



## **Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards**

The Home Depot, its affiliates, divisions, and subsidiaries strive to conduct business in a responsible manner. As we expand our business activities and work with suppliers domestically and globally to meet customers' needs, it is important to preserve our collective commitment to human rights and safety in the workplace.

The Home Depot expects that all suppliers will abide by all applicable international and local laws, rules and regulations in the manufacture and distribution of merchandise or services provided to The Home Depot. All suppliers are strongly encouraged to exceed The Home Depot's guidelines and promote continuous improvement throughout their operations.

All suppliers must be able to demonstrate compliance with these requirements at the request of The Home Depot.

These guidelines provide an introduction to the minimum requirements that all Suppliers must meet in order to conduct business with The Home Depot.

### **Laws and Regulations**

Suppliers must operate in full compliance with all applicable laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate.

### **Child Labor**

Suppliers must not employ workers younger than the greater of 15 years of age -- or 14 where the local law allows such exception consistent with International Labor Organization guidelines -- or the age for completing compulsory education or the minimum age established by law in the country of manufacture. In addition, Suppliers must comply with all local legal requirements for the work of authorized young workers, particularly those pertaining to hours of work, wages, and working conditions.

### **Forced Labor**

Suppliers will not use of any form of involuntary labor including forced, prison, indentured, bonded, slave, or human trafficked labor.

### **Harassment and Abuse**

Suppliers must treat all workers with respect and dignity. No worker shall be subject to corporal punishment, physical, sexual, psychological or verbal harassment or abuse. In addition, Suppliers will not use monetary fines as a disciplinary practice.

### **Compensation**

Suppliers must meet or exceed the minimum wage and compensation requirements as defined under applicable labor laws, applicable agreements and local regulations for regular work, overtime work, production rates and other elements of compensation and employee benefits.

### **Hours of Work**

Suppliers must ensure that, except in extraordinary business circumstances, on a regularly scheduled basis, workers shall not be required to work more than the lesser of (a) sixty (60) hours per week, including overtime or (b) the limits on regular and overtime hours allowed by the law of the country of manufacture. In addition, except in extraordinary business circumstances, all workers shall be entitled to at least one day off in every consecutive seven day period.

### **Non Discrimination**

While The Home Depot recognizes and respects cultural differences, Suppliers will ensure employment – including hiring, salary, benefits, advancement, discipline, termination and retirement -- should be based solely on the person's ability to perform the job requirements and not personal characteristics.

### **Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining**

Suppliers must recognize and respect the rights of workers to exercise lawful rights of free association, including joining or not joining any association. Suppliers must also respect the legal right of workers to bargain collectively.

### **Health and Safety**

Suppliers must provide a safe and healthy working environment in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

### **Environment**

Suppliers must comply with all local environmental laws and regulations applicable to the workplace. Factories should conduct business in a manner which minimizes their impact on the environment.

### **Subcontracting**

Suppliers must not use subcontractors in the manufacture of products or product components for The Home Depot without disclosing such information to The Home Depot, and only after the subcontractor has adequately demonstrated compliance with these Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards.

### **Communication**

Suppliers must communicate the provisions of The Home Depot Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards to all workers and supervisors.

### **Business Ethics**

Suppliers will conduct business with The Home Depot consistent with honesty and integrity and demonstrate the highest standards of business ethics. Suppliers will take no actions directed at improperly impacting the results of any audit including presentation of falsified records or coaching of employees. Consistent with The Home Depot Gift and Entertainment policy, Suppliers will not offer any incentives to the company's associates or audit firm representatives.

### **Monitoring and Compliance**

The Home Depot will undertake affirmative measures, such as announced and unannounced on-site audits of production factories, to monitor compliance with these Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards. Suppliers must maintain on site all documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards, and Suppliers must allow representatives from The Home Depot full access to production facilities, worker records, production records and workers for confidential interviews in connection with monitoring visits.

Suppliers are expected to take necessary corrective actions to promptly remediate any noncompliance. Suppliers are expected to actively engage in remediation – including timely preparation and presentation of a Corrective Action Preventative Action (CAPA) plan. The Home Depot reserves the right to terminate its business relationship with any Supplier who is unwilling to comply with these Social and Environmental Responsibility Standards