

0-----

Accord guidance: Remediation of Shared Buildings

Published February 2018

This document outlines the Accord's policy and guidance regarding inspection and remediation in buildings shared by an Accord factory and one or more non-Accord factories.

Structural inspection

The Accord will inspect the whole building; the structural inspection report applies to all the factories in the building, Accord-covered or not.

Fire and electrical inspections

The Accord engineers will inspect all Accord factory spaces and all common spaces. (e.g. stairwells, main floor exiting arrangements, electrical transformers, fire pumps). Fire alarms and sprinkler systems will be inspected throughout the building.

Remediation of shared buildings

We advise company signatories to organise a meeting with the management of each Accord covered factory, the building owner and the Accord. The Accord engineers will explain to the building owner what remediation is required throughout the building, and why this remediation is essential for the safety of the Accord covered factories, to meet the Accord Building Standards and the Bangladesh National Building Code. The Accord team will also explain the consequences of failing to remediate: ultimately the Accord factory is terminated, publicly listed as non-compliant and the inspection reports are transferred to the Inspector General for inclusion in the National Inspection Programme.

If the building owner does not cooperate in driving remediation, the factory covered by the Accord has to make a choice — either to relocate to a building that can meet the safety standards, or to face termination under Article 21 of the Accord for failing to remediate. In cases of non-cooperation by the building owner, the Accord advises the company signatories to contact the case handler and ask them to support in convening another meeting with the Accord factory's management and the building owner.

For specific queries regarding remediation in a shared building, please contact the Accord case handler for the specific Accord covered factory. For general queries, please contact signatories@bangladeshaccord.com.