

# Overseas Trip Report

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<b>Name:</b>	Alistair Leadbetter
<b>Supplier/Partner Visited:</b>	Oasis
<b>Name &amp; designation of key contacts:</b>	David How [Managing Director], James Khan [Operations Manager]
<b>Date &amp; Duration of visit:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2013
<b>Circulate report to:</b>	Execs, Nicky, Chris, Penny, Zenen, Susan McEwan, Stephen Morris, Carolyn Reynolds

Oasis are the manufacturers of the fair trade coffins that are being supplied via JC Atkinson to Co-op FuneralCare.

The business is continuing to make strong efforts to follow up on last year's assessment. The factory has been redesigned and now looks more like a production line. The following changes are worthy of note:

The casual workers at ESN have now been given short term [6 month] contracts, have been trained on H&S and Fair Trade, their working environment has been made safer and they have been involved in the various activities such as staff picnics with the workers on the EPZ.

There is currently a significant work going into planning the Workers Welfare Association [WWA] which will form the function of a Workers' Committee. The WWA will have management of pot of money, some of which may come from worker contributions, which will allow the WWA to deliver such services as literacy training or savings schemes. The training necessary for the workers will come from Supoth, a local NGO with which Oasis have a positive and strong relationship.

A Dutch nurse who lives in Bangladesh has carried out first aid training and health and safety training.

There has been training on Fair Trade given to workers and there is an improved understanding. David has attended the WFTO-Asia conference and so the organisation's engagement with the wider movement has increased. There has also been some awareness-raising among the Chinese willow producers.

The topic of prefinancing has not been discussed anywhere within the coffin supply chain and it would appear that this is limiting Oasis' ability to develop and expand. Since OTTL is a UK based organisation, then funds would available if necessary

I have taken the last assessment scores [from July 2012] and updated them to reflect the changes made by Oasis.

Criteria	July 2012	Feb 2013
1. Creating opportunities for economically disadvantaged producers/workers	Green	Green
2. Transparency and accountability (structure, practices and communication)	Green	Green
3. Trading practices (relationship with producers/workers)	Green	Green
4. Payment of a fair price / fair wage	Green	Green
5.A Child labour	Green	Green
5.B Forced labour	Green	Green
6.A Non-discrimination	Green	Green
6.B Freedom of association	Green	Green
7.A Working conditions (wages, benefits, working hours)	Green	Green
7.B Health and Safety	Yellow	Green
8. Capacity building (economic and social)	Yellow	Yellow
9. Promotion of Fair Trade	Yellow	Green
10. Environment (sustainability, resources and waste management)	Yellow	Green