INITIAL FIRE ASSESSMENT REPORT (FAR)

Factory Name:	**Creative Wash Ltd**
Address:	**Nishat Nagar, Tongi, Gazipur Tongi, Gazipur Dhaka Bangladesh**
Assessor:	**CCRD**
Date:	**01 Mar 2014**

Introduction to the Report

The following report contains a site profile and summary of non-conformities identified during an onsite assessment commissioned by the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety (Alliance) and conducted by a third-party Qualified Assessment Firm (QAF). The assessment was conducted against the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety Assessment Protocols (APs) and Fire Safety and Structural Integrity Standard, which is harmonized with the factory assessment guidelines developed by Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) for the Bangladesh National Tripartite Plan of Action (NTPA). The goal of the Alliance process is to provide clear and practical technical requirements by which Bangladeshi Ready Made Garment (RMG) Factories producing for Alliance members may be consistently and fairly evaluated for fire, structural, and electrical safety in a non-duplicative manner. Each assessment will prompt action plans that will be used by RMG factories to systematically and sustainably improve safety conditions for garment workers. Beyond tracking and reporting on action steps taken in a transparent manner, the Alliance organization and its members will seek to further support factory improvements through technical assistance, training, implementation support for functional Worker Committees, and in some cases financial assistance and wage support for workers if factories are closed for remediation.

The contents of the report do not constitute a guarantee of compliance with the applicable laws, the Alliance Standard or the absolute or continued safety against fire, electrical and/or structural integrity issues that may lead to injury or loss of life. The report is designed to provide a non-exhaustive summary of risk issues, based on a limited sampling and duration of time onsite by the named QAF. Neither the QAF nor the Alliance can certify or guarantee the quality, outcome, or effectiveness of actions taken in response to the report.

For more information and report feedback please go to: www.bangladeshworkersafety.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION

General Information	
Factory Name:	Creative Wash Ltd
Address:	Nishat Nagar, Tongi, Gazipur Tongi, Gazipur Dhaka Bangladesh
Country:	Bangladesh
Province:	Dhaka
City:	Tongi, Gazipur
Zip Code:	1711
Audit Duration:	
Re-Audit:	Re-Audit After 0 Months
Draft Report Date:	June 30, 2014
Final Report Date:	June 30, 2014
Are all Action Items From Previous Assessment Completed?:	N/A
Buildings in Complex:	4 sheds adjoined together
Is the building(s) owned or rented by the Factory:	Owned
Number of Building Levels (Stories):	One story
Approximate Building Area (SF):	176,000 sf total; Shed 1 - 40,700 sf, Shed 2 - 45,300 sf, Shed 3 - 45,300 sf, Shed 4 - 44,700 sf
Date of Building Construction:	1963
Date of Last Building Renovation/Addition:	2013 - Shed 4 is under renovation
Ancillary Structures in Complex:	There are at least 13 other buildings in this Ha-Meem Group compound. Only three ancillary buildings are associated with Creative Wash; one boiler building, one generator building, and one production building
Approximate Ancillary Structures Area (SF):	unknown
Number of Occupants:	unknown
Number of Ancillary Levels (Stories):	Ancillary buildings are all one story
Occupancy Type:	Maximum of 840 people per shift
Construction Type:	unprotected steel
Height of Highest Occupied Floor Level Above Grade:	0

ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

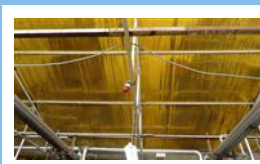
Fire Protection Construction

Question:	Are openings and penetrations through rated walls and/or assemblies protected?
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	3
Description:	Wall penetrations are not protected with firestop systems.
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Penetrations not protected
Suggested Plan of Action:	Install listed firestop systems at every penetration through fire rated walls and assemblies.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Includes doors, windows, ducts, piping, etc. Reference Alliance Standards Part 4 Section 4.6 Opening Protectives and Section 4.7 Penetrations

