



# Responsible Supply Chain

Edwards Lifesciences values its relationships with our suppliers. We are committed to conducting business only with suppliers who adhere to ethical business practices, act in an environmentally responsible manner, encourage workplace health and safety, adopt good human resources policies and practices and abide by all applicable laws. We regularly perform a variety of actions and activities to ensure that the services and materials provided to our company meet this commitment.

## **CALIFORNIA TRANSPARENCY IN SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2010**

The California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010 requires many manufactures, including Edwards Lifesciences, to disclose their activities in monitoring their supply chains to prevent human trafficking and slavery. These disclosures are intended to allow businesses and consumers to make more informed decisions about the products they choose to purchase and the companies they choose to support.

## **SUPPLIER ASSESSMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Prior to engaging a new supplier, Edwards Lifesciences typically evaluates the supplier through a risk-based assessment process. Our assessment may initially include a supplier questionnaire and an audit of their facilities, quality system and business practices, and subsequently may include follow-up visits and reviews.

## **SUPPLIER PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

Edwards Lifesciences is committed to continuous improvement in its supply chain. To that end, we periodically monitor the business performance of our key suppliers through periodic performance and objectives discussions and reviews.

## **SUPPLIER AUDITS**

Edwards Lifesciences periodically audits suppliers to confirm compliance to performance and quality standards. Verifications and factory audits may be performed directly by our company or by third parties. Audits are typically pre-planned events with the supplier. Our audits verify suppliers' compliance with our written agreements and quality systems requirements. Audit findings and recommendations are discussed with each supplier's facility management. The supplier is expected to address all issues arising from the audit and Edwards Lifesciences validates the supplier's corrective actions during follow-up audits or reviews.



## **SUPPLIER AGREEMENTS**

Edwards Lifesciences generally has supply contracts, quality agreements and/or purchase order terms and conditions with its suppliers. These documents include the supplier's agreement to comply with all laws applicable to the supply of services or materials to Edwards Lifesciences.

## **EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND COMPLIANCE**

All Edwards Lifesciences employees are required to comply with our company's global business practice standards. These standards include the company's commitment not to produce or manufacture goods using forced or sweatshop labor, or indentured child labor. Our employees participate in periodic training on the company's business practice standards to enhance understanding and compliance with these standards. In addition, we audit compliance with our business practice standards, investigate potential violations and, when appropriate, take remedial and/or disciplinary action.

Edwards Lifesciences has educated our key supply chain personnel on the purpose and intent of the Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010. We also inform our supply chain managers on how they can further promote the law's objectives with our suppliers and be more conscious of working conditions at supplier's facilities. In an effort towards building a socially and environmentally responsible supply chain, we also factor our supplier's demonstrated labor compliance practices and socially responsible behavior in our purchasing decisions.

\* \* \*

Edwards Lifesciences is committed to ensuring that our supply chain partners are good corporate citizens, deal fairly in business matters, behave ethically, support a safe and healthy workplace, act in an environmentally responsible manner and comply with applicable laws. We regularly undertake numerous activities, including the activities described above, to satisfy ourselves and others that the products and services provided to Edwards Lifesciences meet this commitment.