

SMETA Corrective Action Plan Report (CAPR)



Audit Content:

(1) A SMETA audit was conducted which included some or all of Labour Standards, Health & Safety, Environment and Business Ethics. The SMETA Best Practice Version 6.1 (March 2019) was applied. The scope of workers included all types at the site e.g. direct employees, agency workers, workers employed by service providers and workers provided by other contractors. Any deviations from the SMETA Methodology are stated (with reasons for deviation) in the SMETA Declaration.

Version 6.1

(2) The audit scope was against the following reference documents

2-Pillar SMETA Audit

- ETI Base Code
- SMETA Additions
 - Universal rights covering UNGP
 - Management systems and code implementation,
 - Responsible Recruitment
 - · Entitlement to Work & Immigration,
 - Sub-Contracting and Home working,

4-Pillar SMETA

- 2-Pillar requirements plus
- Additional Pillar assessment of Environment
- Additional Pillar assessment of Business Ethics
- The Customer's Supplier Code (Appendix 1)
- (3) Where appropriate non-compliances were raised against the ETI code / SMETA Additions & local law and recorded as non-compliances on both the audit report, CAPR and on Sedex.
- (4) Any Non-Compliance against customer code shall not be uploaded to Sedex. However, in the CAPR these 'Variances in compliance between ETI code / SMETA Additions/ local law and customer code' shall be noted in the observations section of the CAPR.

2024-01-15

Guidance

The Corrective Action Plan Report summarises the site audit findings and a corrective, and preventative action plan that both the auditor and the site manager believe is reasonable to ensure conformity with the ETI Base Code, Local Laws and additional audited requirements. After the initial audit, the form is used to rerecord actions taken and to categorise the status of the non-compliances.

N.B. observations and good practice examples should be pointed out at the closing meeting as well as discussing non-compliances and corrective actions.

To ensure that good practice examples are highlighted to the supplier and to give a more 'balanced' audit a section to record these has been provided on the CAPR document (see following pages) which will remain with the supplier. They will be further confirmed on receipt of the audit report.

Root cause (see column 4)

Root cause refers to the specific procedure or lack of procedure which caused the issue to arise. Before a corrective action can sustainably rectify the situation, it is important to find out the real cause of the non-compliance and whether a system change is necessary to ensure the issue will not arise again in the future.

See SMETA BPG Chapter 7 'Audit Execution' for more explanation of "root cause".

Next Steps:

- The site shall request, via Sedex, that the audit body upload the audit report, non-compliances, observations and good examples. If you have not already received instructions on how to do this then please visit the web site www.sedexglobal.com.
- 2. Sites shall action its non-compliances and document its progress via Sedex.
- Once the site has effectively progressed through its actions then it shall request via Sedex that the
 audit body verify its actions. Please visit www.sedexglobal.com web site for information on how to
 do this.
- 4. The audit body shall verify corrective actions taken by the site by either a "Desk-Top" review process via Sedex or by Follow-up Audit (see point 5).
- 5. Some non-compliances that cannot be closed off by "Desk-Top" review may need to be closed off via a "1 Day Follow Up Audit" charged at normal fee rates. If this is the case, then the site will be notified after its submission of documentary evidence relating to that non-compliance. Any follow-up audit must take place within twelve months of the initial audit and the information from the initial audit must be available for sign off of corrective action.
- 6. For changes to wages and hours to be correctly verified it will normally require a follow up site visit. Auditors will generally require to see a minimum of two months wages and hours records, showing new rates in order to confirm changes (note some clients may ask for a longer period, if in doubt please check with the client).



