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- C. Shake greater than 1/3 of the width of the switch tie, cross tie or tie block, or any shakes less than 1 inch from any edge shall be cause for rejection.
  - D. Splits prior to seasoning shall be cause for rejection.

D.1.5. Any mechanical anti splitting devices employed shall be located to cover the greatest area of wood separation on end surfaces, including checks and end checks.

## **E. PACKAGING:**

### **E.1. Minimum packaging requirements**

**E.1.1 Strapping:** All Units are to be individually strapped to wood pallets or blocking of a minimum thickness to allow the egress of lift forks using high strength strapping with a minimum of 4 straps per crate.

**E.1.2 Storage:** All units will be stored out of direct sunlight and protected from the weather until delivered to Rail Road.

## **F. Quality Control:**

**F.1.** Tropical hardwood switch ties, cross ties, and tie blocks, and all materials and processes, shall be subject to inspection prior to shipment to Rail Road facilities. The Vendor shall afford Rail Road inspector, at no additional cost to Rail Road, all necessary facilities, equipment and labor at the manufacturers plant to enable Rail Road inspector to perform proper inspections, as deemed necessary by Rail Road, during normal working hours.

**F.2.** Rail Roads inspector will make reasonably close inspection of the Top, bottom, sides and ends of each tropical hardwood switch tie, cross tie and tie block subsequent to seasoning. Each tie block shall be judged independently without regard for decisions on other ties or tie blocks in the same lot.

**F.3.** Rail Road inspector will inspect the processes relative to seasoning tropical hardwood switch ties, cross ties and tie blocks in accordance with these specifications.

**F.4.** Inspection of tropical hardwood switch ties, cross ties and tie blocks regarding their conformance with the moisture content requirements shown in paragraph 80.2.4.B.1 shall be performed using a Brookhuis FMD Moisture Meter, or functional equivalent (if an equivalent moisture meter is used, it must have any of the wood species listed in A.0. pre-programed as one of the choices). Moisture content shall be determined at a depth of not less than 1 inch from the top or bottom surface of the approximate mid-point of the length of the tie block, tie or timber.

**F.5.** Rail Road reserves the right to make any additional inspections of the tropical hardwood switch ties, cross ties and tie blocks prior to seasoning and subsequent to seasoning, during fabrication and after delivery to determine conformity to these specifications.

## **G. SOURCES:**

**G.1.** Tropical Forest Products, Phone: 786-395-2974 Website: [www.tropicalforestproducts.com](http://www.tropicalforestproducts.com),  
E-Mail: [info@tropicalforestproducts.com](mailto:info@tropicalforestproducts.com)

*Specification Note: The importance of listing the Vendor from which a specification is derived is a designers best assurance of project specification compliance.*

## **H. SUBMITTALS:**

**H.1. Minimum Technical Documentation Requirements:** Document samples shall be submitted with bid as verification of vendor ability to comply. Original submittals shall be supplied upon delivery.

**H.1.1. Certificate of Compliance "Inspection"** - A vendor certificate confirming product compliance with grade and quality requirements.

# TROPICAL

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**H.1.2. Certificate of Compliance “Technical”** – A vendor certificate confirming product compliance with minimum specified Physical, Mechanical and Technical performance requirements as defined by the specification.

**H.1.3. MSDS Wood Dust (Material Safety Data Sheet)** – Submit a Material Safety and Data Sheet for the wood products supplied on the project.

**H.2. Minimum Environmental Documentation Requirements:** Document samples shall be submitted with bid as verification of vendor ability to comply. Original submittals upon delivery:

**H.2.1. Certificate of Compliance FSC Controlled Wood Chain Of Custody *compliant specifications only.***

**H2.1.1.** Vendor must submit a valid certificate verifying FSC Chain of Custody Certification Status accompanied by Certificate verifying that materials supplied have been sourced as FSC certified.

Or

**H.2.1.2. Certificate of Compliance LEGAL LUMBER™ or Pre Approved Equal Third Party Due Care Compliance Program -**

Vendor must submit documented, comprehensive and verifiable Policies and Procedures outlining step by step a process

of independent third party NGO legal verification and accountability related to Environmental Compliance Submittals.

Vendor must submit a certificate confirming compliance with all domestic and international laws pertaining to the legal harvest and trade of forest products, including but not limited to U.S Lacey Act, U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, U.S. Forced Labor Laws, U.S. Buy American Act, CITES (Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species)

ITTA (International Trade Agreement) as per LEGAL LUMBER™ Controlled Wood, Chain of Custody, Life Cycle Impact and Due Care Policies and Procedures.

**End of Specification V061521**