How can you know if your supply chain is free of slavery?

The simple answer is you can’t possibly know if your supply chain is free of slavery. The Global Slavery Index estimates there are more than 40 million victims of modern slavery around the world today, many working in the supply chains of well-established corporations. New laws have been enacted to try and tackle the problem, and the regulatory and reputational risks for organisations are more pronounced than ever. The Modern Slavery in the Supply Chain Programme from CIPS will help you understand the biggest risks for your business, associated with human rights and slavery, and work to reduce the risks.

cips.org/source-responsibly
The **Benefits**

- Avoid the reputational damage that a connection with modern slavery causes
- Comply with legal requirements
- Manage the risk of supply chain disruption caused by suppliers being prosecuted
- Demonstrate responsible procurement
- Get recognition from investors and stakeholders for your Corporate Social Responsibility

**Need more help?**
Find out more about our Modern Slavery in the Supply Chain Programme at [cips.org/source-responsibly](http://cips.org/source-responsibly) or contact us at corporate.solutions@cips.org.

To find out about our Modern Slavery Awareness training course, visit [cips.org/modern-slavery-training](http://cips.org/modern-slavery-training).

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*On average there are at least three people exploited in the making of each smartphone.*

For example, cobalt is widely used in the lithium-ion batteries found in mobile devices. More than half the world’s supply of cobalt comes from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where child miners risk death to dig for it.

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**How it works**

The Modern Slavery in the Supply Chain Programme is designed to examine your supply chain policies, procedures and strategy in targeted detail. Acting as a catalyst for change, the programme helps you to achieve a sustainable supply chain, following the process set out below.

**Stage 1: Education**

Before embarking on further work, it can be a useful first step for all relevant staff to undergo training. This will build a shared awareness of the issue, a comprehensive understanding of legal requirements, and an introduction to how to produce a modern slavery statement for your organisation.

**Stage 2: Statement review, gap analysis and risk assessment**

To start, CIPS will review your Modern Slavery Statement, if you have one, and make suggestions for improvement.

Then we look for evidence of compliance of your responsible sourcing practices against best practice using a CIPS framework that covers 25 criteria under six dimensions – Leadership and Organisation, Strategy and Policy, People, Process and Systems, Reporting/Transparency, and Governance. This will result in a gap analysis to show where to target your efforts and a roadmap to reduce risks.

Finally, we provide a bespoke, risk-based categorisation of the main elements of your supply chain to highlight where the significant modern slavery-related risks are likely to be.

**Stage 3: Perform your own due diligence**

You may choose to conduct a detailed audit, or commission a third party to conduct an audit, of any suppliers which have been highlighted as higher potential risk. You may also encourage your suppliers to go through their own training and assessment of their supply chain.

**Stage 4: Action plan**

CIPS can work with you to close any gaps and support you to develop an action plan to mitigate risks.

"I’m delighted to be working with CIPS to develop a robust programme to reduce the risk of slavery in supply chains. I believe they are market leaders in offering this solution."

*Chris McCann, Corporate Modern Slavery Expert*