				Audit I	Details						
Sedex Company Reference: (only available on Sed	ex System)				Sedex Site Re (only available of	efere n Sed	ence: ex System)				
Business name (Company name)	:				Ltd						
Site name:					Ltd						
Site address:		CN			Country:			CN			
Site contact and j	ob title:		/ Fa	ctory D	irector						
Site phone:					Site e-mail:						
SMETA Audit Pilla	nrs:		oour Indards		Health and Safety (plus Environment 2-Pillar)	✓	Environ 4-pillar	ment	✓	Business Ethics	
Date of Audit:		2024-01	-15					'			
			Aud	it Comp	pany Name:						
			BUREAU	J VERI	TAS CPS - AS	IA					
			Au	dit Con	ducted By						
Affiliate Audit Company	>		Purchaser	1			Retailer]	
Brand owner			NGO				Trade U	nion]	
Multi- stakeholder					Combined A	udit (select all	that ap	ply)		

Audit Pa	arameters	5	
Time in and time out	Day 1		
	In	09:30	
	Out	05:30	
Audit type:	FULL_I	NITIAL	
Was the audit announced?	ANNO	UNCED	
Was the Sedex SAQ available for review?	Yes		
Any conflicting information SAQ/Pre-Audit Info to Audit findings?	No		
Who signed and agreed CAPR		/	Factory Director
Is further information available	No		



Audit attendance	Management	Worker Representatives	
	Senior management	Worker Committee representatives	Union representatives
A: Present at the opening meeting?	Yes	Yes	No
B: Present at the audit?	Yes	Yes	No
C: Present at the closing meeting?	Yes	Yes	No
Reason for absence at the opening meeting	NA, No Union on site		
Reason for absence during the audit	NA, No Union on site		
Reason for absence at the closing meeting	NA, No Union on site		



Summary of Findings

Issue		a of onformity	Nur	nber of iss	ues	Findings
(please click on the issue title to go direct to the appropriate audit results by clause)	ETI	Local Law	NC	Obs	GE	
3 - Working conditions are safe and hygienic	3.1 3.1 3.1	§1 §2 §3	3	0	0	NC - NC - NC -
5 - Living wages are paid	5.1	§4	1	0	0	NC -
6 - Working hours are not excessive	6.1	§5	1	0	0	NC -

Local Law Issues

Issue	Description
§1	In accordance with Article 2-7 of Warning Sign in the Guidelines for Safety Signs and Usage GB 2894-2008, the electric shock warning sign should be marked on electricity devices and circuit where electric shock may happen. 6.2 The material of signs: Safety signs should be made of durable material. The materials which will be deformed or deteriorated when wet and flammable material are generally shall preferably not be used. The insulation material should be used at workplace where there is risk of electric shock. 根据《安全标志及使用导则(GB 2894-2008)》警示标志2-7,当心触电警示标志应安装在有可能发生触点危险的电器设备和线路,如:配电室、开关等。 6.2 标志牌的材质:安全标志牌应采用坚固耐用的材料制作,一般不宜使用遇水变形、变质或易燃的材料。有触电危险的作业场所应使用绝缘材料。
§2	In accordance with Article 6.1.6 of Code of Design of Manufacturing Equipment Safety and Hygiene, the exposed dangerous components or part of any transmission belts, rotational axis, transmission chain, coupling, belt wheel, gear, flying wheels, chain wheels, electric saw and others, which is within 2 meters height of the plane where the operator is operating such devices shall be equipped with safety devices. Article 6.3 of Code of Design of Manufacturing Equipment Safety and Hygiene, for supercooling and overheating, if the hot or supercooled parts of the production equipment may cause danger, they must be equipped with anti-contact shielding. 根据《生产设备安全卫生设计总则(GB5083-1999)》第6.1.6条:以操作人员的操作位置所在平面为基准,凡高度在2m之内的所有传动带、转轴、传动链、联轴节、带轮、齿轮、飞轮、链轮、电锯等外露危险零部件及危险部位,都必须设置安全防护装置。 根据《生产设备安全卫生设计总则(GB5083-1999)》第6.3 过冷与过热,若生产设备的灼热或过冷部位可能造成危险,则必须配置防接触屏蔽。
§3	In accordance with Article 27 of the Regulation For Chemical Usage Safety in Work Place: Staff and workers are entitled to receive: (1) Date and information in description of the specific characteristics, hazardous ingredients, and safety precaution marks of the chemicals to be used in the working premises, and instructions upon safety techniques, etc. (2) Information concerning the probability of occurrence of harm against safety and health of staff and workers caused by hazardous chemicals in the working process. (3) Trainings upon safety techniques, including trainings with regard to prevention and control, and danger-avoiding methods, handling of emergency cases, or emergency measures. (4) Labor protection articles in conformity to State stipulations. 根据《工作场所安全使用化学品规定》第27条: 职工有权获得: (1)工作场所使用化学品的特性、有害成分、安全标签以及安全技术说明书等资料; (2)在其工作过程中危险化学品可能导致危害安全与健康的资料; (3)安全技术的培训,包括预防、控制、及防止危险方法的培训和紧急情况处理或应急措施的培训; (4)符合国家规定的劳动防护用品。

