percent defective and an inspection level of S-4. The samples chosen for 4.4.3.1 may be used for 4.4.3.2.

4.4.4 Pallets. For examination and test purposes, a sample unit shall be a completely assembled pallet, or in the case of class 2 pallets all the components necessary to assemble one pallet.

4.4.4.1 Examination. Samples selected in accordance with 4.4.1 shall be examined for the defects listed in table I. The AQL for major defects shall be 4.0 and for total defects shall be 6.5, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units.
4.4.2 Tests. Samples selected in accordance with 4.4.1 shall be
tested in accordance with 4.5.2.3. The AQL for the moisture content
test shall be 4.6 defects per hundred units with an inspection level of
5-4. The assembly test in 4.5.2.4 shall be performed on two of the samples
selected in 4.4.1. Inability to assemble the pallet as specified in 4.5.2.4
shall cause rejection of the lot. The lot may be accepted after complete
screening and replacement of defective components; the original test criteria
must then be applied before lot acceptance.

4.5. Inspection procedure.

4.5.1 Examination. Nails and completed pallets shall be examined as
specified herein for the following defects:

Table I. Classification of Defects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examined</th>
<th>Defect</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails</td>
<td>101. Improper length.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>102. Incorrect diameter</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>103. Incorrect thread angle or number of flutes</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>104. Improper point</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>105. Improper head diameter</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood components</td>
<td>106. Wood of less dense group than specified used.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>107. Wood components not in accordance with</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>requirements of MIL-STD-731 with exceptions for all</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pallets except type IV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>108. Wood components for type IV</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pallets not in accordance with NIPCA specification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and exceptions thereto.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembled pallets</td>
<td>109. Pallets of improper type, style, or size.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>110. Stringers not cut square on end or protruding</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>beyond deckboards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>111. Pallet not square within specified tolerances.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examine</td>
<td>Defects</td>
<td>Classification Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assembled pallets</td>
<td>112. Deckboards not spaced as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>113. Stringers not of number or spacing specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>114. Deckboards of width less than minimum specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>115. Bottom deckboards not chamfered as specified.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>116. Stringers not slotted for straps as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>117. Fork notches not as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>118. Deckboards and stringers not surfaced or smooth sawn as specified.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>119. Stringers and deckboards not secured together with the number of nails specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>120. Nails not staggered as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>121. Nails not completely driven or points protruding.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>122. Marking with &quot;U.S.&quot; and manufacturers symbol not as specified.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>123. Pallets not treated with wood preservative as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unassembled pallets (In addition to above appl. defects.)</td>
<td>124. Insufficient components included to assemble pallet.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>125. Assembly instructions not included.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>126. Hardwood (group III and IV wood) deckboards not pre-drilled as specified.</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.5.2 Tests.

4.5.2.1 Nail hardness. Tests for hardness of nails shall be performed in accordance with the applicable portions of ASTM B18. Hardness shall be a minimum of Rockwell C42.

4.5.2.2 Nail ductility. Samples shall be bent 90 degrees over a mandrel the diameter of the nail. Evidence of nail fracture shall constitute failure of the test. The test shall be done in accordance with ASTM E290.

4.5.2.3 Moisture content. Moisture content shall be determined using the electric-moisture meter method of MIL-STD-1363. A minimum of five readings shall be taken at random locations on each sample pallet. The average value of the five readings shall meet the requirements of 3.3.1.1.

4.5.2.4 Assembly test. The pallet shall be completely assembled to insure achievement of a pallet which is square, is of the proper size, and meets the workmanship requirements of 3.8. Clarity of the assembly instructions shall also be determined.

4.6 Inspection of preparation for delivery.

4.6.1 Quality conformance inspection.

4.6.1.1 Unit of product. For inspection purposes a completed pack of either assembled or unassembled pallets shall be considered the unit of product.

4.6.1.2 Sampling. Sampling for examination shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-105 from a lot offered for delivery at one time.

4.6.1.3 Examination. Samples selected in accordance with 4.6.1.2 shall be examined for the following defects. AQL shall be 2.5 percent defective.

127. Nails not packaged as specified.
128. Quantity of assembled pallets in bundle other than specified.
129. Pallets not bundled and strapped when specified.
130. Unassembled pallets not packed as specified.
131. Nails not included in pack of unassembled pallets.
132. Marking incorrect, missing, or illegible.
5. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

5.1 Preservation and packaging. Nails, of a quantity to assemble 18 class 2 pallets, shall be packaged in boxes conforming to FPP-B-636, type CF or SF, grades W6c or W6a. The boxes shall have a height no greater than that of a pallet stringer. The boxes shall be closed in accordance with the box specification.

5.2 Packing.

5.2.1 Assembled pallets. Assembled pallets shall be shipped loose in a manner to assure lowest rates and complying with Uniform Freight Classification rules or National Motor Freight Classification rules. When specified (see 6.2) for military shipments, pallets shall be packed in bundles secured with a single steel strap conforming to QQ-S-781, type I or IV, finish optional, 3/4 by 0.031 or 0.035 inch. The strap shall pass through the bottom pallet adjacent to or between the center stringer(s), encircle the load, and pass through the top pallet as on the bottom pallet. Type I, size 4, and type VI pallets shall be secured with two straps, one placed adjacent to each of the outside stringers. Bundles shall not exceed 41 inches in overall height.

