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Translation

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Standard of quality for EUR flat pallet made of wood measuring 800 mm x 1 200 mm (EUR-1)

Norme qualitative pour une palette EUR en bois de dimensions 800 mm x 1 200 mm (EUR-1)

Gütenorm für einen EUR-Ladungsträger aus Holz mit den Abmessungen 800 mm x 1 200 mm (EUR-1)



UNION INTERNATIONALE DES CHEMINS DE FER
INTERNATIONALER EISENBAHNVERBAND
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The person responsible for this leaflet is named in the UIC Code

Contents

Summary	1
1 - Technical construction.....	2
1.1 - Dimensions.....	2
1.2 - Load bearing capacity.....	2
1.3 - Construction.....	2
1.4 - Treatment of the wood and the pallet	4
1.5 - Wood types and wood materials.....	4
1.6 - Wood quality	5
1.7 - Marking	6
1.8 - Quality control.....	7
2 - Approval of EUR pallet manufacturers	9
2.1 - Approving RU	9
2.2 - Approval	9
2.3 - Withdrawal of approval	10
Appendix A - Drawing EUR-1	11
A.1 - Drawing EUR-1	11
A.2 - Parts list EUR-1	12
Appendix B - (Reserved)	13
Appendix C - Permissible blocks made of wood-chip material (moulded wood-chip blocks)	14
C.1 - General	14
C.2 - Initial approval.....	14
C.3 - Repeat test	16
C.4 - Withdrawal of approval	16
C.5 - Marking	16
C.6 - Drawing of blocks made of wood-chip material (moulded wood-chip block)	17
Appendix D - Permissible wood types and wood materials	18

D.1 - Wood types.....	18
D.2 - Wood materials.....	18
Appendix E - Permissible fasteners.....	19
E.1 - Minimum requirements for EUR-1 fasteners	19
E.2 - Initial approval.....	20
E.3 - Extraction test.....	20
E.4 - Bending test.....	20
E.5 - Granting approval	20
E.6 - Repeat test	21
E.7 - Withdrawal of approval	21
E.8 - Continuous checks	21
Appendix F - (Reserved)	22
Appendix G - Test set-up for determining the tensile strengths	23
G.1 - Elementary diagram.....	23
G.2 - Test set-up.....	23
Appendix H - Test pieces for determining the extraction forces	24
Appendix I - Standard symbol for marking a European flat wood pallet with four entries	25
Appendix J - Quality test, sampling test plan, shrinkage values, defect collection sheet and measurement of the wood moisture	26
J.1 - Quality test.....	26
J.2 - Sampling plan	27
J.3 - Shrinkage values	27
J.4 - Defect collection sheet EUR-1	28
J.5 - Measuring the wood moisture EUR-1	30
Appendix K - Approval of EUR pallet manufacturers in the areas of another RU	31
K.1 - General	31
K.2 - Pre-conditions for granting approval.....	31
K.3 - Conditions for granting the symbol	31
K.4 - Approval process	33
Appendix L - Pallet organization.....	34

Appendix M - Approved wood preservatives	35
Appendix N - UIC RU symbol.....	36
Appendix O - Description of the inspection process - general	37
Glossary	40
List of abbreviations	41
Bibliography	42

Summary

This leaflet applies to the production, testing and marking of recyclable and repairable EUR load carriers (EUR pallets) made of wood with the dimensions 800 mm x 1 200 mm EUR-1.

1 - Technical construction

1.1 - Dimensions

The production tolerances take the natural properties of the material wood into account, which shrinks when it dries out.

The dimensions with the permissible tolerances can be seen from Appendix [A - page 11](#), drawing.

In case of deviating wood moisture of the elements, the shrinkage values in Table [3 - page 28](#) are relevant.

1.2 - Load bearing capacity

The EUR-1 pallet is recommended for the following loads when stacked on a shelf or on the fork of a forklift truck:

- 1 500 kg, if the load is evenly distributed on the pallet surface,

In a stack, the additional load of the lowest EUR-1 pallet is

- maximum 4 000 kg, if it lies on an even, horizontal and rigid surface and the load lies horizontally and covers the ground completely.

1.3 - Construction

1.3.1 - Approved fasteners

For the construction, only approved fasteners may be used, which correspond to the conditions in Appendix [E - page 19](#) and which guarantee a stability of the EUR pallet according to point [1.3.4 - page 3](#).

They must be tested and **applied for and registered with a UIC RU** according to Appendix [N - page 36](#) / a pallet organization according to Appendix [L - page 34](#).

The acceptance of the tested fasteners, approved by an RU according to Appendix [L](#) by a pallet organization, by other railway companies is permissible.

