



SMETA Corrective Action Plan Report (CAPR)

Version 6.1



Audit Content:

(1) A SMETA audit was conducted which included some or all of Labour Standards, Health & Safety, Environment and Business Ethics. The SMETA Best Practice Version 6.1 (March 2019) was applied. The scope of workers included all types at the site e.g. direct employees, agency workers, workers employed by service providers and workers provided by other contractors. Any deviations from the SMETA Methodology are stated (with reasons for deviation) in the SMETA Declaration.

(2) The audit scope was against the following reference documents

2-Pillar SMETA Audit

- ETI Base Code
- SMETA Additions
 - Universal rights covering UNGP
 - Management systems and code implementation,
 - Responsible Recruitment
 - Entitlement to Work & Immigration,
 - Sub-Contracting and Home working,

4-Pillar SMETA

- 2-Pillar requirements plus
- Additional Pillar assessment of Environment
- Additional Pillar assessment of Business Ethics
- The Customer's Supplier Code (Appendix 1)

(3) Where appropriate non-compliances were raised against the ETI code / SMETA Additions & local law and recorded as non-compliances on both the audit report, CAPR and on Sedex.

(4) Any Non-Compliance against customer code shall not be uploaded to Sedex. However, in the CAPR these 'Variances in compliance between ETI code / SMETA Additions/ local law and customer code' shall be noted in the observations section of the CAPR.

Guidance

The Corrective Action Plan Report summarises the site audit findings and a corrective, and preventative action plan that both the auditor and the site manager believe is reasonable to ensure conformity with the ETI Base Code, Local Laws and additional audited requirements. After the initial audit, the form is used to record actions taken and to categorise the status of the non-compliances.

N.B. observations and good practice examples should be pointed out at the closing meeting as well as discussing non-compliances and corrective actions.

To ensure that good practice examples are highlighted to the supplier and to give a more 'balanced' audit a section to record these has been provided on the CAPR document (see following pages) which will remain with the supplier. They will be further confirmed on receipt of the audit report.

Root cause (see column 4)

Root cause refers to the specific procedure or lack of procedure which caused the issue to arise. Before a corrective action can sustainably rectify the situation, it is important to find out the real cause of the non-compliance and whether a system change is necessary to ensure the issue will not arise again in the future.

See SMETA BPG Chapter 7 'Audit Execution' for more explanation of "root cause".

Next Steps:

1. The site shall request, via Sedex, that the audit body upload the audit report, non-compliances, observations and good examples. If you have not already received instructions on how to do this then please visit the web site www.sedexglobal.com.
2. Sites shall action its non-compliances and document its progress via Sedex.
3. Once the site has effectively progressed through its actions then it shall request via Sedex that the audit body verify its actions. Please visit www.sedexglobal.com web site for information on how to do this.
4. The audit body shall verify corrective actions taken by the site by either a "Desk-Top" review process via Sedex or by Follow-up Audit (see point 5).
5. Some non-compliances that cannot be closed off by "Desk-Top" review may need to be closed off via a "1 Day Follow Up Audit" charged at normal fee rates. If this is the case, then the site will be notified after its submission of documentary evidence relating to that non-compliance. Any follow-up audit must take place within twelve months of the initial audit and the information from the initial audit must be available for sign off of corrective action.
6. For changes to wages and hours to be correctly verified it will normally require a follow up site visit. Auditors will generally require to see a minimum of two months wages and hours records, showing new rates in order to confirm changes (note some clients may ask for a longer period, if in doubt please check with the client).

Audit Details				
Sedex Company Reference: <i>(only available on Sedex System)</i>	ZC422363654	Sedex Site Reference: <i>(only available on Sedex System)</i>	ZS422363656	
Business name (Company name):	Aplix(Shanghai) Fasteners Company Limited			
Site name:	Aplix(Shanghai) Fasteners Company Limited			
Site address:	Plant no. 1, 2 and 3, No.288, Xindan Road, Qingpu Industrial Park, Shanghai City, China 上海 200001 CN	Country:	CN	
Site contact and job title:	Sun Pengcheng / HR Manager			
SMETA Audit Pillars:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Labour Standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety (plus Environment 2-Pillar)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment 4-pillar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Ethics
Date of Audit:	2023-01-13			

Audit Company Name:
Benchmarks Company Limited

Audit Conducted By					
Affiliate Audit Company	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchaser	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retailer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brand owner	<input type="checkbox"/>	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Union	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi-stakeholder	<input type="checkbox"/>	Combined Audit (select all that apply)			

Audit Parameters			
Time in and time out	Day 1		
	In	08:54	
	Out	18:30	
Audit type:	Full initial		
Was the audit announced?	ANNOUNCED		
Was the Sedex SAQ available for review?	Yes		
Any conflicting information SAQ/Pre-Audit Info to Audit findings?	No		
Who signed and agreed CAPR	Sun Pengcheng / HR Manager		
Is further information available	No		

Audit attendance	Management	Worker Representatives	
	Senior management	Worker Committee representatives	Union representatives
A: Present at the opening meeting?	Yes	Yes	Yes
B: Present at the audit?	Yes	Yes	Yes
C: Present at the closing meeting?	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Reason for absence at the opening meeting</i>			
<i>Reason for absence during the audit</i>			
<i>Reason for absence at the closing meeting</i>			


