

# Supply Chain Verification: The Higg Index Facilities Environmental Module (FEM)

The Sustainable Apparel Coalition (SAC) is working to reduce the environmental and social impacts of apparel and footwear products around the world through their self-assessment tool, The Higg Index, and implementing the New Verification Pilot for the Higg Facilities Environmental Module (FEM).

This Verification Pilot was developed to help organizations create a more sustainable and responsible supply chain. The goal of the pilot program is to build trust in the Higg data so that it can be more effectively used in decision-making and consumer labeling while eliminating redundancy in assessments. Higg Verifications will furthermore enables manufacturers to spend more resources on capacity building, and change the mind-set from compliance to performance improvement.

The Sustainable Apparel Coalition aims to help their members better identify gaps and potential risks throughout their supply chain, to support member efforts in creating a sustainable supply chain.

The SAC Higg Verification Pilot began July 2015 and will remain active until December 2015. During this time a minimum of 200 facility environmental modules verifications will be conducted on a first come first serve basis – all facility types are welcome. As a selected Verification Service Provider for this pilot, BSI Supply Chain Solutions is here to help conduct your on-site verifications.

## Why Verify?

Transparency is key. Verification provides organizations' with the means to ensure that supplier Higg Index scores are valid and accurately portray facility business practices and operations. Verification helps increase an organization's visibility into suppliers' procedures and policies beyond what is provided through self-assessments. Sending a trained verifier on-site ensures suppliers are capturing their true Higg index score, and provides the confirmation needed to effectively manage your supply chain and drive improvement.



## BSI's Verifiers

BSI is a SAC approved verification body. In support of the Higg, BSI verifiers have undergone the appropriate training to become qualified for verifying a facility's Environmental Higg Verification. As an approved verifier for the SAC verification pilot, we have been entrusted to help conduct member requested on-site verifications to help develop and shape the future of SAC's Verification Program.

BSI draws from a substantial full time verifier base, which offers a level of stability that is vitally important in our mission to provide you with the most highly trained and competent verifiers. Our personnel understand the importance behind verifying supplier's Higg assessment to ensure the most accurate data is available. It is for this reason that BSI verifiers stand second to none.

By working with BSI and our SAC approved Verifiers you will be able to:

- Demonstrate and enhance your company's dedication to supply chain excellence
- Establish a deeper supply chain transparency
- Have an agile verification network ready and able to respond quickly as needed
- Identify areas for improvement and reduce your environmental impact
- Gain a deeper understanding of who your suppliers are and how they are operating

## Scheduling Verifications

To learn more about the Verification process and request a quote from BSI, please contact BSI's appointed Representative, **Brittney De Stefano**, at [Brittney.destefano@bsigroup.com](mailto:Brittney.destefano@bsigroup.com) or **(571) 420-1277**.

Our BSI Representative will be able to provide you with more information around the scheduling process and associated verification fees.

It's time to get involved with SAC's Verification Pilot Program! There are only a few months left to get in on the ground floor, and help shape the Verification program to be the best it can be.. We encourage you to reach out with questions about BSI's verification services and our involvement with the SAC.



For more information, please contact:

**BSI America Professional Services Inc.**  
4250 Drinkwater Boulevard, Ste 210  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**Brittney De Stefano**  
[Brittney.destefano@bsigroup.com](mailto:Brittney.destefano@bsigroup.com)  
+1 571 420 1277