



Information Bulletin

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1. Quality and Productivity Gainsharing For Sustaining the Improvement in Textile and Clothing

On 9th June, the eve of the Day of Light Industry, International Trade Centre conducted a workshop on Quality and Productivity Gainsharing For Sustaining the Improvement in Textile and Clothing. In the framework of the workshop Prof. Rajesh Bheda, ITC International Expert on Quality Management, familiarized representatives from 19 textile and clothing companies and 7 universities with the best practices on improving export competitiveness. Prof. Bheda has wide experience of analyzing production processes in T&C companies in such countries as India, Sri Lanka, Singapore Thailand, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, etc.

The workshop participants shared the gains of the programs and insights on the challenges faced during quality and productivity improvement journey in their organizations, they were able to learn from the experiences of fellow entrepreneurs and plan further improvement actions. One of the important issues for T&C enterprises is how to identify and eliminate Waste from the manufacturing and service industry. Prof. Bheda introduced “7 Waste” by using hands on exercises to explain the concepts related to different production systems. The special feature of the workshop was the Introduction to 'The Fish Philosophy', the key motivating employees and bring fun at the workplace.

Prof. Bheda also visited partner T&C companies to monitor implementation of his recommendations. In past 18 months the participating enterprises have made significant progress, for instance, a clothing company “Eline Moda” fully moved to the flow line production, introduced inter-process quality control, changed the system of remuneration of labour. On quality now their motto is “do not produce defects and do not handover defects.” The productivity per person has gone up from 12.2 garments to 15 garments.

In this issue:

1. Quality and Productivity Gainsharing For Sustaining the Improvement in Textile and Clothing
2. ITC brings “3G Tailor” to Revolutionize Seamstress Training
3. World Accreditation Day
4. Food Safety Assessment



1

2. ITC brings '3G Tailor' to Revolutionize Seamstress Training

The single biggest problem faced by the Kyrgyz light industry today is employees shortage and migration. The enterprises are struggling to train new workers and most workshops are half empty. To address this problem, International Trade Centre invited Rajesh Bheda Consulting (RBC) to conduct 'Train the Trainer' program on '3G Tailor' program. The program aimed to equip the trainers to train the sewing workers in less than a weeks time. The program was held from 17th June to 26th June and was directed by Dr. Rajesh Bheda, ITC Expert and CEO, RBC and conducted by ITC expert from RBC, Mr. Paul Collyer. Paul has over 40 years of experience in managing clothing factories, conducting train the trainer and providing consulting advise to factories in UK, India, China, Sri Lanka, Egypt Syria and Morocco.

The 24 trainers from Kyrgyz and Tajik clothing companies were introduced to the unique methodology of RBC's '3G Tailor' by that reduces the training time drastically by about 75% and improves trainee efficiency. The program has provided dramatic results in the leading factories in Sri Lanka, India, China and UK. The participants learnt principles of adult learning, effective communication, feedback and coaching skills. The videos of international best practices were used for analysing the methods of high performance operators and develop training programs for training specific skills. It was a unique opportunity for the Kyrgyz light industry to adopt '3G Tailor' and create 3G seamstresses. “I have been working as a technologist for about 20 years and trained hundreds of sewing machinists. I used to request from my trainees first of all the quality of seams and only then the speed. The training completely changed my notion of training new sewers, by using cycle times for setting targets, identifying potential output and improving layout of work station we would be able to reduce the training time of new recruits and improve their efficiency substantially” said Ms. Ainura Niyazalieva, chief technologist of Nazik factory.



3. World Accreditation Day

On June 9th with ITC support the Kyrgyz Accreditation Center marked World Accreditation Day, a global initiative jointly established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation-related activities.

This year's theme is based on how accreditation is used to support the work of Regulators. More and more Regulators throughout the world are recognising the benefits of using accreditation. This increased recognition from Regulators was reflected in a survey of the ILAC Membership carried out in 2010, which reported that accreditation is used and accepted to support Government policy in all the 55 economies that responded.

Accreditation provides confidence in the competence and integrity of conformity assessment activities that can be used to support the implementation of government policies and regulations that impact on health, welfare, security and the environment. Government departments and regulatory authorities may specify in their public policies, government specifications and regulations that accredited bodies be used, and so gain confidence that competent bodies have been used to determine compliance with laws, regulations and specifications.

It should be noted that the Kyrgyz Accreditation Centre (KAC) is ready for the pre-peer evaluation by the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), which will take place in September-October 2011 and be supported by ITC. Hopefully, in 2012 formal ILAC Peer Evaluation will be conducted and KAC will be accepted as a full member of ILAC, that would mean that it also becomes a signatory of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement. Stakeholders in foreign markets would recognize the test reports



issued by laboratories accredited by KAC when it becomes a full member of ILAC. KAC would also be able to assist other accreditation bodies in the Commonwealth of Independent States and accredit laboratories in other CIS countries.

2

4. Food Safety Assessment

An ITC International Consultant on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Issues visited Kyrgyzstan from May 23 to 27, 2011. The main objective was to work with the local consultant, Ms. Giulnara Jusupjanova, to finalise the matrix that describes the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies whose activities constitute the food safety regulatory system of Kyrgyzstan and to begin to formulate recommendations for reform. The matrix is not intended to show the legal mandates of the regulatory agencies, but rather the things that they actually do since it is the activities – not the mandates – that employ scarce resources and that may be in violation of WTO rules. The matrix should facilitate analysis to show identify gaps and duplication of activities, on the basis of which consideration can be given to options for revising the distribution of roles and responsibilities between agencies taking into account appropriate principles for efficient and effective administration. The matrix of activities is being validated through consultation with individual enterprises about their actual experience of food safety regulation by government agencies.

At the meeting with the Ministry of Economic Regulation (MER) Mr. Pankratov, Deputy Minister, raised the issue on establishing a new, single food safety authority in Kyrgyzstan. Mr. Gascoine's advice was that a decision to institute a single authority would probably be premature and that the formulation and adoption of a national food safety strategy would be a desirable prior step. If there is a nationally-agreed vision of what the food safety system should look like at some time in the future, a plan can be made for systematic progress towards the goal. That plan will have the great advantage of assisting development partners to work with the government and industry of Kyrgyzstan to address the highest priority needs for capacity building in appropriate sequence and without duplication of effort.

The issue was discussed with WB "One Health" project, IFC mission and officials from the Ministry of Economic Regulation, Ministry of Agriculture and ministry of Health. ITC strongly pressed the need for a national food safety strategy, and this idea was well received.

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