Summary of Findings


Issue <i>(please click on the issue title to go direct to the appropriate audit results by clause)</i>	Area of Non-Conformity		Number of issues			Findings
	ETI	Local Law	NC	Obs	GE	
<u>3 - Working conditions are safe and hygienic</u>	3.1 3.1 3.1	§1 §2 §3	3	0	0	NC - 8541a22d-f023-48c1-8344-dff29e09b206 NC - 1831ec3b-0754-4063-b2c6-9b127ad7c7ca NC - 20a374c8-6566-4b01-a4be-6e637552e6b5
<u>6 - Working hours are not excessive</u>	6.1	§4	1	0	0	NC - 83dc3858-4e3d-452b-9b2e-bb08584b00c4

Local Law Issues

Issue	Description
§1	Code of Design on Building Fire Protection and Prevention (GB50016-2014, 2018 Amendment) 10.3.5 Light evacuation indicating sign shall be installed along the evacuation passageway of public building, residential building higher than 54m, high-rise factory building (storage) and single, multi-storey Class A, B, C factory building, and shall meet the following requirements 1. It shall be installed at the place right over the exit and the evacuation door of the staff-intensive place. 2. It shall be installed on the ground or wall within 1.0m above the floor along the exit passageway and the corner. The distance between two indicating signs shall not be more than 20m. For pocket-shaped passageway, it shall not be over 10m. At the corner of the passageway, it shall not be over 1.0m.
§2	In accordance with ETI code 3.1, A safe and hygienic working environment shall be provided, bearing in mind the prevailing knowledge of the industry and of any specific hazards. Adequate steps shall be taken to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of, associated with, or occurring in the course of work, by minimising, so far as is reasonably practicable, the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment. In accordance with Article 2-7 of warning sign in the Guidelines for safety signs and usage GB 2894-2008, the electric shock warning sign should be marked on electricity devices and circuit where electric shock may happen.
§3	Local law Construction Law of the People's Republic of China (2019 Amendment), Article 61 ... A construction project may only be handed over for use upon passing the acceptance checks; no construction project shall be handed over for use without going through the acceptance checks or passing the acceptance checks.
§4	Labor Law of the People's Republic of China (2018 Amendment), Article 41 The employing unit may extend working hours due to the requirements of its production or business after consultation with the trade union and laborers, but the extended working hour for a day shall generally not exceed one hour; if such extension is called for due to special reasons, the extended hours shall not exceed three hours a day under the condition that the health of laborers is guaranteed. However, the total extension in a month shall not exceed thirty six hours.

Corrective Action Plan - Non Compliances

Non-Compliance		Evidence																											
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SMETA Declaration

I declare that the audit underpinning the following report was conducted in accordance with SMETA Best Practice Guidance and SMETA Measurement Criteria.

- (1) Where appropriate non-compliances were raised against the ETI code / SMETA Additions & local law and recorded as non-compliances on both the audit report, CAPR and on Sedex.
- (2) Any Non-Compliance against customer code alone shall not be uploaded to Sedex. However, in the CAPR these 'Variances in compliance between ETI code / SMETA Additions/ local law and customer code' shall be noted in the observations section of the CAPR.

Auditor Team			
Lead Auditor:	Jennifer Xu	APSCA Number:	21705247
Additional Auditors:	Cathy Ao		
Date of declaration:	2023-01-13		

Note: The focus of this ethical audit is on the ETI Base Code and local law. The additional elements will not be audited in such depth or scope, but the audit process will still highlight any specific issues.

Site Representation	
Full Name:	Sun Pengcheng
Title:	HR Manager
Date of declaration:	2023-01-13
Comments:	Nil.

Guidance on Root Cause

Explanation of the Root Cause Column

If a non-compliance is to be rectified by a corrective action which will also prevent the non-compliance re-occurring, it is necessary to consider whether a system change is required.

Understanding the root cause of the non-compliance is essential if a site is to prevent the issue re-occurring.

The root cause refers to the specific activity/ procedure or lack of activity /procedure which caused the non-compliance to arise. Before a corrective action can rectify the situation, it is important to find out the real cause of the non-compliance and whether a system change is necessary to ensure the issue will not arise again in the future.

Since this is a new addition, it is not a mandatory requirement to complete this column at this time. We hope to encourage auditors and sites to think about Root Causes and where they are able to agree, this column may be used to describe their discussion.

Some examples of finding a “root cause”

Example 1

Where excessive hours have been noted the real reason for these needs to be understood, whether due to production planning, bottle necks in the operation, insufficient training of operators, delays in receiving trims, etc.

Example 2

A non-compliance may be found where workers are not using PPE that has been provided to them. This could be the result of insufficient training for workers to understand the need for its use; a lack of follow-up by supervisors aligned to a proper set of factory rules or the fact that workers feel their productivity (and thus potential earnings) is affected by use of items such as metal gloves.

Example 3

A site uses fines to control unacceptable behaviour of workers.

International standards (and often local laws) may require that workers should not be fined for disciplinary reasons.

It may be difficult to stop fines immediately as the site rules may have been in place for some time, but to prevent the non-compliance re- occurring it will be necessary to make a system change.

The symptom is fines, but the root cause is a management system which may break the law. To prevent the problem re-occurring it will be necessary to make a system change for example the site could consider a system which rewards for good behaviour

Only by understanding the underlying cause can effective corrective actions be taken to ensure continuous compliance.

The site is encouraged to complete this section so as to indicate their understanding of the issues raised and the actions to be taken.



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Your feedback on your experience of the SMETA audit you have observed is extremely valuable. It will help to make improvements to future versions.

You can leave feedback by following the appropriate link to our questionnaire:

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http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=riPsbE0PQ52ehCo3lnq5lw_3d_3d

[Click here for Supplier \(B\) members:](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=d3vYsCe48fre69DRgIY_2brg_3d_3d)

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=d3vYsCe48fre69DRgIY_2brg_3d_3d

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