

NEWSLETTER

Quarterly | April 2024 | Issue 18



PROGRESS SO FAR

▶ **519**

Factories onboarded

India: **155**

Vietnam: **230**

Cambodia: **91**

Indonesia: **43**

▶ **508**

Assessments conducted

India: **153**

Vietnam: **226**

Cambodia: **89**

Indonesia: **40**

▶ **950**

Safety training conducted

India: **260**

Vietnam: **528**

Cambodia: **123**

Indonesia: **39**

▶ **1,061,997**

Workers reached

India: **197,576**

Vietnam: **525,080**

Cambodia: **198,698**

Indonesia: **140,643**

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second quarter of 2024! This edition of our newsletter highlights progress made by the program during the first quarter and our continued efforts towards stakeholder outreach and operational excellence.

Effective stakeholder engagement lies at the heart of our mission to foster safer working environments. By promoting open dialogue and collaborative efforts with sector stakeholders, we aim to build a consensus-driven approach that prioritizes safety first and foremost. Additionally, operational excellence is at the core of the program; paying attention to detail and working in a collaborative manner establishes benchmarks for safety performance.

Navigating challenges and opportunities, we look forward to continuing to collaborate to ensure safe working conditions across the sector.

130 Factories graduated

India: **26** | Vietnam: **104**

Improving field level impact

Assessments



Factories were assessed across India, Vietnam, Cambodia and Indonesia during the 1st quarter (Q1) of 2024.

	Assessments	QA Assessments	Total
India	7	0	7
Vietnam	1	1	1
Cambodia	7	0	7
Indonesia	5	2	7

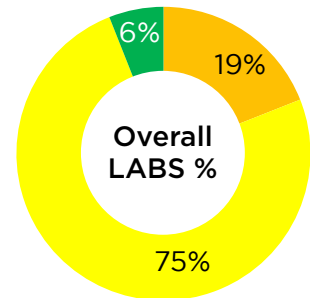
Common assessment findings



Structural Safety

- Uneven floor-load distribution on suspended floors
- Exposed reinforcement on roof slab
- Cracks on structural and non-structural members (e.g., concrete beams, columns, and walls)
- Absence of documentation (e.g., structural diagrams, geo-technical reports, floor-load plans, and soil reports)

Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	-	-	-	-
Amber			1	2
Yellow	5	1	6	-
Green	1	-	-	-
Total	6	1	7	2



“ Through LABS program, our factory has improved the safety conditions in the working place by remediation of Structural, Electrical, and Fire issues; in addition, our workers have more awareness regarding the safety risks through the Safety Training sessions. ”



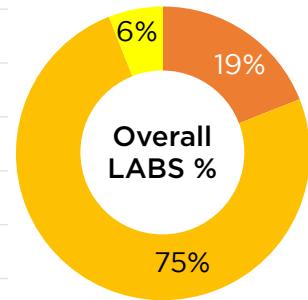
Ms. Loan - Social Compliance Responsibility (A First Vina Factory)



Fire Safety

- Rolling shutters on exit doors
- Insufficient emergency lights on escape paths
- Fire-rated doors and fire-rated enclosures lacking
- Overhead signages missing on escape paths

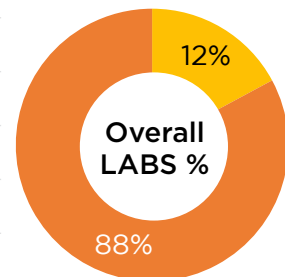
Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	-	-	1	2
Amber	6	1	5	-
Yellow	-	-	1	-
Green	-	-	-	-
Total	6	1	7	2



Electrical Safety

- Flammable coating inside distribution panels
- Heavy lint and dust inside switchboards/distribution boards (DBs)
- Earthing to DBs, MS roof truss, transformer fencing, and battery bank racks not provided
- Lightning protection system not supplied
- Numerous hotspots with high temperatures ranging from 75°C to 107°C

Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	6	-	7	1
Amber	-	1	-	1
Yellow	-	-	-	-
Green	-	-	-	-
Total	6	1	7	2



Remediations

India

Data comprises 102 factories where 347 follow-up visits were conducted.

Fire Safety:

- **99%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **96%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **97%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **89%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors.

Electrical Safety:

- **90%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **98%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **96%** of the factories provided earthing connections for electrical components.

Structural Safety:

- **78%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **79%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures (such as MS Shed)
- **82%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness.

Vietnam

Data comprises 216 factories where 665 follow-up visits were conducted.

Fire Safety:

- **95%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **100%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **91%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **97%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors.

Electrical Safety:

- **95%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **99%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **92%** of the factories provided earthing connections for electrical components.

Structural Safety:

- **80%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **85%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures (such as MS Shed)
- **84%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness.

Cambodia

Data comprises 60 factories where 159 follow-up visits were conducted.

Fire Safety:

- **88%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **98%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **81%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **88%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors.

