



Ethical Trading Initiative
Respect for workers worldwide

Ethical procurement in the healthcare sector: The first steps

Cleanmed conference, September 2013

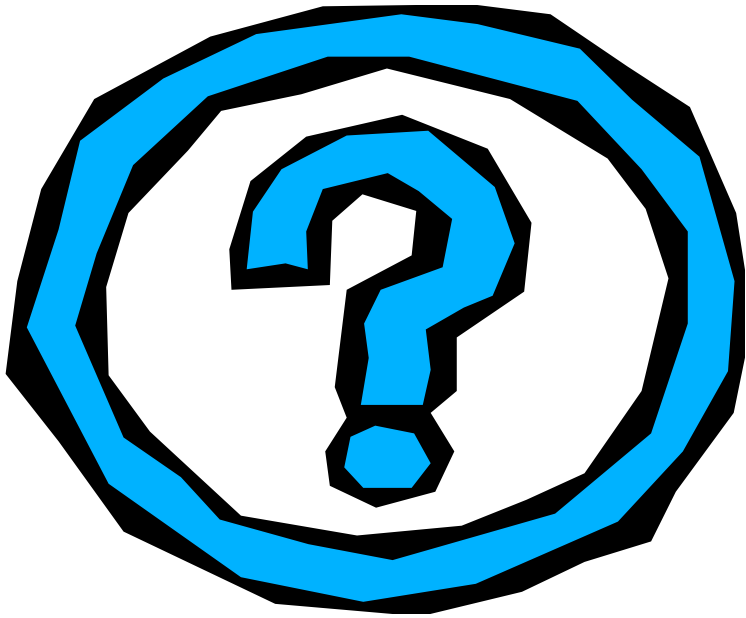
Stirling Smith, ETI trainer and ethical trade consultant



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What is ethical procurement?



‘Ethical procurement is about the overall sourcing practices of organisations and the steps they take to ensure that the rights of people who work in their supply chains are respected.’

This applies to UK supply chains too.

What are the ethical issues?



The ETI Base Code



1. Employment is freely chosen



2. Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining



3. Health and safety



4. Child labour



5. Living wages



6. Working hours



7. Freedom from discrimination



8. Regular employment



9. Humane treatment

Why do ethical procurement?

Improve working conditions in global supply chains



Improve the lives of vulnerable workers



Importance and benefits of ethical procurement in healthcare

- Over £30 billion spent by the NHS procuring goods and services in the UK and overseas.
- What are the benefits?

Speedy risk assessment

Consider whether:

- There are working conditions you would be concerned about
 - Vote to say if the risk is **high**, **medium** or **low**
1. Surgical instruments (Pakistan)
 2. IT services (India)
 3. Drinking glasses (France)
 4. Cleaning services (UK)

Case study: Welsh Health Supplies

Contract for uniforms



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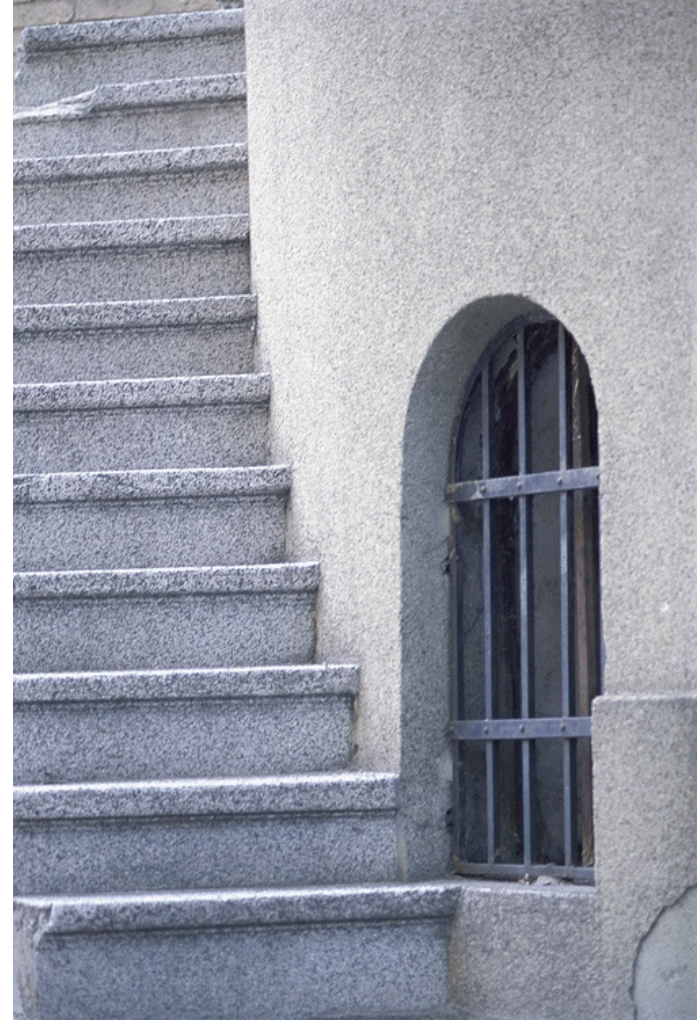
Case study: NHS Supply Chain

Surgical instruments tender



Taking action: 6 steps

1. Secure support
2. Introduce strategy
3. Improve knowledge
4. Self assessment
5. Achieve foundation level
6. Share your progress



Thank you

The Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) is a ground-breaking alliance of companies, trade unions and voluntary organisations. We work in partnership to improve the working lives of poor and vulnerable people across the globe who make or grow consumer goods – everything from tea to T-shirts, from flowers to footballs.

Ethical Trading Initiative

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