2024-01-15

2024-01-15

§4	In accordance with Article 73 of the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China, employees shall, in accordance with the law, be entitled to social insurance benefits under the following circumstances: (1) retirements; (2) illness or injury; (3) disability caused by work-related injury or occupational disease; (4) unemployment; and (5) maternity. The survivors of the insured laborers shall be entitled to subsidies for survivors in accordance with the law. The conditions and standards for laborers to enjoy social insurance benefits shall be stipulated by laws, rules and regulations. The social insurance amount that laborers and entitled to, must be timely paid in full amount. 根据《中华人民共和国劳动法》第73条:劳动者在下列情形下,依法享受社会保险待遇: (一)退休;(二)患病、负伤;(三)因工伤残或者患职业病;(四)失业;(五)生育。劳动者死亡后,其遗属依法享受遗属津贴。劳动者享受社会保险待遇的条件和标准由法律、法规规定。劳动者享受的社会保险金必须按时足额支付。
§5	In accordance with Article 41 of the Labor Law of the PRC, after consultation with the trade union and employees, the employer may extend working hours due to its production or business needs, but the extended working hours shall not generally exceed one hour a day; in special circumstances that require an extension of working hours, the extended working hours shall not exceed 3 hours a day and 36 hours a month on condition that the health of employees is guaranteed. 根据《中华人民共和国劳动法》第41条:用人单位由于生产经营需要,经与工会和劳动者协商后可以延长工作时间,一般每日不得超过一小时;因特殊原因需要延长工作时间的,在保障劳动者身体健康的条件下延长工作时间每日不得超过三小时,但是每月不得超过三十六小时。

Corrective Action Plan - Non Compliances



	Non-C	ompliance			Evidence
[Back to findings	summary]				
	Non-C	ompliance		ш	
Status	OPEN	-			
Reference					
Clause	3 - Working con	ditions are safe a	nd hygienic		
Issue Title	227 - Unmarked instructions for	d / incorrect labels electrics	s / signage /		
Subcategory	Electrical risk				
New or carried over?	☑ New	□ Ca	arried Over		
Root cause	☑ Training	□ Sy	/stem		
	□ Costs	□ La	ack of workers		
	□ Other				
Root cause - Other					
	Guidelines for S the electric show electricity device may happen. 6 should be made which will be de and flammable preferably not be should be used electric shock. 7 2008)》警示标志 能发生触点危险等。6.2 标志牌材料制作,一般7	iafety Signs and L ck warning sign s es and circuit whe .2 The material of e of durable mate eformed or deteri- material are gene be used. The insul- at workplace who at workplace who at workplace who at workplace who at workplace who be used. The insul- at workplace who at workplace who at workplace who at more management of person and the person	erally shall lation material ere there is risk of 使用导则(GB 2894- 示标志应安装在有可 如:配电室、开关 增应采用坚固耐用的 变质或易燃的材料 缘材料。		No warning sign. PG
ETI code	be provided, be knowledge of th hazards. Adequ accidents and ir associated with by minimising,	aring in mind the ne industry and o ate steps shall be njury to health ari , or occurring in t	f any specific taken to prevent sing out of, he course of work, nably practicable,		
Explanation to the non compliance	the electricity sy machines in the	witch box of 1 out	p. 审核发现工厂裁断		
Follow up method	☐ Follow up au	ıdit ☑ De	esktop audit		
Timescale	□ Immediate	☑ 30 days	□ 60 days		
	□ 90 days	□ 120 days	□ 180 days		

