



EQUIVALENT INITIAL FIRE SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Factory Name: **Sawftex Ltd**
Address: **Bhagnahati, Sreepur, Gazipur Sreepur, Gazipur Dhaka
Bangladesh**
Assessor: **CCRD**
Date: **17 Feb 2014**





Introduction to the Report

The following report contains a site profile and summary of non-conformities identified during an onsite assessment commissioned by the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety (Alliance) and conducted by a third-party Qualified Assessment Firm (QAF). The assessment was conducted against the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety Assessment Protocols (APs) and Fire Safety and Structural Integrity Standard, which is harmonized with the factory assessment guidelines developed by Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) for the Bangladesh National Tripartite Plan of Action (NTPA). The goal of the Alliance process is to provide clear and practical technical requirements by which Bangladeshi Ready Made Garment (RMG) Factories producing for Alliance members may be consistently and fairly evaluated for fire, structural, and electrical safety in a non-duplicative manner. Each assessment will prompt action plans that will be used by RMG factories to systematically and sustainably improve safety conditions for garment workers. Beyond tracking and reporting on action steps taken in a transparent manner, the Alliance organization and its members will seek to further support factory improvements through technical assistance, training, implementation support for functional Worker Committees, and in some cases financial assistance and wage support for workers if factories are closed for remediation.

The contents of the report do not constitute a guarantee of compliance with the applicable laws, the Alliance Standard or the absolute or continued safety against fire, electrical and/or structural integrity issues that may lead to injury or loss of life. The report is designed to provide a non-exhaustive summary of risk issues, based on a limited sampling and duration of time onsite by the named QAF. Neither the QAF nor the Alliance can certify or guarantee the quality, outcome, or effectiveness of actions taken in response to the report.

For more information and report feedback please go to: www.bangladeshworkersafety.org.



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FOR BANGLADESH WORKER SAFETY

GENERAL INFORMATION

General Information	
Factory Name:	Sawftex Ltd
Address:	Bhagnahati, Sreepur, Gazipur Sreepur, Gazipur Dhaka Bangladesh
Country:	Bangladesh
Province:	Dhaka
City:	Sreepur, Gazipur
Zip Code:	
Audit Duration:	
Re-Audit:	Re-Audit After 0 Months
Draft Report Date:	March 18, 2014
Final Report Date:	June 30, 2014
Are all Action Items From Previous Assessment Completed?:	N/A
Buildings in Complex:	One Building
Is the building(s) owned or rented by the Factory:	Owned
Number of Building Levels (Stories):	Four Levels and unoccupied roof. Parapet is 43 inches tall.
Approximate Building Area (SF):	71,368 sf total area (4 x 17,842 sf per floor)
Date of Building Construction:	Built in 1990 New generator installed in 2006.
Date of Last Building Renovation/Addition:	Factory is in process of installing sprinklers and fire doors
Ancillary Structures in Complex:	None
Approximate Ancillary Structures Area (SF):	None
Number of Occupants:	444: 252 female, 192 male

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Number of Ancillary Levels (Stories):	none
Occupancy Type:	G2
Construction Type:	Type 2
Height of Highest Occupied Floor Level Above Grade:	36 feet



ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

Fire Protection Construction

Question:	Is each floor separated with a fire-resistive rated construction barrier?
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	2
Description:	There were unprotected penetrations through the floor at each electrical cabinet location. Additionally, the fire sprinkler risers need to be protected at the floor openings.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Unprotected penetrations
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide fire-resistive rated opening or penetration protection for rated walls and assemblies in accordance with Alliance Standard Sections 4.6 and 4.7. Consult a qualified fire protection engineer to design the required opening protectives or penetration
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Reference Alliance Standards Part 4 Section 4.5 Separation
Question:	Certificates of Occupancy for each building have been issued and are on file.
Priority Level:	Low
Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	No certificate of occupancy provided for review.
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No document provided
Suggested Plan of Action:	Obtain the the Certificates of Occupancy for each building and ancillary structure according to building use from the approving authority.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Are certificates of occupancy provided for each building or ancillary structure?

