

A-A-1241
January 11, 1983

COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

BOX, SHIPPING (WOOD, NAIL AND LOCK-CORNER WITH TWO EXTERIOR END CLEATS) (TOP, BOTTOM, SIDE, OR END)

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description in lieu of Federal Specification PPP-B-621C, Class 2, Style 4, Grade A or B, Type 2 (average) load.

This description covers new nailed and lock-corner wood boxes with two exterior end cleats, assembled, knockeddown, or parts (top, bottom, sides, or ends) for use as overseas shipping containers.

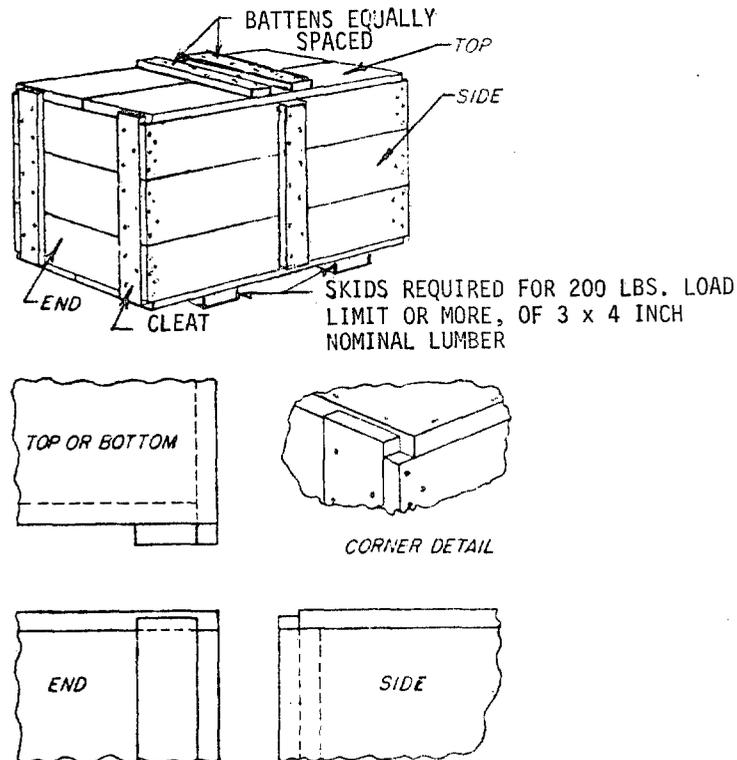
Salient characteristics:

Material. Lumber sizes, unless otherwise specified, shall be in accordance with table I. Lumber (hardwood or softwood) shall meet the American Lumber Standard Committee requirements of an agency grading rule shown in table II and species of table III with surface finish (S2S) or smooth sawn. Also, wood shall be completely free of bark to prevent spread of oak wilt disease.

Fasteners shall be either nails or screws of commercially available design, size, quantity, and quality to allow the box to withstand the weight of content (load limit) in table I. When lumber size is given, the fasteners shall be sized to meet the closest load limit for that thickness lumber. Use a minimum of three fasteners in each intersection of two boards.

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Design. Boxes shall be constructed as shown in figure 1. Additional battens or cleats (see figure 1) of the same width and thickness as the cleats on the ends of the box shall be applied to side, top, and bottom. When the unsupported span exceeds that given in Table IV for the thickness of the parts involved, additional cleats applied to ends shall run across the grain of the end boards and be placed equidistant between the regular cleats. Ends of all cleats shall extend within 1/8 inch of the outside surface of top and bottom. Battens, applied to sides, top, and bottom, shall run across the grain of the part to which they are applied and shall be placed inside the box whenever the nature of the contents will permit. The unsupported span is the distance between battens or cleats, or if no battens are used, the inside length of the box. Additional battens shall not be required when sides, tops, and bottoms are each comprised of a single board. When battens are attached to ends, sides, tops, or bottoms using nails, the nails shall be clinched 1/8 of an inch minimum. When battens are placed on outside of top, a minimum of two battens shall be used. Skids required; as shown in figure 1.



Preservation. Boxes or all finished wood parts of boxes shall be preserved by immersion for a minimum of 1 minute in a pentachlorophene preservative solution. The solution shall be minimum 5 percent by weight when tested by either method 5 or 6 of the American Wood-Preservers Association (AWPA) Standard A5.

TABLE I. Boxes for overseas shipment, weight of contents, design of box, thickness of sides, tops, bottoms, and ends, and thickness and width of cleats ^{1/}

Weight of content		Design of box	Thickness of sides, tops, and bottoms	Thickness of ends	Thickness and width of cleats
Exceeding	Not Exceeding				
Pounds	Pounds		Inch	Inch	Inches
--	50	See figure 1	3/8	5/8	5/8 x 2
50	100	See figure 1	1/2	1	1 x 3
100	250	See figure 1	5/8	1	1 x 3
250	400	See figure 1	1	1	1 x 3

^{1/} When the inside depth of a box is 5 inches or less, end cleats shall not be used. Thickness of the ends shall be not less than the combined thickness of the end and cleat as specified. Each side and end shall be made from one piece.

TABLE II

Rules	Grade
CL ^{1/}	1 common (colonial WW pine)
NELMA ^{2/}	No. 1 common (30.11 WHPA)
NHPMA ^{3/}	1 common
SPID ^{4/}	No. 1 boards
WCLB ^{5/}	Select merchantable boards
WWPA ^{6/}	1 common (colonial IWP)
NHLA ^{7/}	1 common

^{1/} Standard Grading Rules for Canadian Lumber.

^{2/} Standard Grading Rules for Northeastern Lumber.

^{3/} Official Grading Rules for Eastern White Pine, Norway Pine, Jack Pine, Eastern Spruce, Balsam Fir, Eastern Hemlock, and Tamarack.

^{4/} Standard Grading Rules for Southern Pine Lumber.

^{5/} Standard Grading Rules for West Coast Lumber.

^{6/} Grading Rules for Western Lumber.

^{7/} Standard Grading Rules for National Hardwood Lumber Association.

TABLE III

Acceptable Lumber Species	
Aspen (popple)	Magnolia
Basswood	Pine (except southern yellow pine)
Buckeye	Redwood
Cedar	Spruce
Chestnut	Willow
Cottonwood	Yellow-poplar
Cypress	
Fir (true firs)	
Douglas-fir	Tamarack
Hemlock	Western larch
Southern yellow pine	

TABLE IV. Requirements for additional battens or cleats

Thickness of end, side, top, or bottom	Maximum length of unsupported span
Inch	Inches
3/8	21
1/2	30
5/8	38
1	45

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Workmanship. Lumber shall be free of jagged edges and other defects that may cause injury. Boxes or parts of boxes shall be free of cracked, damaged, or broken fasteners. Points and heads of fasteners shall not protrude or project beyond the surface of the box or box part as applicable. All boxes and box parts shall have square corners (90 degrees \pm 1 degree), with nails clinched 1/8 inch. Dimensional tolerances are \pm 1/8 inch for length, width, and depth.

Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and marking. Preservation, packaging, packing, labeling, and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

Note: Purchasers should specify size, material, fasteners, preservative, and weight of contents or material thickness that are required and when battens are to be on inside.

PREPARING ACTIVITY:

GSA-OPP