WRAP RELEASES MAJOR REPORT EXAMINING SOCIAL COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS THROUGH CONVERSATIONS WITH THOUGHT LEADERS

WRAP is pleased to announce the release of a major report examining the current state of social compliance programs within the apparel and footwear industries and assessing how WRAP can better serve its stakeholders as a responsive, effective, and independent partner in social compliance management. The report, titled “Constructive Dialogues: Examining Social Compliance Programs through Conversations with Stakeholders,” is based on conversations held with 50 thought leaders in the social compliance arena, including representatives of brands and retailers, non-governmental organizations, socially responsible investors, U.S. government agencies, service providers, and educational institutions who have expertise in the field. The conversations were conducted between October 2013 and April 2014 and focused on the motivation for and execution of individual social compliance programs and looked at how companies assess sourcing and manufacturing practices within their supply chains.

WRAP’s President and CEO Avedis Seferian says he is grateful for everyone who participated. “This project has been not only educational but rewarding. When we initiated it last fall, I had high expectations of it, which ended up not only being met, but exceeded. It was very gratifying indeed to see the overwhelming willingness on the part of those we contacted to share their candid feedback with us,” says Seferian.

The project was spearheaded by Clay Hickson, Senior Director of Strategy and Business Development for WRAP, in collaboration with Kay Schultz, former Senior Group Manager of Social Compliance at Target Corporation, and with assistance from Ted Sattler, Advisor to WRAP and retired Corporate Group Executive Vice-President at PVH.

Hickson was equally pleased with the results of the project. “The information shared with WRAP through these conversations has been invaluable, and we take to heart the constructive critiques and the suggestions for enhancing our contributions in the realm of social compliance. WRAP remains committed to being a responsive partner with the many stakeholders with whom we work,” says Hickson.

This report is part of a greater strategic planning process that will pave a path for WRAP to further strengthen its programs and continue developing effective social compliance solutions. “We are continuing to analyze the information gathered and recommendations shared. Based on what we learned, we are developing plans for the augmentation or expansion of certain activities and/or development of some completely new programs and relationships. Look for additional communications as WRAP seeks to strengthen what we do best and strives to continue being a responsive and effective partner for supply chain social compliance management,” says Seferian.

To read the full report, visit http://www.wrapcompliance.org/stakeholderreport