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Responsible Sourcing Policy

Responsible sourcing is our commitment to take into account social, ethical, and environmental considerations with regard to our products and supply chains and when managing our relationships with suppliers.

Suppliers should not give, offer, promise, or authorize anything of value to any person, including government official or their family members, for the purpose of improperly influencing official action or gaining an improper advantage.

Working in partnership with our supply chain AST recognises the impact we have on the environment and stakeholders throughout all our operational activities. We assess our risks and opportunities associated with procurement and sourcing at corporate and project level. We do not purchase from regimes and countries actively involved in persecution of any kind or war etc.

This policy sets out how we address these and how we expect our stakeholders to act in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

Goods and services: We are committed to and expect our supply chain partners to support us with, the sourcing of goods and services which generate positive impacts.

This means:

- Considering the impact on natural resources when choosing goods and materials.
- Promoting the application of 'Life Cycle Thinking' (Life cycle thinking is a holistic approach to thinking about the environmental impact of products beyond manufacturing to also include extraction, consumption, and end-of-life. This style of thinking considers the processes involved in the use of a product from the point of its creation to the end of its useful life.) during the specification, purchase, and supply process.
- Minimising the use of materials with a hazardous content and promoting the use of materials which can improve the environment.
- Procuring all new timber and wood-based products (for temporary and permanent use) from certified legal and sustainable sources. This includes Grown in Britain (GiB), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), ISPM15 cert., Chain of Custody evidence is required to confirm compliance.



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- Insisting that our subcontractors have an Environmental Policy and work to AST's environmental procedures to ensure compliance with relevant environmental protection laws and regulations.
- Encouraging our supply chain to implement or to be working towards a UKAS accredited third-party certified Environmental Management System.
- Encouraging our supply chain to become active members of the Supply Chain Sustainability School.
- Supporting and giving preference to procuring products which can demonstrate compliance with a recognised responsible sourcing scheme, certified by a third party, such as BES 6001 or Cradle to Cradle.
- Supporting and giving preference to waste management contractors that hold PAS402 certification.
- Eliminating excessive packaging, with a particular focus on single-use plastics, without having a negative impact on the delivered goods
- Recycling wherever possible.

People:

- We are committed to creating work environments where everyone feels safe, engaged, and supported to do their best. Therefore, all our suppliers are required to: Put the health and safety of anyone who could be affected by their activities at the heart of their operations.
- Respect human rights and treat their employees with dignity and respect and ensure that these values are upheld by their own supply chain, for instance, by proactively addressing risks of modern slavery and following the Ethical Trade Initiative guidelines.
- Demonstrate the necessary level of employee competence for all the tasks they undertake in our workplaces.
- Adhere to our Health and Safety Policy and cooperate on all matters of health and safety.

Supporting local economy: We support local economic regeneration through our procurement activities by:

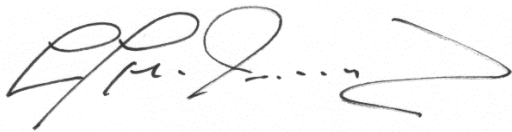
- Encouraging local procurement of materials and services where feasible.
- Supporting schemes that promote the principles of the Social Values Act such as GiB timber.
- Working with our supply chain partners and local agencies to find appropriate opportunities for skills, training, work experience and apprenticeships at a local level.
- Using local agencies, labour, and workforce where possible, creating a positive impact on local communities and encouraging our supply chain to do so too.

Implementation and review: We will ensure that AST employees and our supply chain members adhere to these responsible sourcing principles by:

- Disseminating this policy to our supply chain partners

- Requesting information on the social and environmental performance of our supply chain. If we have concerns about a chosen supplier's procurement practices, we will work with them to agree on a remediation plan.
- Integrating these requirements through our procedures and providing ongoing training and guidance to our commercial teams.
- Reviewing all of the above periodically.

Please also refer also to our: Environmental Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy, Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy, Anti-Corruption and Bribery Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. McDougall', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laurence McDougall

Managing Director

Date: June 2023