Question:	Are separations between hazards provided with fire-resistive rated construction barriers.
Priority Level:	Medium
Non-Compliance Level:	3
Description:	The Chemical Storage rooms in Shed 1, Shed 2, and Shed 3 are not separated from the adjacent production wash areas. The walls around each Chemical Storage room are not full height and include a lay-in ceiling in the storage room. The General Storage rooms in Shed 1 and Shed 3 are not separated from the adjacent production wash areas.
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Chemical Storage in Shed 2, no fire separation 2) Chemical Storage in Shed 3, no fire separation
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide fire-resistive rated construction barriers between hazard types in accordance with Alliance Standard Sections 3.4.2 and 4.5. Consult a qualified fire protection engineer to design the required rated construction barrier.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Reference Alliance Standards Part 4 Section 4.5 Separation

Fire Protection Systems

Question:	Are notification and initiation devices for the fire alarm system installed at required locations based on occupancy type?
Priority Level:	High
Non-Compliance Level:	2
Description:	A manual fire alarm system is installed. Push buttons are located at the egress doors. The alarm system is designed for general evacuation, alerting all occupants at the same time through horns and beacons. These notification devices are suspended from the structure and do not provide full coverage throughout the floor area. There are single-station smoke alarms located throughout the building. These devices are battery operated and only alert at each individual device (not part of the fire alarm system).



Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Fire alarm notification beacon suspended from ceiling 2) Smoke alarm suspended from ceiling	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Install fire alarm system per NFPA 72. Include pull stations at all entrances to exit stairs, and at ground floor exits. Install strobes and horns for complete notification on all floors. Install heat detectors instead of smoke detectors. Heat detectors shall be installed in locations required by Alliance standards and shall be part of the fire alarm system.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Pull stations at egress points, smoke detectors in air handling equipment, visual and audible devices spaced appropriately based on occupancy type. Reference NFPA 72	
Question:	Is the fire alarm and detection system monitored by a central station monitoring service or directly connected to the Fire Service and Civil Defense?	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	2	
Description:	The manual fire alarm system installed in the building is not connected to a central station monitoring service or directly connected to the Fire Service and Civil Defense.	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: The fire alarm system is not centrally monitored	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Arrange for direct connection of the fire alarm and detection system to a central station monitoring service or the Fire Service and Civil Defense. Assign a person to contact the fire department in the event of fire alarm activation until this connection is set up. Locate an annunciator to alert this person in a constantly attended location (such as a fire control room).	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 5 Section 5.7.5 Monitoring	
Means of Egress		
Question:	The path of egress along the means of egress is not reduced at any point along the path of travel and is sufficient for the occupant load.	
Priority Level:	High	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	The path of egress from one of the egress doors in Shed 1 is routed between the building and the boiler stack. This restricts the travel path width.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Reduced egress path between boiler stack and building	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Create an alternate route that provides the required width and that is protected from hazardous occupancies.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.5 Egress Width and BNBC Table 4.3.2	
Question:	Travel distance to reach an exit does not exceed the maximum distance allowed by Occupancy Type.	
Priority Level:	High	

Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	The travel distances are exceeded for this occupancy since the building does not have a fully automatic fire sprinkler system installed.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: Travel distances far exceed 150 feet.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide an automatic fire sprinkler system and/or central fire alarm and detection system throughout the sheds to increase the allowed travel distances. Provide heat detectors instead of smoke detectors since this is a laundry facility.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	29 Aug 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 13 Travel Distance and BNBC Part 4 Section 3.15.1	
Question:	Doors are not locked in the direction of egress under any conditions. All hasps, locks, slide bolts, and other locking devices have been removed where required.	
Priority Level:	High	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	All doors in the direction of egress have lock devices installed on them but the doors are held open during business operation. The egress door on the north end of Shed 1 was locked closed during the visit because of adjacent building construction.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Locked door in Shed 1	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Remove all existing gates and doors in the means of egress including all locking devices. Install approved fire doors with compliant panic hardware that cannot be locked in the direction of egress under any conditions.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.8 Doors and Gates	
Question:	Doors along the path of egress have a minimum width of 0.8 m (32 in) and have required ratings.	
Priority Level:	High	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	All doors were unrated.	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Unrated doors	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Remove all existing gates and doors in fire rated walls and assemblies. Install fire doors in these that are listed, approved, swinging, automatic-closing, in compatible fire rated frames with latching panic hardware.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.5.6 Minimum Widths. Increased occupant loads will require a door width greater than 0.8 m.	

