

About SAFSA

Our Partners

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ASEAN PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

Laos



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Contributor of Competency of the Philippines

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ACCP Certification is an Opportunity for Everyone

The **ASEAN Common Competency Program (ACCP)** is a program which allows employees in the textile and garment industry to obtain formal recognition of the professional skills and knowledge they possess and obtain certification for their specific occupation. The certification is recognized by AFTEX country members and will allow workers to verify their skills to potential employers in other ASEAN countries; which will be a key advantage once the ASEAN Economic Community is realized in 2015 and there is freedom of movement of labor across the region. ACCP is the world's first regional work based standardization program for the textile and garment industry. To date, 187 employees in the garment and textile industry in 5 ASEAN member countries have been certified by ACCP in the following 5 specific job competencies, Sewing machine operator, Sewing machine supervisor, Sewing machine mechanic, Merchandiser and Pattern maker.

This unique program provides considerable benefits not only to the employee who receives formal certification of their working capabilities, but most importantly it gives employers a benchmark or a reference of the skills and knowledge of the employee. In the past, employers had to self assess potential employees to see if they were able to perform the required tasks in any given position, this often meant wasted man hours or reduced productivity. Now, an employer can be assured that the ACCP certified employee has the necessary knowledge, expertise and skills to perform the tasks required in the given position.

The advantages to the business owners to have their employees certified by ACCP are not simply related to the performance of their employees, but may also affect their standing in obtaining future orders from customers. Many international brands do not wish to have their names associated with sweat shop operations and now are placing a premium on factories which are being socially responsible. With ACCP certified employees, factory owners and employers can demonstrate their capabilities to produce a quality garment by skilled employees but also to highlight their dedication to develop their employees' skills.

ACCP this year has introduced 5 new competencies available for certification being Sewing machine operator, Level 2, Sewing machine mechanic, Level 2, Merchandiser, Level 3, Pattern maker – tops, Level 3 and Pattern maker – bottoms, Level 3. This new competencies are a progression from the first five and further advance the skills and knowledge of the candidates.

For more information on the ACCP, please contact VALUE Project Director Mike Blakeley at: mblakeley@nathaninc.com

Contact Us



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SAFSA Member Event in Hong Kong Confirmed!

The SAFSA team is pleased to announce that it will hold a members-only event on Tuesday March 27th, in Hong Kong. The event is timed to coincide with the Prime Source Forum, a leading industry event, which is taking place in Hong Kong during March 28-30. The scheduled activities will include a roundtable discussion on SAFSA, an analysis of results and activities, presentations from industry experts and a luncheon that will allow members to network with one another.

The event will be held at the Intercontinental hotel in Tsim Tsa Tsui, please contact the SAFSA team to reserve your place; we will be organizing preferential rates with the hotel for members. SAFSA has also organized a preferential rate for SAFSA members to attend the Prime Source Forum. For more information on the Prime Source Forum, please visit: www.primesourceforum.com.

In addition to the half-day SAFSA event, we would like to suggest that factory members make time to visit the Hong Kong offices of SAFSA Customer members. If you would like the VALUE office to facilitate a meeting, please contact us in advance or you can either visit www.sourceasean.com and view the "Contact information" for all of SAFSA Customer members.

We are hopeful that the Hong Kong networking event will provide members a chance to interact and learn about the latest industry developments in ASEAN, the U.S. and EU markets and beyond! Please contact Ms. Nuntana Tangwinit at the VALUE office for more information: nuntanat@nathaninc.org

New SAFSA Factory Member, Honsin Apparel Sdn. Bhd.

SAFSA would like to introduce and welcome a new SAFSA Factory member, Malaysian based, Honsin Apparel Sdn. Bhd. Honsin Apparel Sdn. Bhd is a leading garment manufacturer and part of the KLCE listed, Prolexus Group. The company has been operating since 1976, specializing in cut and sewn knitted and woven synthetic sportswear, mainly for export to the USA, EU and Japan.

Honsin Apparel is a preferential supplier to Nike and Under Armour, and specializes in providing quality products for export markets. At its state of the art manufacturing facility in Johor, Honsin Apparel is able to meet the most demanding requirements of its clients. The company has worked hard to establish a one stop service concept, allowing clients to select fabrics and colors onsite and even decide upon its stitching and fitting with the use of V-Stitcher software which simulates how the garment will perform on the end customer. Once its experienced sampling and pattern making staff are done, the latest technologies such as the Lectra CAM system, laser cutting machines, sublimation machines, heat seal machines and heat transfer machines are used to construct and

finish the garments.

This attention to detail has been rewarded with ISO 9001 Certification since the year 2000, WRAP Certification since 2007 and the OEKO-TEX Standard 100 in 2000. Honsin Apparel's extensive manufacturing experience, diversified production capabilities and dedication to quality control has made it a supplier of choice for many well-known brands and we are honored to have them in SAFSA. Please feel free to direct any enquiries to Mr. Kim Leng Png (GM) kl.png@honsinapparel.com