	☐ 365 days ☐ Other	
Actions	It is recommended that management adopt practices and controls to ensure that all electricity devices and circuit in the factory are marked to avoid electric shock. 建议工厂对整个工厂的电气设施安装警示标志。	

Audit company: BUREAU VERITAS CPS - ASIA Report reference:

Start Date: End Date:



	Non-Com	pliance	Evidence
[Back to findings	summary]		
	Non-Com	pliance	I
Status	OPEN		
Reference			
Clause	3 - Working conditi	ons are safe and hygienic	
Issue Title	264 - Machines lack	k appropriate safety guards (e.g. ds on sewing machines, belt /	
Subcategory	Machinery		
New or carried over?	☑ New	☐ Carried Over	
Root cause	☑ Training	□ System	
	□ Costs	☐ Lack of workers	
	□ Other		
Root cause - Other			
ETI code	Manufacturing Equexposed dangerou transmission belts, chain, coupling, be wheels, electric say meters height of the operating such devices. Article 6.3 Manufacturing Equexpercooling and coupercooled parts (GB5083-1999)》 在平面为基准特人民主,使为基本的人民主,以为人民,以为人民,以为人民,以为,为人民,以为,为人民,以为人民,以为,为人,以为人民,以为人,为人,以为人,以为人,为,为人,以为,为人,以为人,为,以为人,为,为人,为,以为人,为,为人,为,为人,为,为人,为,为人,为,为,为人,为,为,为,为	Article 6.1.6 of Code of Design of lipment Safety and Hygiene, the s components or part of any rotational axis, transmission It wheel, gear, flying wheels, chain wand others, which is within 2 ne plane where the operator is vices shall be equipped with safety of Code of Design of lipment Safety and Hygiene, for overheating, if the hot or of the production equipment may must be equipped with anti-letter wheels are lipment shall be a significant with the lipment shall be lipment shall are lipment shall are lipment shall are lipment working environment shall are lipment shall are lipment working environment shall are lipment shall are lipment working environment w	No needle quard.JPC
Ell code	be provided, bearing knowledge of the in hazards. Adequate accidents and injurt associated with, or by minimising, so f	gienic working environment shall ng in mind the prevailing ndustry and of any specific steps shall be taken to prevent y to health arising out of, occurring in the course of work, ar as is reasonably practicable, rds inherent in the working	
Explanation to the non compliance	workshop were not	ll sewing machines in the sewing t installed with needle guard. 审核 针车均没有安装针挡。	
Follow up	☐ Follow up audit	☑ Desktop audit	

Timescale □ Immediate □ 30 days □ 60 days □ 90 days □ 120 days □ 180 days □ 365 days □ Other Actions It is recommended that management adopt practices and controls to ensure that all sewing machines are equipped with pulley guards. 建议工厂为所有的缝纫机安装针挡。	method				
☐ 365 days ☐ Other	Timescale	☐ Immediate	☑ 30 days	□ 60 days	
Actions It is recommended that management adent		□ 90 days	□ 120 days	□ 180 days	
Actions It is recommended that management adopt practices and controls to ensure that all sewing machines are equipped with pulley guards. 建议工厂为所有的缝纫机安装针挡。		□ 365 days	□ Other		
	Actions	It is recommende practices and con machines are equ 为所有的缝纫机安	ed that management strols to ensure tha uipped with pulley 装针挡。	ent adopt at all sewing guards. 建议工厂	

