Supplier Ethical Data Exchange (SEDEX)

An innovative and effective supply chain management solution

What is Supplier Ethical Data Exchange?

As the largest collaborative platform for sharing ethical supply chain data, SEDEX is an innovative and effective supply chain management solution, helps reduce risk, protect company reputation and improve supply chain practices. SEDEX audit (SMETA) can be initiated either by Buyer (A member) or Seller (B Member). Sedex offers a simple and effective way of managing ethical and responsible practices in supply chain.

Sedex Advance, a secure, online database which allows members to store, share and report on information on four key areas:

- **Labour Standards**
- **Health & Safety**
- **The Environment**
- **Business Ethics**

SEDEX has two main aims

To ease the burden on suppliers facing multiple audits, questionnaires and certifications

To drive improvements in the ethical performance of global supply chains

SMETA & the SSF

SMETA is one of the most widely used social audit procedures in the world. It provides a globally-recognised way to assess responsible supply chain activities, including labour rights, health & safety, the environment and business ethics.

We convene the SEDEX Stakeholder Forum (the SSF), the group that manages the on-going development of SMETA and other related tools. The SSF is made up of working groups which include brands and retailers, NGOs, industry experts/associations and monitoring firms that are significantly involved in ethical trade auditing. It is currently active in the UK, China and Latin America.

The SSF work to:-

- **Managing multi-tier data more simply**- By using SEDEX platform, members can manage their multi-tier, responsible sourcing data simply and efficiently. They can take advantage of standardised formats and reports whilst collaborating by sharing common information.

- **Providing cost-effective solutions**- Sedex is 'owned' by its members, so it is completely focused on providing the responsible sourcing data, technology solutions, products and services. SSF scale and expertise also helps us bring together members and stakeholders to drive convergence between different industry standards and methodologies.

- **Driving continuous improvement**- SSF understand supply chain management as a continuous, collaborative process of improvement. Our audit methodologies help businesses identify opportunities for improvement and work with their suppliers to make changes. They also reduce duplication and 'audit fatigue' by allowing suppliers to share one set of data with multiple customers.

BSI group is an SSF member of SEDEX and can conduct SMETA and upload the result to the Sedex database
Visit at www.sedexglobal.com/join-sedex/stakeholder-forum/

Benefits for Buyers and Suppliers

For buyers – SEDEX offers an electronic system for collecting and analysing information on ethical and responsible business practices in their supply chain

A & AB membership for buyers

SEDEX Advance lets you keep track of how your suppliers are performing, identify risks and see for improvement. Whether you work with thousands of suppliers or just a handful, Sedex Advance can be tailored to meet your needs.

B membership for suppliers:

SEDEX Advance provides a simple and cost-effective way to share your responsible sourcing information with multiple buyers. By completing one self-assessment questionnaire, then choosing to share audit reports and certifications, your business can avoid repeating the same tasks again and again.

For suppliers – SEDEX provides an efficient and cost effective way of sharing ethical information with multiple customers, helping cut down on unnecessary paperwork and saving time and money.

Suppliers complete oneself assessment questionnaire and can choose to share this with multiple customers on Sedex, along with any other relevant ethical information, such as audit reports and certifications.

The Sedex system is secure and confidential and suppliers have complete control over who can view their data.

By allowing suppliers to share the same data with many customers, Sedex helps reduce the need for multiple audits, allowing both parties to concentrate on making real improvements.

SEDEX members span over 150 countries in many industry sectors. Since its launch in 2004, over 26,000 organizations from around the world have chosen the SEDEX platform to manage their ethical supply chain data.

Reducing the number of audits

By submitting supply chain audit results to the database, SEDEX helps ensuring transparency and re-use of existing audit data. A manufacturer does not need to re-audit a company to qualify them as suppliers, but rather checks their status in the SEDEX database.

Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit

The Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit (SMETA) was developed by Sedex Stakeholder Forum (The SSF – previously known as the Associate Auditor Groups / AAG).

The latest version of SMETA Version 6.0 was launched in April 2017. SMETA is designed to reduce duplication of effort in ethical trade auditing, benefitting retailers, consumer brands, and their suppliers. It was developed in response to member demand for an ethical audit report format that could more easily be shared. SMETA is not a code of conduct, a new methodology, or a certification process, but describes an audit procedure which is a compilation of good practice in ethical audit technique. The SMETA documents are designed to be used in conjunction with current established practices by experienced auditors to help them to conduct high quality audits that will be accepted by multiple retailers and brands.

BSI's Offerings

Conducting SMETA Audit   Upload the SMETA report on SEDEX Platform

About BSI Group

By Royal Charter

BSI, a Royal Charter company founded in 1901, focuses on standards creation, certification, supplier verification and training activities to help manage risk, reduce costs and ensure sustainability.

As the world's most experienced Standards Body and founding member of ISO, BSI leads the way in originating the majority of the world's most recognized standards, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, BS OHSAS 18001, Business Continuity Management, Information Security, Cloud Computing, Energy Water Management, Anti-bribery, PAS 7000 Supplier Pre-Qualification, as well as the originator of other supplier qualification standards covering CSR, GMP, Security, Chain of Custody and other topics.

Certification

- 25,038 business locations certified by BSI in Asia
- Ranked 1st in North America and UK
- 7,424 CE marking certificates
- Our assessors score on average 9.25 / 10 in our Global Client Satisfaction Survey

Product certification

92% of the world's top 25 global medical device manufactures trust BSI as their notified body for CE marking certification to access global markets.

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10,000
Industry experts dedicated to your success

80,000
Customers worldwide

120,000
Business locations worldwide

Training

Last year we provided training to over 105,000 people

Standards

Quality management systems Standard ISO 9001 – which started life at BSI in 1979 as BS 5750 – is the world's most successful standard, having been adopted by more than one million organizations in 178 countries.

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