

CODE OF CONDUCT

VietBlueStone is a wholesaler that supplies only its distributors. Sufficient stock, quality, good service and speed of delivery are therefore not just words for us. To put our money where our mouth is, we cooperate with sister company Transport Veys to guarantee a perfect distribution. A family business where our motives are very clear: a direct approach with a clear vision of the future. These values have been with us since the first imported container in 2001. This approach is therefore clearly visible from the purchasing policy to the sales process.

When conducting our company activities we will comply with all applicable laws, regulations and requirements and strive to continuously improve our social, safety and environmental performance throughout the value chain. We take full responsibility for our actions and we expect our suppliers to do the same.

This Code of Conduct for Suppliers sets out basic requirements on human rights, labor, environment and business integrity. The code is based on the UN Global Compact, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights, and the labour standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Our company expects its suppliers to uphold and comply with the principles as described in this Code of Conduct for Suppliers or at least apply an equivalent standard and conduct their business activities accordingly. We also expect our suppliers to promote these basic principles actively throughout their supply chain.

Our company can monitor compliance of suppliers towards the requirements in this Supplier Code of Conduct by requesting its suppliers to provide relevant information and to conduct audits and assessments of the supplier's operations, including parties upstream in the supply chain.

LABOR CONDITIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Our company expects its suppliers to respect and protect internationally proclaimed human rights, as described in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations, both in the workplace as well as in their general business activities. All employees and workers should be treated honestly, with dignity and respect.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Suppliers shall recognize and respect the rights of employees to freely associate, organize, strike, and bargain collectively, if they so wish to, including organize themselves in labour unions. In situations where the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining is restricted by applicable laws and regulations, suppliers are expected to allow alternate forms of worker representations. References:

- [ILO Freedom of Association and Protection of the Rights to Organise Convention. 1948 \(No. 87\)](#)
- [ILO Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention. 1949 \(No. 98\)](#)

FORCED LABOUR AND SLAVERY

Suppliers shall not participate in, or benefit from any form of forced labor, including bonded labor, involuntary prison labor, (debt) slavery, servitude or work performed under threat of a penalty or coercion. All forms of modern slavery are unacceptable. References:

- [ILO Forced labour Convention. 1930 \(no.29\)](#)
- [ILO Abolition of Forced Labour Convention. 1957 \(No. 105\)](#)
- [ILO Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention. 2014](#)

CHILD LABOR

Suppliers shall work against all forms of child labor. Suppliers shall not employ children below the minimum age of employment or the age for completing compulsory education in that country, whichever is higher. Suppliers shall not employ any workers under the age of 18 to perform any work that is defined in national law as hazardous. References:

- [ILO Minimum Age Convention. 1973 \(No. 138\)](#)
- [ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention. 1999 \(No. 182\)](#)

DISCRIMINATION

Suppliers shall not practice any form of discrimination in hiring and employment practices. Illegitimate grounds for discrimination include but are not limited to: gender, race, color, age, language, property, nationality or national origin, religion, ethnic or social origin, caste, economic grounds, disability, pregnancy, belonging to an indigenous people, trade union affiliation, political opinion, sexual orientation. References:

- [ILO Equal Remuneration Convention. 1951 \(No. 100\)](#)
- [ILO Discrimination \(Employment and Occupation\). 1958 \(No. 111\)](#)
- [ILO Maternity Protection. 2000 \(No. 183\)](#)

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Suppliers shall ensure a safe and healthy workplace or any other location where work is undertaken. All work shall be preceded by and be based on documented adequate risk management with implemented controls. This shall include physical, social and organizational health risks. Risks shall be reduced according to the following hierarchy: Elimination, substitution, engineering controls, administrative controls, and as a last hand alternative, personal protective equipment. References:

- [ILO Occupational Safety and Health Convention. 1981 \(No. 155\)](#)

COMFORTABLE WAGE AND BENEFITS

Suppliers should strive to pay all workers a wage that meets basic needs and provides a discretionary income. In compliance with all applicable laws, workers shall be compensated for overtime at pay rates greater than regular hourly rates. Suppliers should ensure that normal working hours and overtime working hours are within the limits permitted by applicable laws and regulations or agreed to in relevant collective agreements. References:

- [ILO Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention. 1928 \(No. 26\)](#)
- [ILO Minimum Wage Fixing Convention. 1970 \(No. 131\)](#)
- [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises \(2011\), chapter 5, article 4b](#)

LAND OWNERSHIP RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENT

Suppliers should strive to uphold land ownership rights of local communities, and to prevent land grabbing, forced relocation, or the destruction of graves and other cultural landmarks. Additionally, suppliers should prevent their activities from harming the living environment of local communities, for example through soil degradation, loss of biodiversity, deforestation, water scarcity, salinization, and pollution of soil, water or air.

ENVIRONMENT

Our company expects its suppliers to manage their operations responsibly in relation to environmental risks and impacts, to adopt a precautionary approach, and to have a life cycle perspective in their business operations. Resources such as water and energy should be used efficiently and impacts on biodiversity as well as services provided by our ecosystems should be minimized. Suppliers shall obtain and maintain all required permits and licenses and comply with the operational and reporting requirements of such permits and licenses.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Suppliers shall endeavour to avoid or reduce any waste or emissions as a result of their business activities. Suppliers should use efficient technologies which aim to reduce the environmental impact as much as possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Suppliers whose activities have an environmental impact shall have a structured and systematic approach to take environmental aspects into account that includes establishing suitable management systems to improve environmental performance, setting targets and performing follow-ups.

BUSINESS INTEGRITY

Our company expects its suppliers to conduct business in compliance with all applicable national and international laws and regulations and adhere to internationally agreed standards of business ethics.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Suppliers shall comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations in the countries where they operate.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

Suppliers shall not engage in or tolerate any form of corruption, bribery, extortion or embezzlement. Suppliers shall not offer or accept any benefits or other means to obtain any undue or improper advantage. Such improper benefits may comprise cash, non-monetary gifts, pleasure trips or services and amenities of any other nature.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Suppliers shall avoid conflicts of interest that may compromise the supplier's credibility within our company or other exterior parties' confidence in our company.

FAIR COMPETITION

Suppliers shall respect and comply with all applicable competition laws and regulations and not enter into discussions or agreements with competitors concerning pricing, market sharing or other similar activities.

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Suppliers shall respect intellectual property rights and protect confidential information by safeguarding it against misuse, theft, fraud or improper disclosure.

COMMITMENT

Our company expects suppliers to commit to the requirements mentioned in the code by implementing management systems and control mechanisms and execute follow-ups when a possible or potential violation has come to their attention.

MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Suppliers should have adequate management systems and controls in place to ensure compliance with the code or equivalent standards. The functioning and quality of the supplier's management system should be in proportion to the size, complexity and risk environment of the supplier's business. Suppliers should secure and monitor that their own suppliers and sub-suppliers comply with the code or, where applicable, their own equivalent code of conduct.

VIOLATIONS

Suppliers shall address any violations of the code or equivalent standards that come to their knowledge and to take appropriate actions. Depending on the severity of the violation appropriate actions could be a request for corrective measures. Persistent failure to comply with code or repeated and unjustified refusal to provide the required information may also result in suspending or terminating the suppliers activities.