1.3.2 - Construction process

All fasteners must be attached so that none of the fasteners protrudes laterally from a board or a block. They must be seated so deep in the wood that their heads do not protrude from the surface of the board but that they do also not lie lower than 3 mm below the surface (in case of minimum height of the pallet).

The fasteners shown in the parts list of Appendix [A](#) must be set into each block - both from the top as well as from the bottom side of the pallet, for example - so that they do not lie in one and the same grain of the block and have the greatest possible distance from each other.

In doing so, a minimum distance of 20 mm from the corners of the blocks and of the boards as well as from production-specific cavities must be adhered to. The lead boards and the central deck board, if necessary, must be connected with each stringer board with at least one fastener. Fasteners which penetrate the bottom of the stringer boards must be clinched.

1.3.3 - Other construction methods

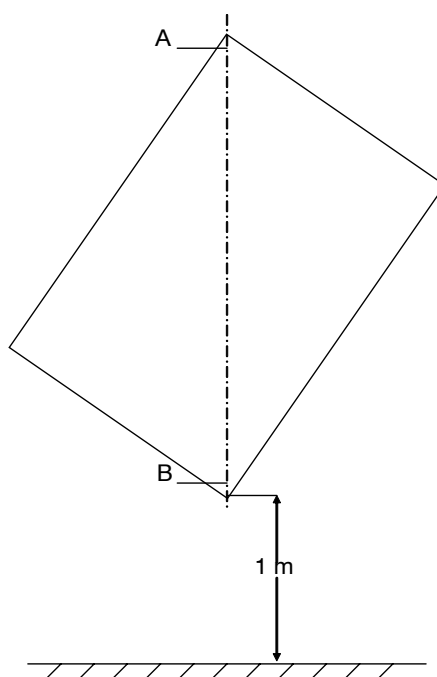
Other types of construction, such as gluing, screwing or riveting, must be **applied for** and **approved** by the executive UIC RU (see [List of abbreviations - page 41](#)).

1.3.4 - Stability test of the EUR pallet

The stability of the EUR pallet must be tested by the approving UIC RU according to Appendix [N - page 36](#) / by the pallet organization according to Appendix [L - page 34](#). This test must be carried out with every manufacturer (see [Glossary - page 40](#)) at the start of production and when the production method is changed, or when the approving UIC RU / the pallet organization consider it necessary. For the stability test, the wood moisture must be $20 \% \pm 2 \%$ in case of natural wood. The corner drop test mentioned below must be passed.

1.3.5 - Corner drop test

- Two points A and B must be marked on the deck surface of the pallet on the diagonal, with a distance of approximately 40 mm from the corners of the EUR pallet.
- The EUR pallet must be suspended so that the diagonal is perpendicular to the measuring points.
- The EUR pallet must drop freely from a height of 1 m with the corner onto a flat, hard, firm and horizontal floor.
- The tests must be performed with 3 EUR pallets and a **test report** must be prepared.
- The distance of the measuring points A and B must be measured prior to the first and after the sixth drop.
- Damages of the EUR pallet are not permissible, with the exception of local damages having a distance of up to 50 mm from the point of impact.
- After 6 drops of each EUR pallet onto the same corner, the reduction of the distance between the measuring points must not exceed 3 % of the original distance.



1.4 - Treatment of the wood and the pallet

1.4.1 - General condition

The EUR pallet must be free from impurities (e.g. sawdust, sawmill waste, paint, oil etc.).

1.4.2 - Boards

All boards must be in one piece.

On the loading and bottom surface of the pallet, the boards must be rough (not planed).

1.4.3 - Blocks

The blocks may consist of:

- one piece of wood,
- wood-chip material (moulded wood-chip block).

In case of blocks made of one piece of wood, with the exception of the 145 x 145 mm blocks, the grain must run parallel to the 1 200 mm side of the EUR pallets.

For the construction with moulded wood-chip blocks, only blocks made of wood-chip material may be used which fulfil the requirements of Appendix C - page 14 and which guarantee the stability of the EUR pallet according to point 1.3.4 - page 3.

They must be tested and **approved** by the approving UIC RU according to Appendix N - page 36 / by the pallet organization according to Appendix L - page 34.

1.4.4 - Bevelled edges

The upper edges of the bottom boards and the four corner edges of the EUR pallet must have the bevelled edges shown in and intended by the drawing of Appendix A - page 11. Shreds of wood are not permitted.

1.4.5 - Treatment

The wood must be free of any trace of wood preservatives and blue stain inhibitors. The allowed wood preservatives against mould and wood blueing are included in Appendix M - page 35.

