

EU EXPORT VISUAL GRADE REQUIREMENTS

PART 3

NLGA EUROPEAN UNION EXPORT VISUAL GRADES REQUIREMENTS ANNEX

(Approved September 22, 2006)

Introduction

For structural lumber graded to the NLGA Grading Rules, Paras. 120 to 124, to be in compliance with European Standards legislation, producers must, in addition to the NLGA Grading Rules and Interpretations, grade to the additional requirements of the European Standards referenced below.

- EN 336** - Structural Timber - Coniferous and Poplar - Sizes Permissible Deviations
- EN 338** - Structural Timber - Strength Classes
- EN 1912** - Structural Timber - Strength Classes - Assignment of Visual Grades and Species
- EN 14081-1** - Timber structures - Strength Graded Structural Timber with Rectangular Cross-section - Part 1: General Requirements

All sections of the NLGA rules shall apply except for those specific clauses listed in this Annex that exceed the NLGA minimum requirements.

1.1 Size Tolerances

In EN 336, provisions are made for dimensional deviation within two tolerance classes. These tolerances are provided in Table 1.

Thickness & Widths	Tolerance Class 1	Tolerance Class 2
≤ 100 mm	(+3, -1) mm	(+1, -1) mm
>100 mm & ≤ 300 mm	(+4, -2) mm	(+1.5, -1.5) mm
> 300 mm	(+5, -3) mm	(+2.0, -2.0) mm

Note: *The Tolerance Class to which the lumber has been produced should be indicated on the contract documents. NLGA provisions shall apply to dressed lumber.*

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1.2 Measurement

For the purpose of determination of cross-section deviations for lumber ordered to Tolerance Class 1 or 2, the reference moisture content is taken at 20% MC.

The term "**Target Size**" may appear on order contracts. The EN 336 - Clause 3.1 definition for "Target Size" is: "Size specified (at the reference moisture content), and to which the deviations, which would ideally be zero, are to be related."

1.3 Rate of Growth (All Species)

For NO. 2 & higher grades - restricted to medium. (See Para. 350)
All Other Grades - average ring width shall not exceed 10 mm.

1.4 Biological Characteristics

No active insect infestation permitted.
Unsound wood (excluding white specks) - not permitted in NO. 2 & higher grades.

1.5 Wane

The maximum wane permitted shall not reduce the edge and face dimensions to less than 2/3 of the basic dimensions of the piece.

1.6 Distortion (Warp)

The maximum limits for distortion are provided in Table 2.
- Maximum distortion measured over 2 m of length.

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TABLE 2 - Distortion		
Type	Max. permissible distortion for each strength class	
	C18 & below	Above C18
Bow	20 mm	10 mm
Spring (Crook)	12 mm	8 mm
Twist	2 mm per 25 mm width	1 mm per 25 mm width
Cup	As per NLGA Rules	

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1.7 Fissures (Shake, Checks, Splits)

Same as NLGA Rules except in NO.2 and Studs: Through shake shall not exceed 600 mm in any 1 m of length. See Table 3.

TABLE 3 - EU Fissures (Shake, Checks, Splits)

Strength class according to EN 338		C18 & below	Above C18
Maximum permitted length of fissures		Fissures less than half the thickness may be ignored	
	Fissures not going through the thickness	Not greater than 1.5 m or 1/2 the length of the piece, whichever is the lesser	Not greater than 1 m or 1/4 the length of the piece, whichever is the lesser
	Fissures going through the thickness	Not greater than 1m or 1/4 the length of the piece, whichever is the lesser. If at the ends, a length not greater than 2 times the width of the piece	Only permitted at the ends with a length not greater than the width of the piece

1.8 Grade Stamp Requirements

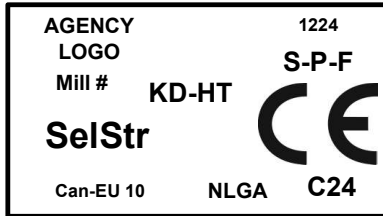
In order to distinguish NLGA structural lumber that complies with the additional EN 14081-1 requirements from NLGA structural lumber that complies to only CLSAB/ALSC requirements, in addition to the grade stamp information required under Para. 39 of the NLGA Grade Rule, lumber graded in accordance with EN 14081-1 shall include:

- Identification number of the Notified Body (eg. TRADA);
 - Producer Identification (eg. Agency Logo & Mill number);
 - Strength class (eg. C24);
 - Code Number to identify documentation (to be supplied by Agency);
 - "DRY GRADED" or if applicable, "KD-HT";¹
 - the stylized "CE" mark.
- (See Appendix 1 for grade & strength class designations)

¹ **Note:** "KD" is acceptable as appropriate and is cross-referenced to "Dry Graded" in the "Accompanying Commercial Document" (ACD)

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Below is an Example of a Typical EU Grade Stamp:



Note: The "Can-EU 10" is a dual function code; as well as being the "ACD identifier", it also indicates "the year the facility" first started applying the CE Mark" (e.g. "Can-EU 09" for facilities starting to CE mark in 2009 and Can-EU 10" for facilities that start CE marking in 2010, etc.)

1.9 Compliance Statement

The use of the provisions listed in this Annex in conjunction with applicable sections of the NLGA grade rule assure that:

"This standard (NLGA Standard Grading Rules) complies with EN 14081-1 - Timber structures - Strength graded structural timber with rectangular cross section - Part 1 - General requirements."

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APPENDIX 1

CEN Strength Classes (Canadian Species) <i>(In accordance with EN 1912)</i>					
	Strength Class				
	C14	C16	C18	C20	C24
S-P-F	Const Stud	NO. 1 NO. 2 (GS)		1&Btr	Sel Str (SS)
D Fir-L	Const Stud	NO. 1 NO. 2 (GS)		1&Btr	Sel Str (SS)
Hem-Fir	Const Stud	NO. 1 NO. 2 (GS)		1&Btr	Sel Str (SS)
WR Cedar	NO. 1 NO. 2 (GS)		Sel Str (SS)		
Sitka Spruce	NO. 1 NO. 2 (GS)		Sel Str (SS)		

Note: SS and GS grades as per BS 4978 are included in this table for information only.



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