

2005 Social Responsibility Update Highlights

We've updated our website as part of our commitment to provide insight into our operations and social responsibility efforts. In addition to publishing 2005 factory inspection and performance data, we've included information on some new initiatives and elements of our program that previously only appeared in our 2003 and 2004 social responsibility reports.

Inspecting Factories

Much of the data we've updated relates to the 2005 results of our inspections in the factories that make our clothes. These include:

- Factory approvals – Garment factories interested in producing clothes carrying one of Gap Inc.'s brand names need to undergo our evaluation process before we place orders.
- Ongoing factory inspections – Once a garment factory is approved, we strive to visit it at least once a year.
- Factory terminations – Although we prefer to work with factories to help them address problems, sometimes we must terminate our business relationship.

Find more information on the [2005 Factory Inspection Data](#) page.

Business Practices

This new section of our site describes our work to explore how business decisions and practices can impact working conditions.

- Improving Our Practices – Overview of a report by Women Working Worldwide assessing our product buying practices.
- Building Factory Relationships – How we're working to strengthen our relationships with factory management to improve working conditions.
- Performance-Based Decisions – An update on how we're working to include a factory's compliance with our standards in our buying decisions.
- Examining Factory Operations – Overview of two studies that assess the impact of factory business practices on working conditions.

Partnerships

- Working with Stakeholders – An updated list of some of our key partnerships.
- External Evaluations – Two evaluations of our social responsibility program conducted by Social Accountability International (SAI) and Verité, respectively, in 2004 that provided us with valuable feedback.
- Country-Specific Partnerships – Some of our most critical partnerships on the ground in the countries where our products are made.

Our Team

- Social Responsibility department expansion – Our Global Compliance team has evolved into a more fully integrated Social Responsibility department.

Environment

- Energy use data – Updated information on our efforts to conserve energy in our stores, distribution centers and headquarters buildings.
- Sustainable products – How we are exploring the use of sustainable fibers and products.
- Supply chain impacts – Initiatives that focus on helping the factories that make our products minimize their environmental impacts.