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Add value.



ETI: Ethical Trading

Socially responsible organisations and companies take concrete steps to uphold ethical business and corporate practices. Membership with ETI demonstrates commitment toward socially and environmentally ethical standards.

About ETI

The Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) refers to the alliance formed among companies, trade unions and voluntary organisations to improve the working conditions of workers making or growing consumer goods. By committing to ethical trade, companies adopt a code of labour practice centering issues such as wages, health and safety, which their suppliers from all over the world are required to follow. ETI ensures that companies take responsibility for the ethical sourcing of their goods.

Following the ETI Base Code

The ETI Base Code was negotiated and agreed by the founding trade union, NGO and corporate members of ETI. It contains nine clauses which reflect the most relevant conventions of the International Labour Organisation:

- Employment is freely chosen
- Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining are respected

- Working conditions are safe and hygienic
- Child labour shall not be used
- Living wages are paid
- Working hours are not excessive
- No discrimination is practiced
- Regular employment is provided
- No harsh or inhumane treatment is allowed

Benefits of ETI Membership

By joining ETI, companies collaborate with some of the world's leading players in ethical trade to find solutions to challenges and to increase the effectiveness of their ethical trade strategies. ETI membership offers companies:

- Business benefits from enhanced communication with suppliers
- Respect within community
- Support and assistance with implementation and assessment
- Opportunity to partake in groundbreaking projects



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ETI Principles of Implementation

As an ETI member, a company is committed to undertake activities to promote respect for workers' rights and to achieve real improvements in working conditions within its supply chain. ETI members are expected to adhere to the following Principles:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Commitment to ethical trading |
| 2 | Integrating ethical trade into company culture and business practices |
| 3 | Capacity-building for suppliers and others |
| 4 | Identifying problems in the supply chain |
| 5 | Improvement actions |
| 6 | Transparency |

Companies are required to apply them in ways according to their circumstances and then present a report on their progress annually. Reports are analysed and aggregated by an independent company such as TÜV SÜD. Expectations of achievement will be based on a performance framework agreed by members. Failure to honour membership obligations will result in its cancellation.

SEDEX (Supplier Ethical Data Exchange)

All major UK retailers are SEDEX members and follow the ETI code. Third party audit companies, such as TÜV SÜD, are registered as Associate Auditor Group.

Why choose TÜV SÜD

With a global network of strong multi-discipline expertise, TÜV SÜD is the single source for an approved auditing and certifying body for multiple retailer and brand standards of CSR programmes. This guarantees uniform audit quality in organisations that have factories in disparate locations across the world. TÜV SÜD has a strict code of conduct in place which requires all inspectors and auditors to follow closely. In addition, TÜV SÜD supports management system integration which enables companies to integrate SA 8000 with other management systems such as ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, BSCI and CoC (Code of Conduct).

About TÜV SÜD

TÜV SÜD is a major international service group providing testing, inspection, auditing & certification, training and knowledge services. Represented in over 600 locations worldwide, TÜV SÜD holds accreditations for market access in Europe, The Americas and Asia Pacific. TÜV SÜD is a one-stop solutions provider supporting customers secure fast and efficient global access.

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For more information contact a TÜV SÜD expert at csr@tuev-sued.com now or visit our website at www.tuev-sued.com/csr