

# SAFEGUARDS

SGS CONSUMER TESTING SERVICES

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SOLUTIONS

NO. 122/12 AUG 2012

## EXEMPTION TO WORKING HOURS LIMITS IN BANGLADESH

On April 12 2012, the Bangladesh government published an official notice in their Gazette of an exemption to limits on overtime hours permitting factories to extend their working hours to up to 4 hours per day of overtime instead of 2 hours per day without negotiating any special permission from the workforce.

This exemption which took effect on 22 March 2012 and will run until 22 September 2012. It means that factories can extend overtime to 24 hours per week making a total working week of 72 hours per week. With this exemption Bangladesh put's itself well outside both ILO recommendations and most acknowledged Codes of Conduct and labour standards.

All other conditions concerning rest breaks, overtime payments and other benefits continue to apply.

It is believed that most factories will take advantage of this exemption in order to cope with the peak season in their production of export orders and this may well result in heightened interest by NGOs and others in the treatment of workers in the Bangladesh garment sector.

### SGS SERVICE

SGS assists clients in developing and executing social compliance programs on sustainable basis against the violation of workers' right. Our services covered social responsibility issues included business integrity, social, environmental, health and safety) and encompass various organisations, products, services and supply chains.



For more information, please contact us.

### FOR ENQUIRIES:

Global Competence Support Centre: [gpsc@sgs.com](mailto:gpsc@sgs.com)  
UK- Effie Marinos, Tel: +44 (0) 208 991 3410 or [Effie.Marinos@sgs.com](mailto:Effie.Marinos@sgs.com)  
BD-Saiad Rubbani, Tel: +880 2 986 2740, or [saiad.rubbani@sgs.com](mailto:saiad.rubbani@sgs.com), [jahangir.hosain@sgs.com](mailto:jahangir.hosain@sgs.com)

Asia – Hong Kong. Tel: +852 2334 4481 Fax: +852 2144 7001 [mktg.hk@sgs.com](mailto:mktg.hk@sgs.com)  
Australasia – Perth. Tel: +61 (0) 3 9790 3418 Fax: +61 (0) 3 9701 0988 [au.cts@sgs.com](mailto:au.cts@sgs.com)  
Europe – London – UK. Tel: +44(0) 203 008 7860 Fax: +44 (0) 203 00 7870 [gb.cts.sales@sgs.com](mailto:gb.cts.sales@sgs.com)  
Africa & Middle East – Turkey. Tel: +90 212 368 40 00 Fax: +90 212 296 47 82 [sgs.turkey@sgs.com](mailto:sgs.turkey@sgs.com)  
Americas – USA. Tel: +1 973 575 5252 Fax: +1 973 575 7175 [uscts.inquiries@sgs.com](mailto:uscts.inquiries@sgs.com)

[www.sgs.com/cts](http://www.sgs.com/cts) Global Competence Support Centre: [gpsc@sgs.com](mailto:gpsc@sgs.com)  
If you wish to unsubscribe to this technical bulletin, go here: [Unsubscribe](#)

© 2012 SGS SA. All rights reserved. This is a publication of SGS, except for 3<sup>rd</sup> parties' contents submitted or licensed for use by SGS. SGS neither endorses nor disapproves said 3<sup>rd</sup> parties contents. This publication is intended to provide technical information and shall not be considered an exhaustive treatment of any subject treated. It is strictly educational and does not replace any legal requirements or applicable regulations. It is not intended to constitute consulting or professional advice. The information contained herein is provided "as is" and SGS does not warrant that it will be error-free or will meet any particular criteria of performance or quality. Do not quote or refer any information herein without SGS's prior written consent.

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

SGS