From 1.1.2010 the phytosanitary treatment of wood for EUR pallets according to the current ISPM 15 standard (IPPC) is mandatory. This is to be achieved by means of heat treatment of the wood or pallet. It is the responsibility of the relevant national authorities to ensure that this standard is adhered to.

1.5 - Wood types and wood materials

The allowed wood types are included in Appendix D - page 18.

Other types of wood may only be allowed if they have at least the same mechanical properties as the wood types given in Appendix D.

1.6 - Wood quality

1.6.1 - General regulations

The following is not permissible:

- Rotting (mould, fungus, dry rot),
- the inclusion of bark and,
- active insect infestation.

1.6.2 - Moisture content

The wood moisture may not exceed 22 % of the weight of the dry wood (dry weight).

1.6.3 - Wanes

If oak is used, wanes are not permissible. In case of other woods, wanes are permissible on two edges of each part provided that they do not have any bark, that they are on the top and do not exceed 15 mm measured diagonally. They are not permissible for stringer boards, bottom centre boards and on the outer edges of the deck and bottom lead boards.

1.6.4 - Knots

Knots with a diameter of up to 10 mm are not taken into account. Sound knots are permissible. Knots are considered as sound if there are grown together with at least 3/4 of their circumference on one side.

On each length of a board corresponding to the width of a board, the diameter of a knot must not exceed the board width by:

- 1/4 in case of stringer boards,
- 1/3 in case of other boards,

or the total sum of the diameters of several knots:

- 1/3 in case of stringer boards and,
- 1/2 in case of other boards.

In case of the blocks, the diameter of a knot must not exceed 1/4 of the block height on the visible side.

1.6.5 - Cracks

Only dry surface cracks are permissible in the blocks. Only one continuous crack, which must not be longer than the width of the board and which is not traceable to construction, is permissible per board.

1.6.6 - Discolouration

Blueing and slight discolouration corresponding to the time of the year are permissible.

Discolouration due to poor drying and storage conditions is not permissible.

1.6.7 - Resin galls

They are neither permissible on the top of the deck boards nor on the underside of the bottom boards.

In other places, surface resin balls up to a length of 50 mm are permissible.

1.6.8 - Lie of the wood grain

In relation to the associated longitudinal edge, the slant of the grain must not exceed:

- 5 % in the boards and
- 20 % in the blocks.

1.6.9 - Insect damage tunnels

In case of non-active insect infestation, tunnels (e.g. black boreholes) with a diameter of up to 3 mm are sporadically permissible.

1.6.10 - Sap wood

Healthy sap wood is permissible in case of:

- deciduous wood, if it neither exceeds 1/4 of the board width nor 1/2 of the board thickness and
- in case of pine woods.

1.6.11 - Medullary canal

A cut-in medullary canal is permissible for the blocks.

Enclosed medullary canals are generally permissible in case of pine wood; in case of other woods only in a maximum of three of the nine blocks of the EUR pallet.

1.7 - Marking

1.7.1 - Marking of the EUR load carriers

The EUR-1 flat pallets (see Glossary - page 40) must have the following symbols on the blocks of the 1 200 mm side:

- **on the left-hand corner block:** the mark of the approving UIC RU according to Appendix N - page 36 or the pallet organization according to Appendix L - page 34, in a font size of at least 40 mm,
- **on the centre block:** due to the mandatory phytosanitary heat treatment, the symbols assigned by the relevant authority for said treatment are to appear on both centre blocks on the 1 200 mm side with, one line below, the production code and production year in a legible font size of at least 10 mm and the symbol of the RU/pallet organisation in a font of at least 15 mm,
- **on the right-hand corner block:** the protected (EUR) symbol according to Appendix I - page 25.

The manufacturer code 000-0-00 gives

- the approving manufacturer in the first group (digits/letters) and
- the last digit of the year plus the month of manufacture in the second group.

The characters must be burnt in completely. In addition, stamping and at the same time colouring is permissible, the stamp must be at least 0,3 mm, the colour must be brown to black, water-insoluble, light-resistant and non-toxic (water-based).

1.7.2 - Withdrawal of a symbol

In particular, the illegal use and copying of the protected (EUR) symbol according to Appendix I - page 25, as well as of the symbol of the UIC RU according to Appendix N - page 36 / of the pallet organization according to Appendix L - page 34 must be legally pursued by the UIC RU.

The approving UIC RU has to ensure that all the necessary conditions of pursuit are given.

Should a UIC RU not fulfil its obligations from the regulations of this leaflet, its authority to confer the protected (EUR) symbol will be withdrawn.

This will not affect the assertion of any claims for damages and enrichment.