Question:	All doors in a means of egress are of the side-hinged swinging type.	
Priority Level:	High	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	Sliding gates are installed in he means of egress.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Sliding metal collapsible gate in means of egress	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Remove all existing doors and gates in the means of egress. Install side-hinged doors with approved hardware that swing in the direction of egress.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.8 Doors and Gates	
Question:	Occupant loads are posted for every assembly and production floor in a conspicuous space near the main point of egress.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records of occupant loads were posted during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: No postings of occupant loads were observed.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Post the occupant load for all assembly and production floor areas in a conspicuous space near the main exit or exit access doorway for the space in accordance with Alliance Standard Section 6.4.4.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.4.4 Posting of Occupant Load	
Question:	Emergency power for means of egress illumination is verified at least once per year. If battery operated lights are used, these lights are tested on a monthly basis. Functional testing of battery powered lights is provided for a minimum 90 min once per year.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records or documents of testing were found or provided during the visit	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No records or documents were found or provided.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Develop a testing and maintenance program that ensures the emergency power for all egress lighting is verified at least once per year. If battery-operated lights are used, these lights shall be tested on a monthly basis. Functional testing of battery powered lights shall be provided for a minimum 90 min once per year.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 10 Section 10.12 Illumination of Exit Signs and Means Of Escape Lighting	

Question:	Illuminated exit signs are placed at entrances to exits and along the path of egress anywhere the continuation of egress is not obvious or there is a change in the direction of the path of travel.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	Illuminated exit signs were installed at exits.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Non-illuminated exit sign in path of egress	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide continuously illuminated exit signs. Signs shall be placed at all required exits and along egress paths, especially where there is a change in direction for the path of travel.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.11 Exit Signs	
Question:	Changes in elevation of walking surfaces do not exceed 6.35 mm (1/4 in) unless provided with a beveled slope of 1 in 2 that does not exceed 12.7 mm (1/2 in).	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	One of the egress doors in Shed 1 has a step threshold at the door which is a tripping hazard.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Step threshold at egress door	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Regrade walking surfaces to create a smooth and level egress path.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 6.3.4 Walking Surfaces	
Question:	Illuminated exit signs are provided with battery backup or emergency power and are continuously illuminated.	 
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	Several illuminated exit signs were found to not be continuously illuminated during the visit. In addition, some exit signs installed are not illuminated signs.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Non-illuminated exit sign 2) Illuminated exit sign that is not continuously illuminated	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide an emergency power source (battery back-up or connection to emergency power system) for illuminated exit signs. Replace non-illuminated exit signs with illuminated signs.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.11 Exit Signs and Part 10 Section 10.12 Illumination of Exit Signs and Means of Escape	
Question:	Emergency power for exit signs is tested at least once per year. If battery operated, these lights are tested on a monthly basis. Functional testing of battery powered signs is provided for a minimum 90 min once per year.	

Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records or documents of testing of exit signs or batteries were found or provided during the visit	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: No records or documents were found or provided.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Develop a testing and maintenance program that ensures the emergency power for exit signs is verified at least once per year. If battery-operated signs are used, these signs shall be tested on a monthly basis. Functional testing of battery powered signs shall be provided for a minimum 90 min once per year.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 10 Section 10.12 Illumination of Exit Signs and Means Of Escape.	
Question:	Ramps do not have a running slope greater than 1 in 8 (12.5 percent) and have handrails on both sides of the ramp.	 
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	2	
Description:	There are ramps in the main egress path in both Shed 2 and Shed 3. There are not handrails installed on these ramps and they have a running slope greater than 1 in 8.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Existing ramp in Shed 2 2) Existing ramp in Shed 3	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Correct the running slope of the ramps to be less than 1 in 8 and provide handrails on both sides of the ramp.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 6 Section 10 Ramps	
Question:	All paths of egress are provided with compliant means of illumination.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	1	
Description:	Some emergency lights were installed.	
Source of Findings:	Visual Assessment: Insufficient exit lighting	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Install emergency lighting for all paths of egress. Illumination needs to be a minimum of 10 lux for all corridors, exit doors and stairways. Illumination for aisles needs to be a minimum of 2.5 lux.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 6 Section 6.7 Egress Illumination and Part 10 Section 10.12 Illumination of Exit Signs and Means Of Escape	
Fire Safety Programs		
Question:	Are the required number of people trained and certified in fire fighting, first aid, and rescue training by the appropriate authority.	
Priority Level:	High	

Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records or documents of people trained and certified in fire fighting were found or provided during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No training documents were found or provided.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Provide training and certification for the required number of people in fire fighting, first aid, and rescue training by an appropriate authority in accordance with the Alliance Safety Training Curriculum.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standard Part 13 Human Element Programs	
Question:	An emergency evacuation plan has been developed and communicated to all employees.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records or documents of an emergency evacuation plan were provided or found during the visit	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No documents were provided or found	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Develop an emergency evacuation plan in accordance with the Alliance Standard and communicate the plan to all employees.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.1 Fire Safety Director	
Question:	Emergency egress maps are posted at the entrance to each exit stair or main point of egress.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	Emergency egress maps are not posted at exits. A few egress maps were posted along the main path of egress.	
Source of Findings:	Photograph: 1) Emergency egress map posted at main egress path in Shed 1.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Create and post emergency evacuation maps at each point of egress.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.4 Evacuation Plan	
Question:	Training programs are implemented and documented in accordance with the Alliance Safety Training Curriculum.	
Priority Level:	Medium	
Non-Compliance Level:	2	
Description:	No records of training programs were provided or found during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No documents provided or found	

Suggested Plan of Action:	Training programs need to be implemented and documented in accordance with the Alliance Safety Training Curriculum.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13	
Question:	A Fire Safety Director position has been filled.	
Priority Level:	Low	
Non-Compliance Level:	3	
Description:	No records or documents of a Fire Safety Director were provided or found during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No records were provided or found.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Create a Fire Safety Director position and fill the position woth an individual that has sufficient training to be able to carry out the required duties in accordance with Alliance Standard Section 13.1.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.1 Fire Safety Director	
Question:	Fire Department pre-planning has been completed.	
Priority Level:	Low	
Non-Compliance Level:	2	
Description:	No records of fire department pre-planning were provided or found during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No records were provided or found.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Complete Fire Department pre-planning activities with the local Fire Service and Civil Defense in accordance with Alliance Standard Section 13.1.1(2).	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.1 Fire Safety Director	
Question:	A written housekeeping policy is established and enforced.	
Priority Level:	Low	
Non-Compliance Level:	2	
Description:	No records or documents of a written housekeeping policy were found or provided during the visit.	
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No records or documents were found or provided.	
Suggested Plan of Action:	Establish written corporate and plant policies on housekeeping to ensure scheduled cleaning for floor, wall, ceiling, supply and return air ventilation systems. Promptly reschedule skipped cleanings. Provide a documented line of authority for authorizing a cleaning delay and rescheduling.	
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014	
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.6 Housekeeping	

Question:	A hot-work permit program has been established.
Priority Level:	Low
Non-Compliance Level:	2
Description:	No records or documents If a hot-work permit program were found or provided during the visit.
Source of Findings:	Document Review: No documents were provided or found.
Suggested Plan of Action:	Develop a hot work permit program. The program must comply with the requirements of NFPA 51B.
Suggested Deadline Date:	31 Dec 2014
Standard:	Alliance Standards Part 13 Section 13.4 Hot Work Permit and NFPA 51B