

Quotes from LABS Initiative Participants

“Safe workplaces are key to BESTSELLER’s focus on improving working conditions in our supply chain. We want to support our suppliers in ensuring that workers are safe by implementing harmonised standards on fire, electrical and structural safety and by offering proper safety training. We are actively engaged in the LABS programme because it gives us an opportunity to join forces with leading brands and retailers with the collective purpose of implementing a robust safety programme across key sourcing countries.”

- Michael W. Schultze, Global Sourcing Director, BESTSELLER

“For Gap Inc., worker safety and well-being is paramount. We are pleased to continue our commitment to promoting safe, healthy working conditions for supply chain workers through our support for LABS.”

- Keith White, Executive Vice President of Loss Prevention & Global Sustainability at Gap Inc.

“The tragic events at apparel factories in the last few years have brought to fore the pressing need to address life and building safety in the industry. Learning from such events, the Life and Building Safety (LABS) Initiative was established. Aimed at improving worker safety in the apparel and footwear industries, LABS effectively identifies and mitigates the potential risks related to fire, electrical, and structural building safety and evacuation. LABS is a coherent and consistent worker-safety program to assess factories and provide a framework for monitoring, mitigation and remediation.”

- Prमित Chanda, Global Sustainable Manufacturing Director, IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative

“PVH is committed to ensuring safe and healthy workplaces for all workers throughout our supply chain. The brands which are members of the Life And Building Safety (LABS) Initiative recognize the critical need and complexity of holding the industry to an elevated and internationally accepted safety standard on factory structural, fire and electrical safety. Most importantly, LABS offers a way to enable the collective will of our peers to drive industry change through tested, effective and scalable programs. This is not work that can be accomplished alone and the expertise, resources and partnership LABS provides is essential to accomplishing our goals.”

- Marissa Pagnani McGowan, Senior Vice President, Corporate Responsibility, PVH

Quotes from LABS Initiative Participants

“At Target, we believe in the value found by collaborating with other companies to create sustainable and systemic improvements. This includes supporting industry-aligned standards like those developed by the Life and Building Safety Initiative (LABS). Target is a proud founding member of LABS, aiming to improve worker safety in the apparel and footwear industries, and we would encourage others to join.”

- Bill Foudy, Senior Vice President and President, Owned Brand Sourcing and Development, Target

“Every day, more than one million people go to work in a job that supports the production of VF products and we believe their safety and well-being is non-negotiable. To ensure a continued focus on improving worker safety in the apparel and footwear industry, VF is proud to be a founding partner of the Life and Building Safety (LABS) Initiative to improve structural, electrical and fire safety in garment factories across the globe. VF is committed to this essential work and the LABS initiative is a key step in addressing systemic safety issues within our industry to help prevent future incidents.”

- Kyle Bogler, Director, VF Worker Rights and Safety, VF Corp.

“We believe collaboration within the retail industry and with suppliers, governments and NGOs goes a long way towards creating a more responsible supply chain. We focus on operating our business in a way that promotes shared value, which includes supporting our suppliers, advocating for workers in the supply chain and helping lead the effort to tackle unhealthy and unsafe working conditions. LABS is the type of collaborative effort we want to support as we believe this effort to effectively identify and remediate the most pressing risks related to fire, electrical, and structural building safety and evacuation is incredibly important for workers and a safer supply chain.”

- Gokul Krishnan, Vice President of Apparel Production and Sourcing, Walmart