



Modern Slavery in the packaging sector: more than just a statement

Client's objectives

Carbon Smart worked with a global plastic packaging and supply chain manufacturing and services business to address the potential risk of modern slavery in their supply chain. The business designs and manufactures packaging solutions for customers around the world in retail, catering, food manufacturing, and packing sectors; specialising in food trays and films from various polymers.

When it comes to sustainability, the business is on the front foot and is committed to continuously reduce the environmental impact of their products. The packaging business welcomed the introduction of the UK Modern Slavery Act in 2015 and saw this as **an opportunity for the business to address decent work practices in their supply chain to a common standard.**

Due to the complexity of its global supply chain, the challenge for the business was determining where to begin. Although most the business's tier one suppliers are in regulated economies markets, **the risk across the supply chain was relatively unknown and diverse.** Furthermore, with a decentralised business model, the business required an approach that could be adapted to their individual sites and their needs. Determined to find a pragmatic approach, the supply chain team needed help with developing a credible method to be documented in the business's modern slavery statement.

The project

When it comes to managing the risk of modern slavery in a business's operations and supply chain, there is no one size fits all. To gain a full appreciation of the business's exposure to risk and how the procurement leads operate, Carbon Smart performed three key activities:

- **A modern slavery risk assessment reviewing the potential risk of over 2,000 suppliers** - to help the supply chain team prioritise and focus on the greatest exposure to risk, we carried out a supplier risk assessment across 25 countries and over 20 sectors which identified the 1st, 2nd and 3rd priority suppliers for the business to focus their attention on
- **Internal supply chain management review** - our team interviewed key procurement leads across sites to understand where additional modern slavery checks could be inserted into the current day to day processes. Moreover, exiting procedures, codes and tools were reviewed and updated to include modern slavery considerations