1.7.3 - Illegal use of symbols

In case of illegal use of the symbols, the pallets must not be brought into circulation as EUR pallets.

The markings (see Glossary - page 40) must be **permanently** obliterated with water-insoluble black paint.

If permitted by national law, destruction of the pallets is mandatory.

1.7.4 - Additional markings

From 1.1.2010, with a transition period until 1.7.2010, a control staple on the centre block is mandatory for all new EUR pallets. This document that the correct quality inspection has been undertaken according to this leaflet.

Other possible markings must first be approved by the UIC WG "Questions on palletising"

1.8 - Quality control

The approving UIC RU according to Appendix N / pallet organization according to Appendix L must check the quality of the finished EUR pallets by batch according to a random test schedule in accordance with Appendix J - page 26 cont. at the manufacturer's site/the principal (quality check - see Glossary - page 40).

The measuring equipment required for this must be made available by the manufacturer, the UIC RU/the pallet organization.

The measuring equipment for checking the dimensions must have a measurement accuracy of 0,1 mm and must be calibrated on a yearly basis. The measuring range of the measuring equipment must be adjusted so that the required dimensions and tolerances can be checked, depending on the wood moisture.

The measuring equipment for determining the moisture must also be calibrated once a year and must dispose of a temperature setting device.

If no EUR pallets are presented for quality control (no production), it must be checked at least once a year whether the conditions for production as provided by this leaflet are still given or whether the approval (see Glossary - page 40) must be withdrawn.

1.8.1 - Self-monitoring

If the manufacturer has manufactured 30 000 EUR flat pallets (EUR-1/-2/-3/-6) in accordance with the required conditions within six months and disposes of a self-monitoring system which has been approved by the competent UIC RU according to Appendix N - page 36 or the pallet organization according to Appendix L - page 34, the approving UIC RU / pallet organization must check its proper manufacturing procedure once a month by carrying out unannounced inspections for monitoring the production according to the following production figures.

<u>Monthly production figure in pieces</u>	<u>Number of unannounced inspections</u>
< 10 000	1x
> 10 000 < 50 000	2x
> 50 000 < 100 000	3x
> 100 000	4x

In case of granted self-monitoring, the manufacturer must record the test results by means of a defect collection sheet in the scope of an independent quality control (SQK), comparable to Appendix J - page 26.

A pallet must be taken as random sample from the running production and tested at least once every 20 minutes. Evidence of the test results must be produced directly on-site by the manufacturer in the scope of his independent quality control (SQK).

1.8.2 - Imported EUR pallets

The UIC RU in whose area the imported EUR pallets are brought into circulation first is allowed to check these pallets according to the sample test plan in Appendix J.

In case of negative results, the markings must be obliterated and the approving UIC RU must be notified of it.

The approving UIC RU **must** then take the respective measures.

2 - Approval of EUR pallet manufacturers

2.1 - Approving RU

In principle, any RU, which is a member of the UIC, has the right to approve a manufacturer for the production of EUR pallets within its area.

The approving UIC RU is entitled to charge a pallet organization with this task according to Appendix **L** - page 34.

If Appendix **K** - page 31 is adhered to, manufacturers outside its area can also be approved.

For doing this, the company can also charge a pallet organization according to Appendix **L** with this.

In principle, approving a pallet organization from abroad must be **applied for and approved** by the executive UIC RU.

2.2 - Approval

Approval will only be granted if:

- the technical production conditions have been fulfilled,
- the manufacturer has committed himself in writing to keep to the construction regulations and to accept the conditions with regard to checking and quality control and,
- if it has been proven by checking a sample batch of 100 EUR pallets according to a defect collection sheet, see Appendix **J** - page 26, that the conditions of the leaflet have been adhered to.

Approval takes place with the express authorisation and obligation to use the protected  symbol according to Appendix **I** - page 25, the symbol of the UIC RU according to Appendix **N** - page 36 or of the pallet organization according to Appendix **L** and with the assignment of the manufacturer code.

In case of previous withdrawal of approval, approval may only be granted again after a **waiting period of 6 months**.

2.3 - Withdrawal of approval

The approval must be withdrawn in case of:

- **non-compliance** with the conditions of this leaflet,
- illegal use of the symbol of a different UIC RU according to Appendix N - page 36 or the pallet organization according to Appendix L - page 34,
- cessation of production or,
- declaration of insolvency or,
- winding up of the company or,
- upon request of the trade mark owner.

The **cancellation of the approval** results in a ban on use and the withdrawal or the destruction of the marking stamp by the UIC RU/the pallet organization.

The **cancellation of the approval of foreign companies** must be notified to the executive UIC RU.