5.2.2 Unassembled pallets. Twenty unassembled pallets shall be packed as shown on Figure 11. Packaged nails for each bundle shall be placed within a void space created among the stringers or the deckboards.

5.3 Marking.

5.3.1 Civil agencies. Marking for shipment shall be in accordance with FED. STD. No. 123.

5.3.2 Military agencies. Marking for shipment and storage shall be in accordance with MIL-STD-129.

6. NOTES

6.1 Intended use. Pallets covered by this specification are intended for use with forklift and handlift trucks for general materials handling operations in storage and distribution systems. Pallets may be loaded wherever materials enter a supply system for storage and shipment. Preservation treated pallets may be used for storage in both covered and open areas.
6.2 Ordering data. Purchasers should select the preferred options permitted herein and include the following information in the procurement documents.

(a) Title, number, and date of this specification.
(b) Type, class, style, size, wood group, and grade of pallets (see 1.2 and 3.3.1).
(c) Time frame required for submission of preproduction model, when specified (see 3.2).
(d) Moisture content if other than specified (see 3.3.1.1).
(e) If pallets are to be marked with "U.S." and the manufacturer's identification (see 3.5).
(f) If pallets are to be bundled for shipment (see 5.2.1).

6.3 Preproduction model. Any changes or deviations of production pallets from the approved preproduction model during production will be subject to the approval of the contracting officer. Approval of the preproduction model will not relieve the supplier of his obligation to furnish pallets conforming to this specification.

6.4 Packaging levels. For military procurements, packaging and packing levels do not apply as the nature of the described pallets is such that only one method of packaging and packing is reasonable.
FIGURE 1. TYPE I, TWO-WAY FLUSH PALLET.
FIGURE 2. TYPE II, TWO-WAY WING TYPE PALLET.

X-2414
FIGURE 3. TYPE III, FOUR-WAY (PARTIAL) FLUSH PALLET.
### Figure 4. Spacing of Bottom Deckboards for Nonreversible Pallets (Types I, II, III, & IV).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pallet Length</th>
<th>No. of Bottom Deckboards</th>
<th>Dimensions in Inches</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>32 16 8 to 9-1/4</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>40 20 12 to 13-1/4</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>48 24 13-1/4 to 15</td>
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The two centerboards shall be centered about the centerline (\(\frac{a}{2}\)) and spaced \(\frac{1}{4}\) to \(\frac{1}{2}\) inches apart, as indicated by the phantom lines shown on the above view.
NOTES:
1. DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES.
2. NOTCHES ARE TO BE CENTERED ABOUT THE CENTERLINE (C).
3. CORNERS OF NOTCHES SHALL BE ROUNDED AS INDICATED.
4. ONE OR TWO BOTTOM DECKBOARDS MAY BE USED AT THE CENTER.

FIGURE 5. STRINGER AND DECKBOARD DESIGN FOR TYPE III PALLETS (4-WAY PARTIAL).
FIGURE 6. TYPE V, 4-WAY PARTIAL WING SIZE 2 (DIMENSIONS SHOWN FOR GROUP III & IV WOODS). (ALSO APPLIES TO TYPE IV PALLETS)
FIGURE 7. DETAIL OF PALLETS COMPONENTS
TYPE V, SIZE 2 (DIMENSIONS SHOWN FOR GROUP III & IV WOODS). (ALSO APPLIES TO TYPE IV PALLETS)
FIGURE 8. TYPE V, 4-WAY PARTIAL WING, SIZE I (DIMENSIONS SHOWN FOR GROUP III & IV WOODS).

X-2420
FIGURE 10. TYPE VI, TWO-WAY FLUSH PALLETT X-2422
ASSEMBLE TWO PALLETS, SIZE AND SIZE AS PER CONTRACT OR ORDER

DECK BOARDS OF THE 8 UNASSEMBLED PALLETS SHALL BE STACKED AS SHOWN, EXCEPT FOR 1 DECK BOARD AND THE DECK BOARDS. 20 STRANDS SHALL BE PLACED AS SHOWN. THE OTHER ASSEMBLED PALLETS SHALL BE PLACED AROUND THE STACKED STRANDS WITH 24 STRANDS PLACED

WALL WITH 80 STRAIGHT NAILS

STAPLE AS SHOWN

FIGURE 11. PACKING OF 20 UNASSEMBLED PALLETS FOR SHIPMENT.
MILITARY INTEREST

Custodians:
Army - ME
Navy - SA
Air Force - 84

Military Coordinating Activities:
Army - DL, SI
DSA - DGSC

Civil Agencies Coordinating Activities:
GSA - FSS
AEC - APS
COMMERCE - NBS

User activities:
Army - DL, SI
DSA - DGSC

Preparing activity:
Army - DGSC

Project No. 3990-0074

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NOTE: This form may not be used to request copies of documents, nor to request waivers, deviations, or clarification of specification requirements on current contracts. Comments submitted on this form do not constitute or imply authorization to waive any portion of the referenced document(s) or to amend contractual requirements.

Commander
US Army Mobility Equipment Research & Development Command
ATTN: DRDME-DS
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060
**STANDARDIZATION DOCUMENT IMPROVEMENT PROPOSAL**

(See Instructions - Reverse Side)

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Previous edition is obsolete.