Social Accountability (SA8000)
An International Standard for Improving Working Conditions
What is Social Accountability?

Social Accountability is a measure of an organization’s state of being mindful of the emerging social concerns and priorities of internal and external stakeholders (community, employees, governmental and nongovernmental organizations, management, and owners). It is reflected in the organization’s verifiable commitment to certain factors (which may or may not be tied directly to its processes) such as (1) willing compliance with employment, health and hygiene, safety, and environment laws, (2) respect for basic civil and human rights, and (3) betterment of community and surrounding.

SA 8000

SA8000 is an international standard for improving working conditions. This standard is based on the principles of the international human rights norms as described in International Labour Organisation Conventions, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A social compliance program is usually based on adherence to rules of social accountability, established by certified conformance to standards such as SA8000. See also corporate governance.

Social Audit is the process of evaluating a firm’s various operating procedures, code of conduct, and other factors to determine its effect on a society. The goal is to identify, if any, actions of the firm have impacted the society in some way. A social audit may be initiated by a firm that is seeking to improve its cohesiveness or improve its image within the society. If the results are positive, they may be released to the public. For example, if a factory is believed to have a negative impact, the company may have a social audit conducted to identify actions that actually benefit the society.

SA 8000 certification

SA8000 measures the performance of organisations in eight key areas: child labour, forced labour, health and safety, freedom of association and collective bargaining, discrimination, disciplinary practices, working hours and remuneration. The 2014 version brings in the concept of risk identification and controls. It focuses on the management systems approach to improve the social accountability.

The systems put in place to achieve this certification are an ongoing process and involves the participation of employees to ensure systemic change. The benefits of adopting SA8000 includes improved staff morale, reliable business partnerships, enhanced competitiveness, less staff turnover and better worker-manager communication.

Why SA 8000 is important for organization?

Globally the need to demonstrate ethical, fair, transparent, caring work place environment is increasing. Businesses look forward to partner with ones who treat their personnel fairly. This is increasing the demand of SA 8000 worldwide.

BSI group India Pvt. Ltd. is an approved SA8000 Accredited certification body
visit at http://www.saasaccreditation.org/?q=node/65

Social Accountability Accreditation Services (SAAS) is the accreditation body for SA 8000. BSI has the global accreditation by SAAS to conduct SA 8000 audits and issue SA 8000 certification.
BSI’s Offerings

BSI has expert team of highly experienced resources who can deliver SA 8000, BSCI, SMETA, WRAP, CTPAD and code of conduct audits.

Social Accountability Training

SA 8000:2014 Social Accountability Introduction Training

This is a 2 days training course. Requirements of International Standard SA 8000:2014 on Social Accountability will be discussed during this training. SA 8000:2014 is a Standard which is significantly getting recognized globally. Buyers and consumers today choose to use product processed in a factory or be in business with a Company which has not exploited its manpower.

SA 8000:2014 Social Accountability Internal Auditor Training

This is a 2 days training course which covers interpretation of SA 8000:2014 requirements from Auditing perspective. SA 8000:2014 is a Standard which is significantly getting recognized globally. Buyers and consumers today choose to use product processed in a factory or be in business with a Company which has not exploited its manpower.

SA 8000:2014 Social Accountability Implementation Training

SA 8000:2014 Social Accountability Social Performance Indicators Training

Social Accountability Audits

SA 8000 Audit/ Transition Audit

Social finger print parameters, grading criteria and identifying areas of improvement after self-assessment

Benefits of SA 8000 Certification for Organization

- Improved internal management systems
- Efficient risk management
- No duplication of efforts and cost
- More leverage throughout the supply chain
- Reduce audit fatigue as it is the only accredited internationally recognized Standard for Social Accountability
- Planned approach and resources for improvements and remediation
- Influence on key players of the supply chain
- Opportunity to demonstrate best practices on social performance indicators
- Influence on key players at international level

Benefits for Worker

- Increased awareness of labour rights
- Better access to grievance mechanisms
- Improvement of working conditions
- Transparent arrangement at work place
- Ensuring Safe and healthy work place
BSI, a Royal Charter founded in 1901, focuses on standards creation, certification, supplier verification and training activities to help manage risk, reduce costs and ensure sustainability.

As the world’s most experienced Standards Body and founding member of ISO, BSI leads the way in originating the majority of the world’s most recognized standards, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, BS OHSAS 18001, Business Continuity Management, Information Security, Cloud Computing, Energy Water Management, Anti-bribery as well as the originator of other supplier qualification standards covering Supplier Pre-Qualification, CSR, GMP, Security, Chain of Custody and other topics.

BSI’s India Presence

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About BSI Group

Industry experts dedicated to your success

Customers worldwide

Business locations worldwide

Training

Last year we provided training to over 113,000 delegates

Standards

Quality management systems Standard ISO 9001 – which started life at BSI in 1979 as BS 5750 – is the world’s most successful standard, having been adopted by more than one million organizations in 178 countries