

SRI LANKA STANDARD 1170 : PART 1 : 1998

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**CODE OF PRACTICE ON IDENTIFICATION,
GRADING AND MARKING OF IMPORTED
CONSTRUCTION TIMBER
PART 1 : GRADING, MARKING, AND GUIDANCE ON USAGE**

SRI LANKA STANDARDS INSTITUTION

**CODE OF PRACTICE ON IDENTIFICATION, GRADING AND MARKING
OF IMPORTED CONSTRUCTION TIMBER
PART 1 : GRADING, MARKING, AND GUIDANCE ON USAGE**

SLS 1170:Part 1 : 1998

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Sri Lanka Standard
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IMPORTED CONSTRUCTION TIMBER
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FOREWORD

This Sri Lanka Standard Code of Practice was approved by the Sectoral Committee on Timber & Timber Based Products and was authorised for adoption and publication as a Sri Lanka Standard by the Council of the Sri Lanka Standards Institution on 1998-03-19.

Local timber suitable for structural use is in short supply. In addition, government restrictions on felling to protect the environment as well as controls on transport and marketing of timber, have also contributed to the spiralling timber costs. In spite of higher costs, timber is found to be indispensable as a construction material in Sri Lanka. To cater for the demand, the government is now encouraging the import of construction timber by granting import duty reductions, and this trend is expected to continue for some time.

Timber is a perishable material which needs great care in specification, selection and handling of bulk imports. Dealers and users also need to be educated to help them sell/select their requirements. Import inspections should be comprehensive and streamlined. Past experience on import of timber to Sri Lanka, which sometimes discouraged the prospective users, has further underlined the need for establishing some guidelines to help the importers, timber merchants and the users.

For most effective use of construction timber, it must be structurally designed to suit the specific application. To accomplish this goal, timber, over the years, was evolved as an engineering material in spite of its high variability and inherent strength reducing defects by the development of stress-graded timber. As most timber exporters provide stress-graded timber, the required design information as well as the stress-graded timber can be made available to the structural engineers who can pass on the benefits of economy and performance to the user. Availability of stress-graded imported timber will also encourage the stress-grading of local timber in the near future. Hence a need exists for a Sri Lanka Standard on imported construction timber which provides information on selection of species, durability, treatability, timber grades, design stresses as well as guidelines on implementing and checking the grading process.

This part of the standard (Part 1) specifies the grades, grade stresses, marking, requirements for visual stress grading of timber for structural use and guidance on usage of imported construction timber. The other parts of this standard are as follows;

- Part 2 : Nomenclature, identification and general information;
- Part 3 : Properties; and
- Part 4 : Documentation for grading.