

December 07, 2017

Dear Ms. Ebert,

We appreciate your effort to draw attention to the situation of the garment and shoe industry in Central, East and South East Europe in order to raise awareness and contribute to an improvement of workers' lives.

s.Oliver takes the implementation of appropriate social standards at supplier factories very seriously. Before starting a business relationship, we assess through social audits if the supplier fulfills our defined s.Oliver principles and guidelines. If the initial audit shows that the standards at the factory comply with our requirements, the supplier will then be added to our supplier base and be monitored on a regular basis.

The complex structures of garment supply chains also induce certain social challenges, like e.g. the enforcement of a living wage. To identify and successfully implement solutions to these challenges, cooperation between the various global stakeholders (textile industry, international politics, NGOs, national governments) is key.

This is one of the reasons why, in 2015, s.Oliver joined the German Partnership for Sustainable Textiles. One of the overall goals of the Partnership is the improvement of social working conditions in the global textile production, with the enforcement of living wages being one of the focal topics. To support the Partnerships' objectives, s.Oliver is actively working together with other brands, NGOs and government representatives.

Yours sincerely,

the s.Oliver Sustainability Team