VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

- In 2010 VF supplier factory in Bangladesh That’s It Sportswear caught fire due to faulty wiring, resulting in the death of 29 workers. The factory had illegal construction, no proper fire exits, and many exit doors were locked. VF had repeatedly inspected the factory and yet had completely failed to address the safety hazards.

- The Worker Rights Consortium conducted a safety assessment of Optimum Fashion, a long-time VF contract factory producing collegiate apparel in Bangladesh and discovered the same significant violations, including “inadequate means for workers to escape the factory in the event of a fire”.

- This past June several workers were injured during a fire at Medlar Apparels, a factory that has supplied VF apparel as far back as 2007. This fire occurred after VF claimed to U.S. universities that it had “completed 100% of inspections at Bangladeshi factories where VF product is sourced.”

The Bottom Line

- Despite its sizeable presence in Bangladesh and evidence of mishandling of safety hazards in its factories, VF Corporation has refused to sign the Bangladesh Safety Accord, a legally-binding agreement between brands and unions – now signed by more than 150 brands and retailers – that holds the promise of bringing an end to the mass fatality disasters in Bangladesh garment factories.

As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

these low standards would NEVER be tolerated in the U.S.

Bangladeshis are people too and deserve to be paid a living wage in a job that doesn’t threaten their safety.

My name: Averyl Edwards

Signature Averyl Edwards
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

UNC gear is not worth people dying over.
These workers are people with families, friends, and dreams.
UNC is above collaborating with a company that takes advantage of others in such a heinous way.

My name: Lily Livingstone.
Signature: Lily Livingstone
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

in line with the Advisory committee at UNC's recommendation + other school's leadership + o/c. WE ARE HUMAN TOO.

My name: Tait Chandler

Signature
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because the cost of saving lives is worth paying, especially when it is so affordable.

My name: Andrew Dodd
Signature Andrew Dodd
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

Human welfare is more important than profit.

My name: [Name]

Signature: [Signature]
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

While I believe these workers should have a fair chance at living and being able to provide efficiently for themselves, as well as their family. They should be able to work in safe and healthy environments. Think about if you knew or had someone that worked in these environments, I’m sure things would be different.

My name: Diamond James
Signature: [Signature]
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

People that have jobs should feel safe and secure doing their jobs.

My name: Julia Snyder
Signature

Julia Snyder
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because even though the company does not operate directly in the U.S., the standards of workers should not be any different.

My name: Andrew Pruitt
Signature: Andrew Pruitt
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

I want all corporations to be held to a fair standard regardless of location or ties to large corporate brands.

My name: Cameron Warden
Signature: [Signature]
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because I want to realize rights for all.

I want to ensure that the rights of workers are respected and realized.

My name: Randy McKinnon

Signature
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

We’re supposed to set the Standard – we need to set the bar high on workers rights.

My name: Abigail Anees

Signature

[Signature]
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

- In 2010 VF supplier factory in Bangladesh That’s It Sportswear caught fire due to faulty wiring, resulting in the death of 28 workers. The factory had illegal construction, no proper fire exits, and many exit doors were locked. VF had repeatedly inspected the factory and yet had completely failed to address the safety hazards.

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

I expect more from our university than this complete lack of accountability and disregard for human rights. It's absolutely unacceptable!

My name: Katarina Caster
Signature

\[signature\]
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

I've can't have two different ethical standards; I believe that UNC is better than this.

My name: [Student Name]
Signature: [Signature]
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because I expect that my UNC act ethically in its business dealings. "Out of sight out of mind" cannot be the order of the day. The Bangladesh Safety Accord is an easy ethical way for UNC to ensure that all of the workers involved in university life – no matter how distant – are treated fairly and equitably.

My name: Mike Dingoff

Signature
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because we have the privilege to avoid working in unsafe factories. Worker’s safety is everyone’s priority, especially the university.

My name: Hallie Kirkman
Signature: Hallie Kirkman
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport to join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because the safety of everyone matters. Not just students.

My name: Camille Fullbright
Signature: [Signature]
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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- This past June several workers were injured during a fire at Meedar Apparels, a factory that has supplied VF apparel as far back as 2007. This fire occurred after VF claimed to U.S. universities that it had "completed 100% of inspections at Bangladeshi factories where VF product is sourced."

The Bottom Line

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because it's unethical to put people to work in hazardous conditions.

My name: Rashidah Richardson
Signature: [Signature]
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

people shouldn’t be dying to produce the clothes we wear.

My name: Molly Frank
Signature
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

Workers across the world should be afforded equal safety and security.

My name: Julie Hayes
Signature

Julie Hayes
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

these workers are the backbone of manufacturing and deserve to be protected.

My name: Amy Yang

Signature
VF’s Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

All workers deserve safe and dignified working conditions!

My name: Casey Crow
Signature: [Signature]
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

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As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

People's lives matter.

My name: Jalynn Harris

Signature: Jalynn H
VF's Deadly Sweatshop Incidents

- In 2010 VF supplier factory in Bangladesh That’s It Sportswear caught fire due to faulty wiring, resulting in the death of 29 workers. The factory had illegal construction, no proper fire exits, and many exit doors were locked. VF had repeatedly inspected the factory and yet had completely failed to address the safety hazards.

- The Worker Rights Consortium conducted a safety assessment of Optimum Fashion, a long-time VF contract factory producing collegiate apparel in Bangladesh and discovered the same significant violations, including “inadequate means for workers to escape the factory in the event of a fire”.

- This past June several workers were injured during a fire at Medlar Apparels, a factory that has supplied VF apparel as far back as 2007. This fire occurred after VF claimed to U.S. universities that it had “completed 100% of inspections at Bangladeshi factories where VF product is sourced.”

The Bottom Line

- Despite its sizeable presence in Bangladesh and evidence of mishandling of safety hazards in its factories, VF Corporation has refused to sign the Bangladesh Safety Accord, a legally-binding agreement between brands and unions – now signed by more than 150 brands and retailers – that holds the promise of bringing an end to the mass fatality disasters in Bangladesh garment factories.

As a UNC student, I want UNC to require apparel licensee VF Corporation/Jansport join the Bangladesh Safety Accord because

- not taking responsibility for actions is wrong

My name: [Signature]

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we have the power to support workers struggling for safety, dignity, and a better life. I'm not ashamed to admit I cried the night you endorsed the Alliance, Tom Ross, because I felt our school had let down and taken a stance against the workers in Bangladesh who have become my friends and heroes in their fight for improved conditions. You can change all this so easily.

My name: Naomi B. Calhoun

Signature

[Signature]
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the people that work are important too!

My name: Damien Washington

Signature

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Lavoratori del mondo UNITEVI!

My name: Emillianu Guardado

Signature [Signatures]