

Brands outline purchasing practices

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SAN FRANCISCO - Several of the world's major apparel brands and retailers have described how changing their purchasing practices resulted in improved working conditions and cost reductions.

The details can be found in a new report, *Best Current Practices in Purchasing: The Apparel Industry*, which outlines how after years of turning to suppliers to reduce factory compliance violations, companies such as Gap, Inc., Timberland, Nike, Levi Strauss & Co., Nordstrom, Jones Apparel, and Phillips-Van Heusen, are now looking inward to learn how their corporate practices have a negative impact on suppliers.