



# ICS Environmental Code of Conduct

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2018

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# ICS Environmental Code of Conduct

Every member of the Initiative for Compliance and Sustainability – see [www.ics-asso.org](http://www.ics-asso.org) for the list of members- expects from its suppliers that they respect the ICS Environmental Code of Conduct (hereinafter defined as ‘this Code’), being heard that the latter can be completed by the retailer’s own code of conduct. By signing this code, the supplier undertakes to conform to it and to obtain his own subcontractors and partners that they also act.

## Environmental Management System

1. The supplier shall put in place an efficient internal management system to ensure that:
  - a. The principles set forth in this Code are circulated and applied consistently within the supplier’s organisation;
  - b. The supplier can detect all acts which breach the principles of this Code, determine the underlying causes of problems identified and implement measures to deal with such acts effectively in accordance with national laws, customs and practices and international employment standards.
2. The supplier undertakes to circulate the principles of this Code to its entire supply and sub-contracting chain:
  - a. The supplier shall disclose to the ICS client, before any order is placed by the client, a list of the factories belonging to the supplier and its subcontractors (companies authorised by the supplier to handle all or part of the final production supposed to be produced by the supplier). ICS clients do not permit their orders to be produced in a factory which does not comply with this Code. Once the ICS client has confirmed an order, the supplier is not authorised to change the previously disclosed list of factories or sub-contractors. If it is necessary for any reason to change the list of supplier and sub-contractor factories, written agreement shall be obtained from the ICS client.
  - b. The supplier shall check that the factories or subcontractors identified in the ICS client’s production chain comply with the principles of this Code.
  - c. If the supplier becomes aware of breaches of the principles of this Code in its supply and sub-contracting chain, it shall immediately inform the ICS client and shall undertake to implement a corrective action plan for the supplier/subcontractor concerned. If the supplier/sub-contractor refuses to cooperate, the supplier undertakes to terminate its collaboration with said supplier/sub-contractor.
3. The supplier shall put in place an efficient internal environmental management system to ensure that:
  - a. The factory has a system in place to manage basic environmental structure, with defined management responsibilities and environmental management controls;



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- b. The persons in charge of applying this Code are aware and understand significant negative and positive environmental aspects and impacts;
- c. The persons in charge of applying this Code are aware and understand applicable legal requirements;
- d. Mechanisms are in place to ensure that the persons in charge of applying this code are up-to-date with applicable local legal requirements;
- e. A member of management is responsible for the coordination of environmental management activities;
- f. All members of personnel are informed and trained on environmental and health issues and hazards according to their function.

## **Energy Use, Transport and Greenhouse Gases**

- 1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on energy use, transport and greenhouse gases emissions.
- 2. The supplier shall track its energy consumption and calculate its greenhouse gases emissions including fuel use for on-site transport.

## **Water use**

- 1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on water use.
- 2. The supplier shall measure its water consumption.

## **Wastewater and wastewater effluent**

- 1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on wastewater and wastewater effluent.
- 2. The supplier shall ensure that a drainage plan is in place.
- 3. The supplier shall have a general understanding of its wastewater flow direction and discharge points.
- 4. The supplier shall identify the contaminants, their flow direction and potential impact.



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## Emissions to air and Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)

1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements (including monitoring) as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on emissions to air and ozone-depleting substances.
2. The supplier shall maintain an inventory of main point source emissions to air and of ozone-depleting substances as well as take into consideration the potential for fugitive emissions.
3. The supplier shall ensure regular maintenance of ozone-depleting substances containing equipment.

## Waste management

1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on waste management.
2. The supplier shall regularly check that waste contractors have appropriate permits.
3. The supplier shall ensure that:
  - a. Inventory, management, storage and transportation procedures for hazardous waste streams are in place;
  - b. No on-site waste burning or uncontrolled waste landfilling is undertaken;
  - c. Hazardous and non-hazardous waste is segregated;
  - d. Employees are aware of and trained on handling and segregation of waste;
  - e. Records of on-site and off-site waste disposal and treatment are maintained.

## Pollution prevention, hazardous and potentially hazardous substances

1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with:
  - a. Local legal requirements on pollution prevention, hazardous and potentially hazardous substances;
  - b. Relevant and up-to-date permits on pollution prevention, hazardous and potentially hazardous substances;
  - c. International prohibited chemicals list (e.g. for agrichemicals from World Health Organisation WHO).
2. The supplier shall maintain an inventory of hazardous substances used and stored as well as relevant up-to-date Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).



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3. The supplier shall ensure that:
  - a. Specific procedures and controls are in place for the management, storage and transportation of all hazardous substances in order to minimize potential for air, water, soil and groundwater impacts;
  - b. All relevant employees are trained on pollution prevention and response;
  - c. Incidents are notified to the authorities as required by applicable permits and legislation.

## **Major incident prevention and management**

1. The supplier shall ensure compliance with local legal requirements as well as with relevant and up-to-date permits on major incident prevention and management.
2. The supplier shall ensure that:
  - a. A site emergency plan is in place with detailed guidelines and training for major incident response, according to the risks of activities undertaken on-site;
  - b. An emergency response plan is communicated as required to local authorities and emergency services as well as to local communities.

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