Verification Program for Facilities Environmental Module (FEM)

Tool/Program Synopsis:

What is it? A program established and managed by SAC's membership to verify the Higg Index Facilities Environment Module and potentially other Higg Index modules in the future.

Who uses it? Individuals who are interested in verifying Higg Index scores.

What does it do? The Verification Program establishes the guidelines and protocol for approving verifiers and conducting verifications of Higg Index FEM scores.

Why should someone use it? Trusted, credible Higg Index data provides better, more comparable benchmarking information for manufacturers so they can better evaluate where they stand as leaders or where they have opportunities to improve. This information can also be used by brands to inform sourcing decisions. One day it might also be used in public facing communication to help influence consumer purchasing practices.

Impact areas it measures:
Verification covers all impact areas assessed in the Facilities Environment Module.

Current Work:

The Verification Program was piloted tested on FEM 2.0 (the current version of FEM available on Higg.org) during 2015 and early 2016. Following the end of the pilot, feedback was collected and recommended improvements identified for relaunching an updated verification program with the release of FEM 3.0. Currently the updated program is under development with the Verification Task Team. Work underway includes:
* Updating Verifier Criteria
* Updating the Verification Protocol to include a robust chemicals management section and set of section/question applicabilities
* Updating the Verifier Training to reflect the updates made to FEM 3.0
* Developing testing opportunities for new portions of the program not piloted with FEM 2.0

Timeline:

* Summer/Fall 2016: Developing Interim FEM 2.0 Verification process & updating Verifier criteria, training, and protocol
* January 2017: Targeted testing for unique 3.0 features
* May 2017: Testing ends; feedback collected and final program development starts for launching with the release of FEM 3.0

Key Points:

210 FEM 2.0 Modules were verified during the Verification Pilot Program for FEM 2.0, which ran from July 2015 to January 2016.

Based on Verification Pilot feedback for 2.0 and the FEM 3.0 updates, the Verification Expert Panel and Verification Task Team members are **updating the Verification Program.** If you would like to get involved with this work please sign up.

Targeted testing for **updated verification components** will kick off in January of 2017.

Questions?

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More Information:

https://sac.imeetcentral.com/verification/