



Improve Your Working Conditions in the Supply Chain

The Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI)

BSCI IS A PLUS FOR THE SOCIAL PERFORMANCE OF YOUR COMPANY

Because of internationalization, companies are increasingly moving their production to other countries. And with regards to risk management and corporate social responsibility as well as business ethics, companies assume a large responsibility. They must ensure that their suppliers manage both the environment and people responsibility.

BSCI is a comprehensive, European platform for companies (usually importers, retailers and industrial companies). This platform is linked to the BSCI code of conduct and thereby systematically helps monitor and improve global social standards and supplier countries. The BSCI provisions are based, among others, on the standards of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the UN Charter on Human Rights, as well as national laws and regulations and require their consistent adherence.

The clear objective of BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiative) is to promote socially responsible production conditions in companies. With an audit according to BSCI, you demonstrably and visibly introduce fair working conditions and occupational safety in your supplier countries and win the trust of customers and consumers as well as business partners and employees. At the same time you avoid complex multiple audits and provide an excellent starting point for a future SA8000 certification. This save money and time.

BENEFITS OF OUR BSCI SERVICES AT A GLANCE

- Open up new marketing opportunities and boost the confidence of customers and consumers as well as business partners and employees
- Lay the foundation for future trade relations and gain advantages in tenders
- Show your responsibility for fair production and working conditions
- Save time and money by avoiding multiple audits
- Provide the evidence of improved working conditions and its social commitment
- Improve the management of your supply chain
- Create the perfect foundation for SA8000 certification

BSCI: THE FIRST STEP TO SA8000 CERTIFICATION

The Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI) encourages suppliers to go beyond the minimum requirements of the BSCI code of conduct and to get certified in line with SA8000 international social management standards. This will automatically qualify your company for the BSCI system, because the SA8000 standard contains all the requirements of the BSCI code of conduct and is fully recognized by the BSCI. The SA8000 certificate is also valid for three years. In this time, we check compliance with stipulations in semi annual re-audits.





THE PROCEDURE OF THE BSCI SUPPLIER AUDIT

1. Audit preparation

Prior to the audit, we request each production site to complete the BSCI self-assessment questionnaire to give the auditors a first impression. You will then receive a list of the documents which are needed for the audit as well as a declaration of consent for signature. This authorize the auditors to take pictures from the production site, conduct confidential interviews with employees, save the result in a database and send the audit report to the BSCI members

2. On-site Audit

The auditor conduct the audit on-site at your facilities. The auditor, thereby, determine the facility complies with guidelines of the BSCI code of conduct and check whether there are any gaps in the fulfillment of the requirements of the SA8000 social management standard. The audit begins with a kick-off meeting to explain the objective and structure of the test. The inspectors then inspect the site, interview management and other employees and review the documents. At the end of the audit, a final meeting is held.

3. Registration and entry in the BSCI system

After the audit you will receive a written report in English with the test results - including images of your site. The test result are then entered in the BSCI database, so that other BSCI members can see that you are now successfully BSCI audited.

4. Post-audit (if required)

Should the inspector find out during the audit that some conditions have been met, you are obliged to implement the required corrections as quickly as possible. The effectiveness of your actions will then be checked in a new on-site audit. The certification body will also document the results of this investigation in the BSCI database.

5. Repeat audit

Your entry in the BSCI system is valid for 2 years. With repeat audit, you can extend your database entry for an additional 2 years.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Based on international treaties and accordance with the convention of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the BSCI standard requires:

- Compliance with all applicable national laws
- Freedom of assembly and the right to collective bargaining
- Ban on any form of discrimination
- Compliance with the statutory minimum wages and living standards
- Commitment to a maximum working week of 48 hours with restricted overtime
- Clear rules and procedures for health and safety at work
- Ban child labor
- Ban on forced labor and disciplinary measures
- Compliance with the minimum requirements for handling chemicals and other hazardous substances

Through the audit, companies commit to accept the provisions of the code in their business environment and implement them into their corporate policies with appropriate measures. In addition, suppliers must ensure that the BSCI code of conduct is observed by their subcontractors

