

INITIAL FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

ARA Apparel Export Ltd. (Extension)

RSC ID: 25493

2/c Darussalum Road, Mirpur, Dhaka

Other Factories: ARA / Apparel Export Ltd. (ID-10716)



Inspected By: Nainin Nowrose

Date: 25 February 2024

Fire Safety Inspection Report

ARA Apparel Export Ltd. (Extension)

Introduction:

ARA Apparel Export Ltd. (Extension) Complex was surveyed for fire safety on **25/02/2024** by the RSC Inspection Team. The purpose of the survey was to identify significant fire safety issues and to provide recommendations for remediation based on applicable standards specified by the RSC. 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.

Limitations

The information in this fire safety inspection report was obtained during a visit to the facility and during interviews with local factory management. It has not been possible to provide independent verification for all the information and data collected, and, therefore, The RSC cannot accept general responsibility for omissions or errors arising from inaccuracies in this report from the information obtained.

The findings and recommendations in this report are not intended to imply, guarantee, ensure or warrant compliance with any government regulations. Additionally, the results do not imply in any way that compliance with the findings or recommendations as stated in this report will eliminate all hazards, risks or exposures or that hazards, risks or exposures not referred to in this report do not exist. Compliance with the findings and recommendations stated in this report does not relieve the factory owner from obligation to comply with specific project requirements, industry standards, or the provisions of any local government regulations.

General Factory Information

Factory Building name(s): There is one (01) structure in the premises under this ID-25493. They are :

1. Building-4: 3 storied RCC building


Construction: Aug, 2018 to May, 2019 & Occupied: Jun, 2019

Construction Period: Interim.

Per Floor area: 2880sqft (approx.)


Factory Address: 2/c Darussalum Road, Mirpur, Dhaka


Table-1: Finding & recommendation

SI No.	Category	Findings	Required Action	Remediation Time Frame
F-1	Fire Rated Construction	The exit stair enclosures are not separated from work areas and other spaces on each floor by fire-rated construction.	<p>The exit stair enclosure shall be provided with a minimum 1-hr fire resistance rating for buildings with 3 or fewer stories and a minimum of 2- hr. fire resistance rating for buildings 4 or more stories. Provide 0.75 hr. fire rated door and seal all penetrations and openings by 1 hr. fire rated fire rated barrier construction for building with 3 or fewer stories. Provide 1.5 hr. fire rated door and seal all penetrations and openings by 2 hr. fire rated fire rated barrier construction for building with 4 or more stories.</p> <p>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.</p>	Within 3 months
 <p>The bottom section of the table contains three photographs documenting the findings. The first photo on the left shows a red fire-rated door in a hallway, which is not fully closed, with an 'EXIT' sign above it. The middle photo is a close-up of the door's bottom edge, showing a damaged and missing fire-rated seal. The third photo on the right shows the door's latch mechanism, which appears to be a simple bolt latch rather than a self-closing or positive latching device. Each photo has a date stamp of '25 02 2024' in the bottom right corner.</p>				

F-2	Fire Rated Construction	Storage rooms discharge directly into exit stair enclosure without vestibule at 1st & 2nd floor.	Openings from exit enclosure to storage and basement shall be provided with a vestibule with fire rated construction and openings. Provide a 1.5 hr. fire rated door on the exit stair side and a 1- hr. fire rated door on the storage room side. Ensure that the fire rating of the vestibule construction matches that of the exit stair enclosure.	Within 3 months
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F-3	Fire Rated Construction	Areas used for combustible storage open to the factory floors are not separated by fire rated construction on 1st & 2nd floors.	<p>Separate the dedicated storage rooms by minimum 1-hr fire-rated construction. Provide 0.75 hr. fire rated door and seal all penetrations and openings by 1 hr. fire rated fire rated barrier construction.</p> <p>Where separate storage rooms are not feasible, provide defined storage areas and limit the storage arrangement as follows: - Maximum height of 2.45m (8ft.) , maximum area of 23m² (250 ft²) and 3m (10ft.) clear distance from adjacent another unenclosed combustible storage. - If the building/floor is sprinkler protected: maximum height of 3.66m (12ft.) and maximum area of 93m² (1000 ft²) and and 3m (10ft.) clear distance from adjacent another unenclosed combustible storage.</p>	Within 3 months
				

F-4	Fire Rated Construction	Unsealed penetrations and openings are located in the fire-rated floor/ceiling assemblies due to pvc toilet pipe and expansion joint.	Seal all penetrations and openings in floor/ceiling assemblies to maintain the fire separation at least by 2-hr. The used sealer shall be 3rd party certified and installation shall be as per manufacturer's guideline. (Type-1 Construction). or, Provide a minimum 2-hr fire rated shaft to separate the utility risers from each floor if required. (Type-1 Construction).	Within 3 months
				
F-5	Means of Egress	No parapet provided at occupiable roof.	Provide guard rails at all open sides of means of egress with a minimum height of 42 inches. Follow RSC Technical Guideline - 6.12.2	Within 1 month



F-6	Means of Egress	Aisles marking has not been provided on the floor properly.	Provide minimum aisle width of 36-in and mark properly.	Within 1 month
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F-7	Means of Egress	Building did not have stair, floor designation signs and occupant load signs at required locations.	Provide stair, floor designation signs and occupant load signs at required locations.	Within 1 month
F-8	Means of Egress	Fire evacuation maps were not posted at the entrance to each exit stair.	Fire evacuation maps shall be posted at the entrance to each exit stair.	Within 1 month
F-9	Means of Egress	The width of stair is found less than 60 in.	In interim construction, stairs shall have a minimum width of 1.5 m (60 in.) according to RSC Technical Guidelines (StandardV1.0) section 6.5.6.2.1. Provide minimum stair widths of 1.5 m (60 in).	Within 3 months



F-10	Egress Lighting	Directional signs are not provided where direction of the path of travel to an exit has changed.	Illuminated directional signs shall be provided where there is a change in the direction for the path of travel and the direction to an exit is not obvious.	Within 1 month
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F-11	Means of Egress	Sliding gate is provided at main exits of ground floor..	Replace all gates and doors along the means of egress with side-hinged, swinging egress doors in accordance with RSC standard 6.8.1.	Within 1 month
F-12	Fire Alarm & Detection System (FADS)	Automatic fire alarm & detection system installation requires detailed review to confirm compliance with NFPA 72 and RSC standards.	<p>Submit as-built drawings, testing records, equipment certification and other relevant documentation to the RSC for review.</p> <p>Once reviewed, install or modify the fire detection and alarm system (where required) throughout the building in accordance with RSC technical guidelines (standard) and NFPA 72. The factory management shall contact RSC to conduct the final acceptance testing after the installation, testing & commissioning.</p>	Design Review within 2 months and modification within 3 months (If require).



F-13	Fire Detection System (ITM of FADS)	Inspection, testing, and maintenance for the fire alarm system is not in accordance with NFPA 72.	Inspect, test and maintain the fire alarm system and keep written records on-site, in accordance with Table-14.3.1 of NFPA 72.	Within 1 month after installation.
F-14	ITM of Egress Lighting	Inspection, testing, and maintenance for the exit sign and emergency lighting system was not in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Inspect, test and maintain the exit sign and emergency lighting system in the accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard). Keep written records on-site.	Within 1 month

F-15	ITM of Fire-Protection System (Extinguisher)	Inspection, testing and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers is not in accordance with NFPA 10 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Inspect, test and maintain the portable fire extinguishers and keep written records on- site, in accordance with NFPA 10 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Within 1 month
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