

*“Varner Group’s Response”, 23 May 2021*

*The “Unfinished Business” report highlights important features related to the safety work that has been ongoing under the Accord and RSC in Bangladesh. And the report seems to have two conclusions that we agree with:*

*First, the report underlines that the progress on safety in apparel factories in Bangladesh has been unprecedented and that the work on factory safety under the Accord and RSC these last 8 years has been a success. Varner is proud to have contributed to that progress in collaboration with the unions and the industry in Bangladesh.*

*Secondly, it is highlighted that the work on safe factories in Bangladesh is not finished. We agree, it is not. There are still crucial safety elements that need to be addressed, and work with industrial safety is never a job done. It is an ongoing process that need to happen every day, every week, every month, and every year. For this reason, we will continue the work to ensure factories we cooperate with in Bangladesh are safe places to work with no risk of injury. Varner will continue this work with the same intensity and focus going forward as we have for the last 8 years.*

*This being said, the report has fundamental errors related to the number of factories used (or having previously been used) by our company. It also misrepresents the status of progress that has been made. For this reason we do not consider the report to be accurate or correct in representing the status of safety in factories used by Varner.*