

The PS 20-15 Review Task Group met on June 13, 2019 and decided on the following revisions to the current PS 20-15. The specific proposed changes to PS 20-15 broken out by Section

Section	Type	Changes	Rationale
Cover	Editorial	Voluntary Product Standard PS 20- 15 <u>20</u> American Softwood Lumber Standard Supersedes Voluntary Product Standard PS 20- 10 <u>15</u> April 2015 <u>2020</u>	Update of dates required
Preface	Editorial	Voluntary Product Standard PS 20- 15 <u>20</u> (Supersedes Voluntary Product Standard PS 20- 10 <u>15</u>)	Update of dates required
Key Words	Editorial	Accreditation; ALSC Board of Review; certification of grading rule; DOC PS 20- 15 <u>20</u> ; lumber inspection; lumber sizes; moisture content of lumber; National Grading Rule; softwood lumber standard	Update of dates required
Page 9	Editorial	AMERICAN SOFTWOOD LUMBER STANDARD Effective April, 2015 <u>2020</u> <u>[This Standard, which was initiated by the American Lumber Standard Committee, has been developed under the <i>Procedures for the Development of Voluntary Product Standards</i> of the U.S. Department of Commerce to supersede PS 20-1015 “American Softwood Lumber Standard.”]</u>	Update of dates required
Section 1.1.3	Editorial	1.1.3 It <u>This Standard</u> establishes the principal trade classifications and sizes of softwood lumber for yard, structural, factory and shop use. It provides for the classification, measurement, grading and grade marking of rough and dressed sizes of various items of lumber including finish, boards, dimension and timbers. Terms and procedures are defined and discussed to provide a basis for the use of uniform methods in the grading, inspection, measurement and description of softwood lumber.	Improved readability

Section	Type	Changes	Rationale
Section 2.6	Task group recommended change	2.6 Design values — Published design data that are representative of the strength and stiffness of specific grades and species/species groups of lumber. <u>Strength and stiffness property values of structural lumber products published for design use. These values are determined for specific grades and species/species groups and reflect the fact that wood is an orthotropic material.</u>	The group felt that the proposed language met the spirit of what NCSEA had commented on, while improving upon the PS20-05 language NCSEA was asking to restore.
Section 2.8	Task group recommended change	Lumber that displays the official grading mark of an agency that is made by rubber stamps, ink jet sprayers, tags and/or other methods when found acceptable by that agency. A grade mark is owned by the grading agency and is applied to lumber that conforms to the requirements of a designated grading rule. Except for marks used in connection with Certificates of Inspection or Reinspection, all grade marks shall indicate the following: 1) the mill number, name, or abbreviation; 2) the agency symbol; 3) the species or combination of species of the lumber; 4) whether the lumber was dry or green when manufactured (<u>but, see 6.2.6</u>); and 5) the appropriate grade. Where required by the grading rules, grade marks shall also denote rule paragraphs under which the lumber was graded or other similar information.	This addition is intended to encourage the user to look at grade marking section
Sections 2.9-2.15	Task group recommended change	Add a new Section <u>2.9 Grade – A minimum standard specifying the permitted characteristics of lumber, having regard to the end use for which the lumber is intended.</u> Renumber Sections 2.9-2.14 Delete Section 2.15 2.15—Lumber grades— Manufacturing categories of lumber that provide the extent and limitations of the characteristics permitted in the particular grade.	The group felt that the new description provides a clearer definition of what a grade is.

