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Making suppliers aware of the Global Compact

Tipiak is committed to working with its suppliers to promote the 10 principles of the Global Compact.

Having signed up to the Global Compact, Tipiak is committed to instigating measures to change its working patterns and to apply the same approach to its strategy, culture and even its day-to-day activities. This year the Company has been actively working with its suppliers to promote the ten principles of the Global Compact.

With its strong brand image and markets leaders, Tipiak (1000 employees and seven production sites) has been able to develop original quality products in its two core businesses: "cold" (frozen ready-meals and cocktail products) and "dry" (dry grocery and crusty bread products).

The outcome of this approach can be seen in the series of actions that have taken place in conjunction with Tipiak divisions : Tipiak Epicerie, Tipiak Plats Cuisinés Surgelés, Tipiak Traiteur Pâtissier, Tipiak Panification (Gesnoin) and Tipiak Inc, and their suppliers (raw materials and packaging initially).

A lot of thought has gone into the changes that will affect the relationship between Tipiak and its partners. One example is the questionnaire sent to each new supplier which now contains a section entitled "Ethical, social and environmental commitment." This asks the supplier to ensure that goods sold to Tipiak are already produced under conditions that meet the ten principles of the Global Compact or to instigate an action plan to fulfil the criteria. This questionnaire is now in use and will become part of future contracts.
Suppliers of raw materials and packaging who have already been contacted and have submitted the form have received an acknowledgement signed by Tipiak's Chairman and MD. So far almost 450 suppliers from France and abroad have been told about the Global Compact and will be re-contacted by the end of the year.

Our General Purcasing Terms have also been redrafted to include a reference to the Global Compact. The document is currently awaiting approval and will then be given to suppliers as a rider to their General Sales Terms.

Finally audits carried out by our Quality Dept during inspections of suppliers have now been extended to include ethical, social and environmental issues. We ask : has the suppliers signed up to the Global Compact ? Has he heard about it ? Is he committed to its principles ? What is he doing to ensure he complies ? During 2006 all Tipiak divisions will be carrying out around 15 such audits.

The whole scheme has been a joint project by the Quality and Purchasing Depts. is on-going and will continue to be rolled out over the coming months.

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