

# **FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT**

**RIPON KNITWEAR LTD.  
JARUN, KONABARI, GAZIPUR**

**OTHER FACTORIES: RIPON PACKAGING INDUSTRIES**



**ACC**  **RD**  
on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh

April 29, 2014

## **SUMMARY**

**Ripon Knitwear Ltd. was surveyed for fire safety on 4/29/2014 by Hughes Associates, Inc. This summary identifies the major deficiencies that were identified during the inspection.**

**The purpose of this survey was to identify significant fire safety issues and to provide recommendations for remediation based on applicable standards specified by the Accord. The scope of this initial fire safety inspection was limited to the review and identification of major fire safety issues. The inspection did not include identification of minor deficiencies, which will be further addressed as part of follow-up inspections.**

**Table 1 summarizes the major fire safety issues identified during the inspection. Recommendations have been provided to address each issue.**

**An implementation schedule shall be developed by the factory to remediate each of the findings. The specific timing of improvements, including any requested extensions due to design / installation constraints, shall be submitted to the Accord for approval.**

**Table 1. Findings And Recommendations**

No.	Category	Finding	Recommendation	Remediation Timeframe
F-1	Fire Rated Construction	The generator and boiler rooms on the ground floors are not separated from the south eastern exit discharge by means of fire-rated construction (fire rated doors and unprotected openings).	Separate the boiler, generator from the working areas and egress routes by a minimum 2-hr fire-rated construction. Seal and/or protected all openings to maintain the required fire separations.	Within 3 months



F-2	Fire Rated Construction	<p>Areas used for combustible storage are not separated by fire-rated construction.</p> <p>The dedicated storage areas on the 3rd floor (Bonded warehouse, Finished fabrics store), 2nd floor (Accessories store, Knitting section store), 1st floor (Metal free zone) and the ground floor (Godown areas) were not separated by fire-rated construction (unprotected openings and fire rated doors).</p> <p>The transient storage areas on the 3rd floor (Fabrics relaxing area) and 2nd floor (Knitting section) exceeded the permitted limits and was open to the working areas.</p>	<p>Provide dedicated storage rooms separated by minimum 1-hr fire-rated construction.</p> <p>Where separate storage rooms are not feasible, provide defined storage areas and limit the storage arrangement as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maximum height of 2.4m and maximum area of 23m<sup>2</sup></li><li>- If sprinkler protected: maximum height of 3.66m and maximum area of 93m<sup>2</sup></li></ul> <p>Separate areas of unenclosed combustible storage by a minimum clear distance of 3m.</p>	Within 3 months
-----	-------------------------	---	---	-----------------





---

F-3	Fire Rated Construction	The exit stairs were not separated from work areas on each floor by fire-rated construction.	Provide minimum 1.5-hr fire rated doors and seal all unprotected openings to separate the exit stairs from work areas and other building spaces on all floor levels. Ensure that the fire doors are self-closing and positive latching and that they are provided with fire exit (panic) hardware where serving production floors.  If fire doors are required to be held open for functional reasons, provide automatic-closing devices tied to the fire alarm system.	Within 3 months
-----	-------------------------	--	---	-----------------



---

F-4	Fire Rated Construction	Various penetrations and openings were located in the south western and south eastern exit stair enclosures. Example: On the ground floor, the landing of both the stairs are used to access the storage areas. The south western exit stair enclosure was exposed to the generator room by means of unprotected openings.	Seal all penetrations and openings in exit stair enclosure walls to maintain the fire separation.	Within 3 months
-----	-------------------------	--	---	-----------------



F-5	Egress	Egress doors / gates with locking features were found in building exits, along egress routes and in the exit discharges on all floors. All gates/doors were found to be open and unlocked during the inspection.	Remove locking features from all egress doors / gates.  If locks are required for security reasons, utilize special door locking features complying with NFPA 101.	Immediate
-----	--------	--	--	-----------



F-6 Egress

Collapsible gates / sliding doors are provided at all building exits, exit stairs and at exit discharges.

Replace all gates / sliding doors along the means of egress with side-hinged, swinging egress doors.

Within 1 month

If locks are required for security reasons, utilize special door locking features complying with NFPA 101.





F-7 Egress

General storage was located inside the north eastern exit stair enclosures on the 2nd floor and ground floor.

Remove all storage from exit stairs and egress paths.

Within 3 months



F-8 Egress

The north and south eastern exit stair doors on the 4th floor did not swing in the direction of egress travel.

Modify the egress door to swing in the direction of egress travel.

Within 3 months



F-9	Fire Protection	The fire alarm system is antiquated, not a listed system, and does not provide alarm and notification features consistent with acceptable standards.	Replace the fire alarm system with a new, listed addressable fire alarm system in accordance with NFPA 72.	Design within 4 months, install within 9 months
F-10	Fire Protection	The building is equipped with single-station smoke alarms. Smoke alarm activation sounds only a local alarm and does not provide automatic fire alarm notification of occupants.	Remove single-station smoke alarms. Provide automatic smoke detection through out the building in accordance with NFPA-72.	Within 1 months
F-11	Fire Protection	Inspection, testing, and maintenance for the fire alarm system was not in accordance with NFPA 72.	Inspect, test and maintain the fire alarm system, and keep written records on-site, in accordance with NFPA 72.	Within 3 months

---

F-12	Egress Lighting	Manual on-off switch is provided for emergency lighting units present inside the exit stair enclosures.	Remove manual on/off switches from emergency lighting units to prevent them from being switched off.	Within 1 month
F-13	Egress Lighting	Inspection, testing, and maintenance records for the emergency lighting system were not available.	Inspect, test and maintain the emergency lighting system in accordance with The ACCORD standard. Keep written records on-site.	Within 3 months

---