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Section 2.16	Task group recommended change and editorial changes	Nominal size —The label designation for lumber size categories that does not reflect the dressed size. The nominal size is greater than the dressed size i.e., a dry “2 by 4” is surfaced to 38.1 mm by 89.9 mm (1 1/2 by 3 1/2 inches) [see 3.4.4] .	Additions to section reinforce the concept that no inferences shall be drawn that the “nominal sizes are dressed sizes” and address conversion from conventional (inch) units.																																						
Section 9.3.1	Task group recommended change	<table><thead><tr><th><i>Agency</i></th><th><i>Members Allotted</i></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Southern Pine Inspection Bureau</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Western Wood Products Association</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Redwood Inspection Service</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Northern Softwood Lumber Bureau</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>National Lumber Grades Authority</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Each other agency qualifying under this category</td><td>1</td></tr></tbody></table>	<i>Agency</i>	<i>Members Allotted</i>	Southern Pine Inspection Bureau	2	Western Wood Products Association	2	Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau	2	West Coast Lumber Inspection Bureau		Redwood Inspection Service	1	Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association	2	Northern Softwood Lumber Bureau	1	National Lumber Grades Authority	1	Each other agency qualifying under this category	1	Because of consolidations the agency representations need to be updated.																		
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Section 12.1 ASTM Standards	Editorial change	D1164-183 D4444-183 SI10-1602	The references dates are updated to the latest version																																						

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Appendix A Commercial Names	Task group recommended change	<p>DOUGLAS FIR Douglas Fir¹³ Douglas-fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> Bigcone Douglas fir Bigcone Douglas Fir <i>P. macrocarpa</i></p> <p>FIR: Balsam Fir¹⁴ balsam fir <i>Abies balsamea</i> Fraser Fir Fraser fir <i>A. fraseri</i> Douglas Fir¹⁵ Douglas-fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> Bigcone Douglas fir Bigcone Douglas fir <i>P. macrocarpa</i> Noble Fir noble fir <i>Abies procera</i> Alpine Fir subalpine fir (alpine fir) <i>A. lasiocarpa</i> California Red Fir California red fir <i>A. magnifica</i> Grand Fir grand fir <i>A. grandis</i> Pacific Grand Fir Pacific silver fir <i>A. amabilis</i> White Fir white fir <i>A. concolor</i></p> <p>LARCH: Western Larch western larch <i>Larix occidentalis</i> Tamarack tamarack <i>L. laricina</i></p>	The pseudo firs are removed from Firs and given separate category and Tamarack is moved to the Larch category.
Appendix D2 Effective Date	Editorial change	<p>D2. EFFECTIVE DATE Voluntary Product Standard PS 20-2015, American Softwood Lumber Standard, a voluntary standard developed under the Department of Commerce procedures, shall be effective April, 202015 for products produced thereunder on and after that date. The Standard being superseded, American Softwood Lumber Standard PS 20-1549, is effective for products produced thereunder through March, 202015.</p>	Update of dates required
Appendix D3 History of the Standard	Editorial change	<p>D3. HISTORY OF THE STANDARD Early in 1922 Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, responding to a request from the lumber industry, offered the cooperation of the Department in activities directed toward simplification, standardization, and development of adequate quality guarantees for the lumber-consuming public. [..... (text unchanged).....] The significant provisions added to PS 20-70 were: 1) separate size standards for dry and green lumber, under nominal 5-inch thickness, were established in order to achieve greater uniformity in the dimensions of seasoned and unseasoned lumber at the point of use; 2) an independent National Grading Rule Committee was created to establish and maintain a national grading rule for dimension lumber conforming to PS 20; 3) an independent Board of Review was formed to assure uniform approval of grading rules and of agencies to grade under these rules, and to enhance enforcement of the accreditation program ; 4) the composition of the American Lumber Standard Committee was expanded to reflect a broader representation of interests; and 5) uniform methods for assignment of design values were accepted. Non-substantive changes were made to the Standard in 1985, 1991, 1992, 1999, 2005, and 2010, and 2015. The Standard was reviewed in 20194 to assure it reflected the needs of manufacturers, distributors and consumers.</p>	Update of dates required

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Appendix D4 Current Edition	Editorial change	D4. CURRENT EDITION The current edition, PS 20- 2015 , has the same technical requirements and administrative structure for implementing and enforcing the Standard as its previous edition. This new edition was based on the recommendations resulting from an extensive technical and editorial review of PS 20- 1510 conducted by the Standing Committee with the assistance from the National Institute of Standards and Technology in 20 1914 .	Update of dates required