

DATATEC PLC

STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 54 OF THE MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2015

Introduction

Datatec Plc recognises that modern slavery practices can have severe, wide-ranging and long-lasting impacts on stakeholders and is therefore committed to preventing acts of modern slavery and human trafficking from occurring within its own business and within its supply chain, and expects its suppliers to adhere to the same standards.

Structure of the organisation

Datatec Plc is a subsidiary of Datatec Limited, a company incorporated in South Africa and listed on the JSE Limited, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Datatec Plc and its subsidiaries (“the Group”) work with a range of suppliers from major manufacturers and distributors of IT equipment and services to smaller organisations providing services or products.

Policies

As part of Group’s commitment to combating modern slavery, we have adopted The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, and in particular the sustainable supply chains: resources and practices detailed in the Responsible Business Alliance (formerly Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition) Code of Conduct (“The UN Principles”) (<http://www.eiccoalition.org/standards/code-of-conduct/>).

The UN Principles include obligations relating to the rights of individuals to freely chose employment, restrictions on the employment of young workers, prohibitions on excessive working hours, compliance with relevant laws relating to pay and benefits, humane treatment of workers and the prohibition of discrimination on grounds of race, colour, age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity or national origin, disability, pregnancy, religious belief or union membership. The UN Principles expect us to require our next tier supply chain to comply with it too.

We also comply with the Datatec Code of Conduct which applies across the Datatec Group. This requires us, among other things, to only do business with partners who share our ethical principles; to treat our employees with respect and fairness at all times; not tolerate any form of harassment or discrimination and to source all products without unlawful discrimination and in a manner supportive of mutually beneficial, long-term relationships. The Datatec Code of Conduct includes whistleblowing procedures.

Regular reporting of any breaches of the Code of Conduct is completed by Datatec, including any non-compliance with modern slavery legislative requirements. Any breaches reported will be advised to the Datatec Audit, Risk Compliance Committee along with the remedial actions undertaken.

Supply Chains

As part of our efforts to monitor and reduce the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring within our supply chains our Group is required to ensure that supplier contracts with all new suppliers comply with our Code of Conduct. In addition, guidance has been issued to all our affiliates in relation to the on-boarding of new suppliers, accordingly, our affiliates are to consider compliance with international laws (including modern slavery) in their appraisal of suppliers.

Risk and compliance

The Group regularly evaluates the nature and extent of our exposure to the risk of modern slavery occurring in our supply chain. We consider that the risk of modern slavery occurring in our first-tier supply chain is low because most of our major suppliers are large, industry leading organisations who have adopted their own anti-slavery policies and procedures.

Training

All of our employees are required to complete annually a training course based on our Code of Conduct, and to show that they have understood the Code of Conduct. The training course encourages employees to identify and report any potential breaches of our anti-slavery policies and gives details of our independent whistleblowing hotline.

COVID-19

In recent times, the world has experienced the COVID-19 pandemic, which has caused significant disruption to economies worldwide, with impacts on the ability to work within office environments, ability to travel, product availability and lead times amongst the business areas impacted broadly across commercial enterprises. We recognise that these conditions may have increased pressure on vulnerable people to experience or be exposed to the risk of exploitative practices. Datatec acknowledges that it must remain vigilant in assessing the impacts and potential impacts of the pandemic, investigate any potential modern slavery conditions that may be created and take action where required.

Further actions

The Group continually takes steps to minimise the risk of incidents of modern slavery and/or human trafficking occurring by ensuring suppliers confirm that they have complied with our Code of Conduct, and where necessary conduct audits on smaller suppliers in the first-tier supply chain.

Signature

This statement is made in accordance with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes Datatec Plc's slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year commencing 1 March 2020 and ending 28 February 2021.

SP Morris
Company Secretary
April 2021