

SOCIAL COMPLIANCE STANDARDS GLOSSARY

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE GROUPS AND INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS THAT ARE MOST REFERENCED BY FAIRWARE SUPPLIERS:

[ILO International Labor Standards](#): Code of Conducts, regardless of the Association that has developed them, are generally based on the ILO International Labor Standards.

[Fair Labor Association \(FLA\)](#): The FLA is a collaboration of companies, universities, and other groups that help ensure safe working conditions. Fairware is a Category C Licensee of the FLA.

[Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production \(WRAP\)](#): WRAP is a Virginia-based nonprofit. They are focused on providing guidance to clothing and footwear manufacturers worldwide regarding the ethical employee practices based on the International Labour Organization's decisions. WRAP published 12 Principles.

[Business Social Compliance Initiative \(BSCI\)](#): The initiative is a supply chain management framework to help companies implement socially responsible policy in factories and farms by offering a single, ready-made code of conduct and implementation system for use by brands. BSCI provides neither auditing nor certification.

[Social Accountability International \(SAI\)](#): Founded by American investment banker Alice Tepper Marlin to support equitable treatment of workers, SAI developed the SA8000 audit format.

[Sedex](#): A non-profit group of suppliers with the world's largest platform for sharing data on ethical sourcing, the tracking of human rights, sustainable sourcing, and other social responsibility concerns, they publish the Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit, one of the most commonly used CSR audit formats in the world.

[Benefit Corporations \(B Corps\)](#): Certified B Corporations are businesses that meet the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose. Fairware is a Founding Canadian B Corp and we actively seek out B Corps as supplier partners.

[Fair Trade Certified](#): The Fair Trade Certified™ seal represents thousands of products, improving millions of lives, protecting land and waterways in 45 countries and counting. Products with the Fair Trade Certified™ seal, you can be sure it was made according to rigorous social, environmental, and economic standards. There are not many 'Fair Trade Certified' products in the promotional product space. The certification started in the agricultural sector and is making its way into the apparel sector.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOCIAL COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORKS THAT ARE SPECIFIC TO THE PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY:

[PPAI Code of Conduct](#): This is the industry's Code for both suppliers and distributors. "The social responsibility pillar of a compliance program demonstrates the commitment to responsible operations that an organization expects from its management, employees, supply chain partners and other stakeholders. The policies and practices defined in a social responsibility program should mirror the behavior and outcomes (i.e., doing the right things) that an organization seeks in all of its operating practices while living up to their respective purpose, values and principles." There is no formal auditing protocol or expectations that the supplier has a robust management framework for assessing their supply chain. It's a 'starting point' for many.

[QC Alliance](#): Quality Certification Alliance (QCA) is an independent, not-for-profit, accreditation/certification organization whose mission is to provide the promotional products industry with a common set of third-party standards in an effort to consistently offer brand safety assurances to organizations that utilize promotional products as part of a broader marketing mix. They're focussed on quality, product safety and social compliance. It's a low bar framework compared to the others BUT having QCA Certification is acceptable to Fairware, as the framework demands on site audits and ensures that the supplier has a management system in place for overseeing factory compliance and product quality.

THE FOLLOWING ARE ADDITIONAL SOCIAL COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORKS THAT ARE NOT COMMONLY SEEN IN FAIRWARE'S SUPPLY CHAIN:

[ISO 26000, Social Responsibility](#): Published in 2010 by the International Organization of Standards (ISO), this document offers no certification, only a guideline for organizations considering their social responsibility. It recognizes seven basic principles of social responsibility: accountability, transparency, ethical behavior, respect for stakeholder interests, respect for the rule of law, respect for international norms of behavior, and respect for human rights.

[AIM-PROGRESS \(Association des Industries de Marque or European Brands Association\)](#): A global voluntary initiative of fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) producers who promote "responsible sourcing," they are supported by AIM in Europe and the Grocery Manufacturers of America (GMA) in the U.S.

[International Council of Toy Industries \(ICTI\)](#): ICTI focuses on toy safety, ethical marketing to children, and the social responsibility of toy manufacturers.

[Responsible Business Alliance \(RBA\) \(formerly the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition \[EICC\]\)](#): The RBA structures discussion and initiatives around social, environmental, and ethical issues in the electronics supply chain.

[Ethical Trading Initiative \(ETI\)](#): A collaboration of companies, trade unions, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the ETI promotes global worker rights.