Electrical Safety:

- **90%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **89%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **91%** of the factories provided earthing connections for electrical components.

Structural Safety:

- **92%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **95%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures
- **91%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness.

Indonesia

Data comprises 15 factories where 30 follow-up visits were conducted.

Fire Safety:

- **66%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- 90% of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **75%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **36%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors.

Electrical Safety:

- **75%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **66%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **39%** of the factories provided earthing connections for electrical components.

Structural Safety:

- **44%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **56%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures
- **100%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness.

Safety Training

67

Safety Training

sessions were conducted in Q1, 2024.

There were 67 Safety Trainings during Q1 with 1,496 representatives from factory management, the OHS Committee, HR and maintenance departments, and workers from the production area.

1,496

people trained

	Training	People trained
India	18	452
Vietnam	13	282
Cambodia	23	635
Indonesia	13	127



LABS Chat Platform

LABS has a toll-free Helpline (in Vietnam, India, and Cambodia) and a LABS Chat platform (in Vietnam, India, Cambodia, and Indonesia) to enable workers to raise their concerns of unsafe working conditions.

India

- Three non-LABS cases were reported regarding the working environment, a payslip, and a termination issue

Vietnam

- One non-LABS case reported an inadequate salary increase
- Three LABS cases involved the fire-protection system check



Key Outreach and Events

India

Safety Health & Environment Conclave 2024

March 15, 2024

LABS program raised awareness of safety in the apparel and textile industry by presenting at the event, which was hosted by National Safety Council of India.



Vision 2047

March 21, 2024

LABS was invited to participate in Vision 2047 by the Ministry of Textile, Government of India to help determine how the apparel and textile industry can grow in the country.

We highlighted the importance of safety for the sustainable development and how the Ministry can support our capacity-building efforts.



Vietnam

Meeting with the Ministry of Construction

March 7, 2024

A meeting was held with Mr. Vu Ngoc Anh from the Ministry of Construction to update LABS and strategize collaborative efforts for 2024 and 2025.

Collaborative Meeting with VCCI-VBCSD and LEFASO

March 7, 2024

LABS participated in a collaborative meeting with the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Vietnam Business Council for Sustainable Development (VCCI-VBCSD) and the Vietnam Leather, Footwear, and Handbag Association (LEFASO).

Key discussion points included LABS offering training, sharing good practices, and supporting non-LABS members within the industry.

GAP Workshop

March 27, 2024

The Vietnam team attended the GAP factory's workshop in Hanoi to share the LABS program's progress.

Cambodia

Development Partners Consultation on Development Partnership Plan

February 19, 2024

The CM was invited by the Australian Embassy to attend consultation with Second Secretary Kieran Donnelly (Economic Cooperation) on Australia's policies regarding a multitude of sectors, including manufacturing and gender.

Meeting with the Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training

February 20, 2024

Key highlights of the engagement with the Ministry included capacity building of safety and inspection officers via LABS' assessment process, safety training, and the safety-management system.

Meeting with Multilateral Trade and Economic Affairs

February 22, 2024

The purpose of this meeting was to explore opportunities for a potential collaboration.

Indonesia

Introductory Meeting with Indonesia’s National Board for Disaster Management

January 19, 2024

LABS met with the Director of Risk Mitigation of Indonesia National Board for Disaster Management (BNPB) to introduce LABS, share LABS progress in Indonesia, and discuss a potential collaboration for capacity building of the National and Regional Disaster Management Agency.

Meeting with DKI Jakarta’s Disaster Management Agency

February 16, 2024

A cooperation agreement was signed with DKI Jakarta Disaster Management Agency to enhance the Regional Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) DKI Jakarta’s Building Assessment Module by adopting LABS Methodology and Standard.



Introductory Meeting with National Standardization Agency

February 20, 2024

A meeting with the Director of Accreditation Systems and Harmonization at the National Standardization Agency (BSN) enabled us to introduce LABS, share LABS operation progress in Indonesia, distribute a hardcopy of LABS Standard to the Director of BSN, and address how LABS Standard can be included in the Indonesian National Standard.

Incidents in Apparel Sector

India

- **March 24, 2024:**

A fire at a factory in Delhi's Narela industrial area was reported; there were no casualties.

Source: <https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/fire-breaks-out-at-factory-in-delhis-narela-industrial-area-no-casualty-reported20240324161319/>



Cambodia

- **January 18, 2024:**

A factory fire causing over \$4.2 million in damages erupted at 6:40am in the chemical storage room of jeans factory Yi Da Manufacturer Co., Ltd., located in the Kandal province. Twenty people were injured and there was one fatality. The cause was attributed to sparks ignited by a computer.



Source: <https://kiripost.com/stories/cambodia-kandal-factory-fire-kills-one-and-injures-20>

- **March 1, 2024:**

There was a fire at Eminent Factory in Prek Village Toul Vil Commune, S'ang District, Kandal province, located in Li-on-li Industrial Park. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

- **March 18, 2024:**

Fire broke out at R.G. Footwear factory located in Andoung, Baek Chan, Angk Snuol district, Kandal province, engulfing three buildings and causing \$10 million in damages; the cause of the fire is under investigation.