Audit company: BUREAU VERITAS CPS - ASIA Report reference:

Start Date: End Date:

2024-01-15

2024-01-15

	Non-Compliance	Evidence
[Back to findings	summary]	
	Non-Compliance	
Status	OPEN	
Reference		
Clause	3 - Working conditions are safe and hygienic	
Issue Title	230 - No material safety data sheet (MSDS) obtained / available	
Subcategory	Chemicals	
New or carried over?	☑ New ☐ Carried Over	
Root cause	☑ Training ☐ System	
	☐ Costs ☐ Lack of workers	
	□ Other	
Root cause - Other		
Local law issue	In accordance with Article 27 of the Regulation For Chemical Usage Safety in Work Place: Staff and workers are entitled to receive: (1) Date and information in description of the specific characteristics, hazardous ingredients, and safety precaution marks of the chemicals to be used in the working premises, and instructions upon safety techniques, etc. (2) Information concerning the probability of occurrence of harm against safety and health of staff and workers caused by hazardous chemicals in the working process. (3) Trainings upon safety techniques, including trainings with regard to prevention and control, and danger-avoiding methods, handling of emergency cases, or emergency measures. (4) Labor protection articles in conformity to State stipulations. 根据《工作场所安全使用化学品规定》第27条:职工有权获得: (1)工作场所使用化学品规定》第27条:职工有权获得: (1)工作场所使用化学品的特性、有害成分、安全标签以及安全技术说明书等资料; (2)在其工作过程中危险化学品可能导致危害安全与健康的资料; (3)安全技术的培训,包括预防、控制、及防止危险方法的培训和紧急情况处理或应急措施的培训; (4)符合国家规定的劳动防护用品。	
ETI code	3.1 - A safe and hygienic working environment shall be provided, bearing in mind the prevailing knowledge of the industry and of any specific hazards. Adequate steps shall be taken to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of, associated with, or occurring in the course of work, by minimising, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.	
Explanation to the non compliance	It was noted that no material safety data sheet for products (MSDS) was available for the machine oil being used in the sewing workshop. 审核员发现针车车间使用的机油没有化学品安全技术说明书(MSDS)。	

Follow up method	□ Follow up au	dit ☑ De	sktop audit	
Timescale	□ Immediate	☑ 30 days	□ 60 days	
	□ 90 days	□ 120 days	□ 180 days	
	□ 365 days	□ Other		
Actions	practices and co being used in the	e factory have co	nent adopt that all chemicals mplete material SDS) which are also es handling 在工厂使用的化学品 所(MSDS),并提供给	

Audit company: BUREAU VERITAS CPS - ASIA Report reference:

Start Date: End Date:

	Non-Compliance	Evidence		
[Back to findings	summary]			
	Non-Compliance			
Status	OPEN			
Reference				
Clause	5 - Living wages are paid			
Issue Title	423 - Compulsory insurance (e.g. social insuraccident insurance etc.) not paid - systemic	rance,		
Subcategory	Benefits & Insurance			
New or carried over?	☑ New ☐ Carried Over			
Root cause	☐ Training ☑ System			
	☐ Costs ☐ Lack of worke	rs		
	□ Other			
Root cause - Other				
Local law issue	In accordance with Article 73 of the Labor La People's Republic of China, employees shall, accordance with the law, be entitled to social insurance benefits under the following circumstances: (1) retirements; (2) illness or i (3) disability caused by work-related injury of occupational disease; (4) unemployment; and maternity. The survivors of the insured labor be entitled to subsidies for survivors in according with the law. The conditions and standards followers to enjoy social insurance benefits statipulated by laws, rules and regulations. The insurance amount that laborers and entitled must be timely paid in full amount. 根据《中:和国劳动法》第73条:劳动者在下列情形下,依社会保险待遇:(一)退休;(二)患病、负伤;(三)或者患职业病;(四)失业;(五)生育。劳动者死亡遗属依法享受遗属津贴。劳动者享受社会保险待件和标准由法律、法规规定。劳动者享受社会保险特件和标准由法律、法规规定。劳动者享受的社会必须按时足额支付。	in long long long long long long long lon		
ETI code	5.1 - Wages and benefits paid for a standard working week meet, at a minimum, national legal standards or industry benchmark standards, whichever is higher. In any event wages should always be enough to meet basic needs and to provide some discretionary income.			
Explanation to the non compliance	It was noted that the factory's social insurance coverage was insufficient. According to the sinsurance payment receipt provided by factor management, it was noted that only 7 out of employees were provided with pension, unemployment, accident, medical, maternity insurance in January 2024. Remark: Factory all employees with commercial insurance valuec 20, 2023 to Dec 19, 2024. 审核发现工厂的	ocial ory - 45 orovided lid from		

