

## **OLYMP Bezner KG – Statement covering the Modern Slavery Act 2015**

### **[Financial Year 2016]**

In March 2015 the UK government passed the Modern Slavery Act 2015. As a result, all companies, regardless of their headquarters, with an annual turnover of at least 36 million pounds, that run any type of business in the UK, are obliged to publish an annual Modern Slavery Statement. Based on its exports to the UK, OLYMP Bezner KG is also subject to the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

The following statement made by the management board of OLYMP Bezner KG complies with § 54 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and relates to the financial year 2016:

Modern slavery is a crime and is a violation of fundamental human rights. It can appear in various forms and includes bonded, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. Modern Slavery presents a serious global challenge from which the globally networked supply chains of OLYMP products must be diligently protected. The following statement describes the active efforts of OLYMP Bezner KG to meet this challenge

OLYMP has already been working with the internationally highly respected SA8000 Standard of Social Accountability International, since 2006 and in 2008 it also joined the Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI). Both organisations have firmly entrenched the rejection of forced labour and precarious employment in their codes of conduct. As a BSCI member OLYMP sends out a clear message that it will not tolerate any form of slavery or human trafficking, not even to a minimal extent by obligating all its production partners to comply with the BSCI code of conduct. In addition the BSCI Audit System serves to identify these and other issues at an early stage and to monitor them along the supply chain.

Within the context of its social due diligence OLYMP follows the risk classification of production countries by BSCI. This means that an audit on working standards is only carried out in the countries classified as risky by the BSCI. Details regarding the BSCI's classification can be accessed using the following link:

[http://www.fta-intl.org/sites/default/files/countries\\_risk\\_classification\\_final\\_version\\_20140109.pdf](http://www.fta-intl.org/sites/default/files/countries_risk_classification_final_version_20140109.pdf)

In this respect OLYMP prioritises in particular the manufacturers of ready-made clothes so far, as the processes carried out at this supply chain level are particularly labour-intensive and consequently more people are likely to be affected by social grievances. As a member of the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles, in 2017 OLYMP has started to expand its intensive efforts to include the upstream processes. Detailed information on the SA8000 Standard, the BSCI and the BSCI Audit System can be found in the OLYMP Sustainability Report:

[https://www.olymp.com/de\\_de/company/responsibility/](https://www.olymp.com/de_de/company/responsibility/)

This also contains a precise description of the audit activities in the financial year 2016 as well as the ensuing status of the audit results. At this point it must be emphasised that none of the audits carried out in 2016 have shown any evidence of any type of modern slavery or human trafficking. Hence the financial year 2016 falls into line with the results to date.

Regardless of this positive result, OLYMP is convinced that exchange with various stakeholders especially with regard to modern slavery and human trafficking is of great importance.

As a BSCI member, OLYMP Bezner KG is part of an industry-wide network where all participants can learn and benefit from an active exchange of experiences. In addition BSCI interacts with various stakeholder groups and supports its members by informing them about relevant developments and new challenges. Based on this, it provides assistance so that all relevant requirements can be met. Not least, OLYMP cooperates with the federal government, non-government organisations, trade unions, providers of standards and other companies within the Partnership for Sustainable Textiles.



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