



Supplier Ethical Data Exchange (SEDEX)

An innovative and effective supply chain management solution

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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

SEDEX Associate Auditor Groups (AAGs) are SEDEX working groups made up of commercial auditing companies and NGOs that are significantly involved in ethical trade auditing, with active participation from SEDEX members. The purpose of the AAGs is to drive convergence in ethical trade/social auditing, based on and helping to shape best practice.

The AAGs work to:-

- Improve best practice guidance on conducting social audits (SMETA)
- Develop and improve standardized preferred audit report formats (SMETA)
- Develop agreed protocols on auditor training requirements and qualifications (available to members in the 'Resources' section of the SEDEX system)
- Establish project groups, where required
- Agree priorities and areas for system developments

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

Buyers can view and manage ethical information for all their suppliers in one secure place

Suppliers can enter their ethical information and choose to share it with multiple customers on Sedex

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 the Sedex Associate Auditor Group (AAG). The latest version of SMETA was launched on 28 November 2014. 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 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 as well as the originator of other supplier qualification standards covering Supplier Pre-Qualification, 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 United Kingdom
- 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 manufacturers trust BSI as their notified body for CE marking certification to access global markets.



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 113,000 delegates

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

Email: bsi.za@bsigroup.com

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