	险覆盖不足。根据厂方提供的[2024年,1月]社会保险缴费单据显示工厂为7/45名员工提供养老、失业、工伤、医疗、生育保险。备注:工厂为全部员工提供商业保险,有效期为2023年12月20日到2024年12月19日。			
Follow up method	☑ Follow up au	dit 🗆 De	esktop audit	
Timescale	□ Immediate	□ 30 days	☑ 60 days	
	□ 90 days	□ 120 days	□ 180 days	
	□ 365 days	□ Other		
Actions	nractices and co	ontrols to ensure	nanagement adopt that employees are entitlements. 建 呆险福利。	

Audit company: BUREAU VERITAS CPS - ASIA

	Non-Com	pliance	Evidence
[Back to findings	summary]		
	Non-Com	pliance	
Status	OPEN		
Reference			
Clause	6 - Working hours a		
Issue Title	480 - Overtime is n frequency and leve workers and / or w	ot used responsibly i.e. extent, I of hours worked by individual hole workforce are excessive	
Subcategory	Overtime		
New or carried over?	☑ New	☐ Carried Over	
Root cause	☐ Training	☑ System	
	□ Costs	☐ Lack of workers	
	□ Other		
Root cause - Other			
Local law issue	PRC, after consulta employees, the em due to its production extended working one hour a day; in an extension of wo working hours shall hours a month on employees is guara 法》第41条:用人单劳动者协商后可以延小时;因特殊原因需身体健康的条件和超过,但是每月不得超过,		Attendance records.JPG
ETI code	collective agreeme 6.6 below, whichev	s must comply with national laws, nts, and the provisions of 6.2 to er affords the greater protection auses 6.2 to 6.6 are based on r standards.	
Explanation to the non compliance	worked in excess of limits. A review of 3 time records (10 sa samples from June current month Nov following: •10 out of employees worked per month (i.e. 54 hot in compliance vout of 10 sample pexcess of 36 overtil hours) in June 2023	ample population employees If the statutory overtime hour Is ample population employees' Imples from March 2023, 10 2023 and 10 samples from Itember 2023) yielded the Is ample population In excess of 36 overtime hours In ours) in March 2023, which was In with the legal requirement; •10 Is ample population employees worked in In the hours per month (i.e. 58 to 60 Is, which was not in compliance Irement; •10 out of 10 sample	

	overtime hours November 2023 the legal require 核发现员工加班 供的工资记录中 10个,从2023年 抽取10个),发现 为:•10/10名员 加班时 10/10名员工在20 过每月加班时间 员工在2023年11	ement.根据厂方排时间超出了法定标》 时间超出了法定标》 工抽取30个样本(其 66月抽取10个,从 1有员工加班时间超 工在2023年3月的 时间不能超过36小时 023年6月的加班时 不能超过36小时的	5 to 58 hours) in n compliance with 是供的工时记录,审 电板员从厂方提 中从2023年3月抽取最近月份2023年11月出了法定标准,时的法律规定; • 10/10名法律规定; • 10/10名		
Follow up method	☑ Follow up au	ıdit 🗆 De	esktop audit		
Timescale	□ Immediate	□ 30 days	☑ 60 days		
	□ 90 days	□ 120 days	□ 180 days		
	□ 365 days	□ Other			
Actions	It is recommended that factory management adopt practices and controls to ensure that employee overtime hours do not exceed the statutory limits. 建议工厂确保员工的加班时间符合法律要求。				

