



on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh

## **SAFETY NOTIFICATION TO WORKERS IN KLARION DRESSES LTD.**

Address: City Corporation Shopping Complex, (4th floor), Chawk Bazar, Chittagong.

Date: 30 August 2017

The Accord is a legal agreement between international garment brands and unions that represent workers. The purpose of the Accord is to protect the safety of garment workers by inspecting factory buildings, identifying risks to worker safety, and making sure that factory owners eliminate these risks by renovating and repairing the buildings.

The Accord has conducted three inspections of Klarion Dresses Ltd. in the period 20 May 2014 – 29 October 2015 and found a number of problems that could cause serious harm to workers. The Accord has asked Klarion Dresses Ltd. to make changes to eliminate these risks. Unfortunately, Klarion Dresses Ltd. has failed to:

- Remove locking features or render them inoperable from the egress doors/gates. This could result in workers being locked in the factory during a fire or another emergency.
- Remove collapsible gates/sliding doors/rolling shutters. This could be an obstacle for workers during evacuation in case of fire incident or another emergency.
- Install a fire alarm system. This could result in workers not being warned that there is a fire.
- Complete fire separation in the relevant areas. This could result in workers becoming stuck on the higher floors of the building if there is a fire.
- Safely install and maintain electrical equipment and fix up electrical wiring. This could create serious electrical hazards in the factory which might lead to fire incidents.

The Accord has made many efforts to get the owners of Klarion Dresses Ltd. to fix these safety hazards, so that workers will be safe, but the owners have refused to do so.

As a result, Klarion Dresses Ltd. is unsafe for workers. Because of this, the brands that have signed the Accord will no longer do business with Klarion Dresses Ltd. and will no longer place any orders at the factory. The Accord wants to make sure that all workers at Klarion Dresses Ltd. are aware that the building is not safe.

If workers choose not to work at Klarion Dresses Ltd. because of these safety risks, or if Klarion Dresses Ltd. closes, the brands that have signed the Accord will make an effort to help workers find jobs at nearby factories that are safe. There is no guarantee that a job will be available, but the brands will try to assist.

For information, workers can contact:

The Accord:

- Mr. Rob Wayss, Mobile No. 01755-583744
- Mr. Kawsar Akil, Mobile No. 01766-695909

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The Industrial Bangladesh Council:

- Mr. Roy Ramesh Chandra, Mobile No. 01819-223014
- Mr. Amirul Haque Amin, Mobile No. 01731-201302
- Mr. Towhidur Rahman, Mobile No. 01819-987559

Also, the government of Bangladesh has established a helpline for RMG workers at: 0800-4455000. There is no charge for calling this number.

## **STICHTING BANGLADESH ACCORD FOUNDATION**

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