
Modern Slavery Act Statement 2021

VG&P Ltd operates a zero-tolerance policy to modern slavery and human trafficking. The company recognises that modern slavery and human trafficking are a global and growing issue and no sector or industry can be considered immune.

This statement sets out the actions taken by VG&P Ltd during the financial year above to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any part of its supply chains and any part of its own business. Whilst VG&P is below the turnover threshold specified in the Modern Slavery Act 2015 required for compulsory reporting, the company has decided to make this statement voluntarily as best practice.

About VG&P

VG&P is based in London with a showroom in Oval and workshop in Walthamstow. VG&P design and make long lasting, sustainable furniture in the UK and most of our suppliers are also based in the UK and the remaining in Europe.

Workforce

All of our staff are directly employed and under contract with us. VG&P ensures full compliance with HR legislation. Where temporary staff are employed, these are recruited through reputable agencies typically for skilled activities which are considered low risk and workers are vetted to ensure they have the right to work in the UK.

Suppliers

VG&P sources raw materials and finished products from both UK and European suppliers. Suppliers have been requested to complete an evaluation questionnaire, which includes criteria covering compliance to quality, environmental, health and safety, FSC® (FSC-C158750) and social accountability standards. Suppliers are also requested to submit policies in respect of modern slavery, data protection, anti-discrimination, anti-bribery, anti-harassment and bullying, whistleblowing and equal opportunities.

Policies in relation to modern slavery and trafficking

VG&P operates a number of policies to ensure that we are conducting business in an ethical and transparent manner, but foremost encompassed within the Environmental and Ethical Policy which is subject to regular review. Supply chain traceability in respect of timber components is also an integral part of the company's FSC® Chain of Custody certification.

Training

As specified within VG&P's Environmental and Ethical Policy, staff will be provided with training so that they recognise the impacts associated with their activities and their role in managing these, as well as understanding the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking within supply chains and the business. It is expected from every employee to report any concerns, and management is committed to acting upon these.

Measuring effectiveness

VG&P is committed to making continual improvements in understanding its supply chain, the evolving risks and conducting due-diligence to inform actions and commitments for the future.

Planned actions for 2022

- Awareness training for staff to assist in the recognition of modern slavery and human trafficking.
- Continued supplier evaluation.
- To implement and achieve certification to ISO 9001 Quality and ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems.

Date: September 2021

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EC' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Edward Carpenter
Company Director
VG&P