Audit company: BUREAU VERITAS CPS - ASIA Report reference:

Start Date: End Date:

SMETA Declaration

I declare that the audit underpinning the following report was conducted in accordance with SMETA Best Practice Guidance and SMETA Measurement Criteria.

- (1) Where appropriate non-compliances were raised against the ETI code / SMETA Additions & local law and recorded as non-compliances on both the audit report, CAPR and on Sedex.
- (2) Any Non-Compliance against customer code alone shall not be uploaded to Sedex. However, in the CAPR these Variances in compliance between ETI code / SMETA Additions/ local law and customer code' shall be noted in the observations section of the CAPR.

Auditor Team				
Lead Auditor:	Lincoln Wu	APSCA Number:	21701322	
Additional Auditors:	Lillian Liang		21701326	
Date of declaration:	2024-01-15			

Note: The focus of this ethical audit is on the ETI Base Code and local law. The additional elements will not be audited in such depth or scope, but the audit process will still highlight any specific issues.

Site Representation		
Full Name:		
Title:	Factory Director	
Date of declaration:	2024-01-15	

Comments:

Any exceptions to this must be recorded here (e.g. different sample size):
Sampled wage records from the past 5 months were provided for review (5 months only since the operation for digital thermometer just started last Šep 2020).

The audit took 2.0 man-days (9AM-6PM per day). Audit time was extended until 8PM due to the extent of documentation; this was agreed upon with the factory representatives

Nil

Report reference:

Start Date: **End Date:**

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Guidance on Root Cause

Explanation of the Root Cause Column

If a non-compliance is to be rectified by a corrective action which will also prevent the noncompliance re-occurring, it is necessary to consider whether a system change is required.

Understanding the root cause of the non-compliance is essential if a site is to prevent the issue reoccurring.

The root cause refers to the specific activity/ procedure or lack of activity /procedure which caused the non-compliance to arise. Before a corrective action can rectify the situation, it is important to find out the real cause of the non-compliance and whether a system change is necessary to ensure the issue will not arise again in the future.

Since this is a new addition, it is not a mandatory requirement to complete this column at this time. We hope to encourage auditors and sites to think about Root Causes and where they are able to agree, this column may be used to describe their discussion.

Some examples of finding a "root cause"

Example 1

Where excessive hours have been noted the real reason for these needs to be understood, whether due to production planning, bottle necks in the operation, insufficient training of operators, delays in receiving trims, etc.

Example 2

A non-compliance may be found where workers are not using PPE that has been provided to them. This could be the result of insufficient training for workers to understand the need for its use; a lack of follow-up by supervisors aligned to a proper set of factory rules or the fact that workers feel their productivity (and thus potential earnings) is affected by use of items such as metal gloves.

Example 3

A site uses fines to control unacceptable behaviour of workers.

International standards (and often local laws) may require that workers should not be fined for disciplinary reasons.

It may be difficult to stop fines immediately as the site rules may have been in place for some time, but to prevent the non-compliance re-occurring it will be necessary to make a system change.

The symptom is fines, but the root cause is a management system which may break the law. To prevent the problem re-occurring it will be necessary to make a system change for example the site could consider a system which rewards for good behaviour

Only by understanding the underlying cause can effective corrective actions be taken to ensure continuous compliance.

The site is encouraged to complete this section so as to indicate their understanding of the issues raised and the actions to be taken.

Audit company:





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