Source: <https://kiripost.com/stories/workers-escape-fire-that-consumed-footwear-factory>

- **March 25, 2024:**

The cause of a fire at a Hoplok factory in Bek Chan Commune, Ang Snuol, Kandal province is under investigation.

Annexures

Factory Details

India

Assessments

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. C & R Textiles PVT LTD | 5. SCM Garments PVT LTD |
| 2. Trident Ltd. – Bath linen | 6. Asian Fabricx Private Limited – Unit 2 |
| 3. Trident Ltd. – Bed linen | 7. Faze Three Limited |
| 4. Kerafibertex | |

Safety Trainings

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Shivalik Prints Ltd. | 10. Synthesis Home Textiles PVT LTD |
| 2. Amicizia Creations LLP | 11. Chemico Processing |
| 3. Venkateshwara Clothing Company | 12. Alok Industries LTD |
| 4. Kitex Garments LTD | 13. C & R Textiles PVT LTD |
| 5. Radiaant Expovision PVT LTD | 14. Pee Empro Exports PVT LTD – Unit 67 |
| 6. Sri Arul Tex LLP | 15. First Steps Babywear (India) PVT LTD |
| 7. Jega Garments LLP | 16. Kerafibertex International PVT LTD |
| 8. Texport Industries PVT LTD – Unit 08 | 17. SCM Garments PVT LTD |
| 9. Soundaraa Knit Wears | 18. Anand Textiles LLP |

Vietnam

Assessments

1. Join Win (Vietnam) Limited Company

Safety Trainings

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Yi Feng Footwear Joint Venture Co., Ltd. | 7. SSV Export Garment Company |
| 2. Seshin VN2 CO LTD | 8. Hana Kovi Inc |
| 3. Sun World Garment Co., Ltd. | 9. Bao Hung Joint Stock Company |
| 4. Minh Anh Co., Ltd. | 10. Oasis Garment Co., Ltd. (Vietnam) – Fty |
| 5. Minh Anh Kim Lien Garment Joint Stock Company | 11. Soto Co Ltd |
| 6. Jinqvan Vietnam Travelling Goods Co., Ltd. | 12. Join Win (Vietnam) Limited Company |
| | 13. Precious Garments (Vietnam) Co Ltd |

Cambodia

Assessments

1. Cambodian Wuxi Jin Mao Garment Co., Ltd.
2. Hanton Luggage (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
3. Solamoda (Cambodia) Garment Co., Ltd.
4. Wah Sun HK Factory (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
5. Soho Sheng He (Cambodia) Garment Co., Ltd.
6. JH Garment (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
7. Cambodian Socks and Underwear Co., Ltd.

Safety Trainings

1. Splendor Industry Co., Ltd.
2. Sportex Industry Co., Ltd.
3. Nyan Kids (Cambodia) Ltd. - 2
4. Nyan Kids (Cambodia) Ltd. - 1
5. Nyan Kids (Cambodia) Ltd.
6. Moha Garments Co., Ltd.
7. Makalot Garments (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
8. Makalot Garments (Cambodia) Co., Ltd. - Branch 3
9. F.U.G. Garment (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
10. Liu Tan International (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
11. T.F.G. (Cambodia) Garment Co., Ltd.
12. Vicmark Fashions (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
13. Horizon Outdoor (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
14. Wincam Corporation
15. Tae Young (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
16. Nagapeace Corporation Limited
17. Meng Yee Garment Manufactory Co., Ltd.
18. Cam Forever Co., Ltd.
19. Top Centre Manufacturing Ltd.
20. Starite (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
21. Shoe Premier II (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
22. Wah Sun HK (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.
23. Solamoda (Cambodia) Garment Co., Ltd.

Indonesia

Assessments

1. PT Woo Shin Garment Indonesia
2. PT Nesia Pan Pacific Clothing
3. PT Rina Jaya Garment
4. PT Starlight Garment Semarang
5. PT Star Fashion Ungaran

Safety Trainings

1. PT Anggun Kreasi Garmen
2. PT Kaho Indah Citra Garment 1
3. PT Glory Industrial Semarang
4. PT Glory Industrial Semarang-Demak
5. PT Sun Suka Abadi
6. PT Nesia Pan Pacific Clothing
7. PT Dasan Pan Pacific Indonesia
8. PT Woo Shin Garment Indonesia
9. PT Citra Unggul Perkasa Garment
10. PT Eagle Nice Indonesia
11. PT Apparel One Indonesia - 2
12. PT Rina Jaya Garment
13. PT Starlight Garment Semarang

QA Assessments

1. PT Glory Industrial Semarang-Demak
2. PT. Dasan Pan Pacific Indonesia



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