Fire Protection Systems

Question:	Does the building have a Standpipe System?
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	2
Description:	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: N



Suggested Plan of Action:	Install a Class III standpipe system at required locations. If full automatic sprinkler protection is provided, only a Class I system is needed. Standpipe system must comply with NFPA 14.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Does the building have a standpipe system installed where required. Alliance Standard Part 5 Section 5.4.2
Question:	Does the building have a fire pump?
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	2
Description:	Automatic protection systems being installed.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: System being installed
Suggested Plan of Action:	Install a dedicated fire pump for the facility in accordance with NFPA 20. Also, install a water storage tank in accordance with NFPA 22. Submit plans of under construction system to Alliance for review.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 5 Fire Protection Systems
Question:	Is the fire alarm and detection system monitored by a central station monitoring service or directly connected to the Fire Service and Civil Defense?
Priority Level:	Medium
Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	Fire alarm panel does not report to a central facility. Additionally, the fire pump is not monitored by the fire alarm panel.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: No central fire alarm reporting
Suggested Plan of Action:	Arrange for direct connection of the fire alarm and detection system to a central station monitoring service or the Fire Service and Civil Defence per Alliance Standard Part 5 Section 5.7.5 Monitoring. Until that time that a central station monitoring ser
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 5 Section 5.7.5 Monitoring
Means of Egress	
Question:	Doors along the path of egress have a minimum width of 0.8 m (32 in) and have required ratings.
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	3



Description:	Fire doors are in the process of being installed.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Fire doors being installed
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide listed outward swinging, fire-rated doors at all openings into stairs and at hazard separation areas.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.5.6 Minimum Widths. Increased occupant loads will require a door width greater than 0.8 m.
Question:	Exterior exit stairs are separated from the building with the required rating. The rating of the exterior wall shall extend 3.05 m (10 ft) beyond the ends of the stair structure.
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	
Description:	Steel exterior stair have window opening with in 10 ft.
Source of Findings:	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Separated the emergency stair from the building with 2-hour rated construction. The separation shall extend 10 feet from the emergency stair in each direction.
Suggested Deadline Date:	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.3.1.2. Three stories or less 1-hr rating. Four stories of more 2-hr rating
Question:	Occupant loads are posted for every assembly and production floor in a conspicuous space near the main point of egress.
Priority Level:	Medium
Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	Occupant load signage is not provided.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: No signage provided
Suggested Plan of Action:	Post the occupant load for all assembly and production floor areas in a conspicuous space near the main exit or exit access doorway for the space.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.4.4 Posting of Occupant Load
Question:	All paths of egress are provided with compliant means of illumination.
Priority Level:	Medium



Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	Battery exit lighting is provided
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Insufficient emergency exit lighting
Suggested Plan of Action:	Install emergency lighting for all paths of egress in accordance with Alliance Standard Section 6.7.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.7 Egress Illumination and Part 10 Section 10.12 Illumination of Exit Signs and Means Of Escape
Question:	Illuminated exit signs are placed at entrances to exits and along the path of egress anywhere the continuation of egress is not obvious or there is a change in the direction of the path of travel.
Priority Level:	Medium
Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	Exit signs are provided at the stairs.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Insufficient exit signage
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide continuously illuminated exit signs per Alliance Standard Section 6.11. Signs shall be placed at all required exits and along egress paths, especially where there is a change in direction for the path of travel.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.11 Exit Signs
Question:	Handrails are provided on both sides of each stairway. Intermediate handrails are provided when the stair width exceeds 2.2 m (87 in.). Handrails are not mounted lower than 760 mm (30 in.) or higher than 1100 mm (44 in.).
Priority Level:	Medium
Non-Compliance Level:	1
Description:	Handrails are provided on one side of the stair only.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Handrails on one side
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide handrails on both sides of each stairway. Mount handrails at a height between 30 in. and 44 in.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.9 Stairs and 6.12 Handrails and Guards

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