

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this a convergence of standards?

No, the convergence is around a tool and verification methodology and is standard agnostic.

Does the SAC own the project?

No, the SAC is solely facilitating the project at the Project Management Team level. The SAC does not own the work, nor the outcomes.

What is required to become a member and what does it cost?

There is no cost to join the project at this time, however we do request that signatories participate in the working groups and relevant organizations ultimately adopt the tool and verification methodology in lieu of their proprietary tools.

How do I sign up?

With your organization's senior management consent, you can become signatory by confirming in an email to Janet Mensink, the Project Director (janet@apparelcoalition.org).

Can I join a working group?

Yes, when signing up for a working group, you can reach out to the Project staff or the co-chairs of the Working Group to get up to speed on the status of the work. Note that as the project is progressing, some decisions, such as the strategy, are final. The strategy was developed in the Working Groups, refined by the Project Management Team and approved by the Steering Committee (June 2016).

Can the tool under development be used across industries or would it be specific only to textile/garment factories?

The current version of the tool (question set) is set up in a way that does not apply to just apparel and footwear facilities, but could also be used to measure social and labor conditions in facilities producing other products. Once we have successfully completed and rolled out the project in our industry, the next step would be to scale up to other industries.

When will the tool and verification methodology be available?

This project launched in 2015 with an ambitious 2-year completion goal. The plan to launch this assessment methodology is Q2 2018.