



FDRA Responsible Footwear Manufacturer Recognition Program

Frequently Asked questions

1. Who is eligible to be nominated for the Program?

Any footwear manufacturer that the FDRA Factory Enhancement & Sourcing Committee believes upholds the FDRA Footwear Production Code of Conduct (COC).

2. Can any member of FDRA nominate a factory?

Yes. Any member of the FDRA may nominate a factory during the twice-annual review period, held in June and October of each year.

3. Must a factory be a member of FDRA to receive the Recognition?

No, there is no requirement that a recognized factory join FDRA as part of its factory membership or International Footwear Affiliate Member (IFAM) program. Factories are strongly encouraged to explore FDRA membership and a recognized factory may join FDRA at a reduced rate if they so choose.

4. How long is the recognition valid?

The recognition is valid for 2 years, unless the FDRA Factory Enhancement & Sourcing Committee has determined there has been a serious breach of the COC, at which time they may revoke the recognition unilaterally.

5. If a factory is recognized by FDRA, does it need to continue Social Compliance Audits?

It is up to each company to determine if they will accept the recognition in lieu of conducting an audit. FDRA does not assume any responsibility for breach of the COC and each member company need to ensure they feel comfortable with the current status of the factory.

6. If a factory receives the recognition, does it mean that they are following the FDRA Footwear Production Code of Conduct 100%?

Factories that are granted recognition must not have any current breach of the Zero Tolerance items listed on page four of the COC. They must demonstrate continuous improvement in other areas identified as needing attention.

7. How do I gain access to the information used to determine that a factory upholds the FDRA Footwear Production Code of Conduct and receives recognition?

FDRA treats any underlying documentation used to nominate a factory for its Recognized Responsible Footwear Manufacturer program as business proprietary. Any non-proprietary information regarding this program can be found at FDRA.org in the Footwear Intel Center.

8. Is there a standardized audit template available that reflects the requirements of the FDRA Footwear Production Code of Conduct?

Yes. FDRA members may utilize the audit template found in FDRA's online Footwear Intel Center and conduct their own auditing if necessary.

9. Is there a cost associated with the FDRA recognition for either the factory or the company?

No, the FDRA seal of recognition is provided to factories free of charge, and member companies will not be charged for the use of the seal.

10. If I am a member of the FDRA, may I adopt the FDRA Footwear Production Code of Conduct for my own company?

Yes.

11. Is there a list of awarded factories and if so, may I see it?

Yes and Yes. Recognized factories will be listed on the program site within FDRA's Footwear Intel Center at FDRA.org and may be accessed by any FDRA member.