Commitment to Building Integrity and Fire Safety

March 2022

At Levi Strauss & Co. (LS&Co.) we believe that workers who make our products should work in a safe and healthy environment and be treated with dignity and respect. We have therefore long been invested in strengthening safety policies across our supply chain. In 1991, we were the first multinational company to introduce a comprehensive supplier code of conduct, our Terms of Engagement, which prioritized worker safety, including annual fire safety assessments. Over the past 30 years we have continued to put our resources behind efforts that will make the biggest difference for the workers in our supply chain, adapting our policies and practices as needed.

In Bangladesh, we have established a record of worker safety practices, including the establishment of a comprehensive program for building, electrical and fire safety that has served as the model for our international programs. In 2009, for example, we enhanced our policies by banning sourcing from suppliers operating in multi-owner buildings, where safety standards are difficult to enforce. In 2010, we partnered within the industry to pioneer a sandblasting ban within all product lines and across all brands. In 2014, we began requiring all our suppliers in Bangladesh to undergo third-party electrical safety and building integrity assessments as a pre-condition of doing business with us. Through established worker-management Health and Safety Committees, workers are trained on essential workplace safety standards and protocols.

Our Terms of Engagement current assessments are based on industry-leading standards and local-country laws, conducted by specialized third-party experts. Following a risk-based approach, we also conduct third-party assessments with direct suppliers operating in Cambodia and Pakistan, with processes in place to take corrective action wherever deemed necessary. In 2022, we’ll complete phase two of our assessment in Pakistan and our third-party grievance reporting hotline will expand to all factories across Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Pakistan.

You can read more about our worker safety efforts in our most recent Sustainability Report.