

Verhulst and Friends

Disclosure Report
Date Submitted: March 31st, 2025



Disclosure Materials

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

B Lab's Public Complaints Process

Any party may submit a complaint about a current B Corp through B Lab's Public Complaint Process. Grounds for complaint include:

- Intentional misrepresentation of practices, policies, and/or claimed outcomes during the company's certification process
- 2) Breaches of the B Corp Community's core values as expressed in our Declaration of Interdependence

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company.



Disclosure Questionnaire

Industries and Products

Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals **Disclosure Alcohol Disclosure Firearms Weapons Disclosure Mining Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels \square Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human \square **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** \square **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High **Interest Lending Water Intensive Industries** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Tax Advisory Services

Outcomes & Penalties

	Yes	No	
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.			
Anti-Competitive Behavior		\searrow	
Breaches of Confidential Information		V	
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption		N.	
Company has filed for bankruptcy		\checkmark	
Consumer Protection		V	
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		N	
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		N	
Labor Issues		V	
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		N	
Litigation or Arbitration		V	
On-Site Fatality		V	
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		N	
Political Contributions or International Affairs		N	
Recalls		V	
Significant Layoffs		V	
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		V	
Other		\checkmark	



Practices

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		V
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		V
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		V
Company workers are prisoners		\searrow
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		
Confirmation of Right to Work		V
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		\checkmark
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		N.
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		\vee
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		K
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		\vee
No signed employment contracts for all workers		V
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		\vee
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		V
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		Ŋ
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		\searrow
Workers paid below minimum wage		N
Workers Under Bond		V
Other	N.	

Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		V
Child or Forced Labor		N
Negative Environmental Impact		V
Negative Social Impact		V
Other		✓



Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Other - Clients in Ineligible Industries

Topic	Clients in Ineligible Industries
Summary of Issue	Verhulst and Friends has clients in the following industries: Fossil Fuels producers and Gambling.
	The types of services offered to these clients include: • Events, communications, and sponsorship services.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In the last fiscal year, 4,43% of the company's annual revenue was from clients in the Fossil Fuels industry, and 1,61% from the Gambling industry.
Impact on Stakeholders	Companies that work with clients in controversial industries can directly or indirectly increase the harmful impact on stakeholders by enabling business growth. Therefore, companies that work with clients in these industries should have practices in place to ensure that their impact is aimed at decreasing the negative impacts of the industry.
	Companies offering certain types of services and products to controversial clients are required to have at a minimum a grievance/complaints mechanism and a whistleblower protection policy.
Implemented Management Practices	Verhulst and Friends has the following mechanisms in place to manage the risks associated to serving clients in the controversial industries:
	Grievance/complaints mechanism. This is accessible to the public through a Whistleblower Policy available on the company's website, which includes all the available channels to raise a grievance. Once a grievance is submitted, the individual will receive a written acknowledgment within 7 calendar days. The grievance will be processed in a fair, timely, and independent manner, and every effort will be made to maintain strict confidentiality throughout the procedure. The identity of the person raising the grievance will only be known to the designated grievance manager unless disclosure is required by law or necessary for the investigation. In such cases, the whistleblower will be informed in advance, and their explicit



consent will be requested, where applicable. A formal response will be provided within a maximum of 3 months, and the person who submitted the grievance will be kept informed throughout the process. If the grievance is not retained, the stakeholder will receive a written explanation detailing the reasons. If the grievance is considered admissible, the stakeholder will be kept regularly updated during key phases of the process.

Whistleblower Protection Policy. The Policy includes the company's commitment to protect whistleblowers from retaliation, in accordance with Belgian legislation. This framework leaislation establishes protection for whistleblowers by transposing the European 2019/1937. The company has established internal mechanisms to ensure effective whistleblower protection and prevent any form of retaliation, such as:

- An internal whistleblower officer is appointed to receive and manage all reports independently, confidentially, and impartially.
- A dedicated and secure communication channel, distinct from other reporting tools, to ensure privacy and data protection.
- The possibility for whistleblowers to remain anonymous, provided that the nature of the report allows for proper investigation under such conditions.
- Strict confidentiality procedures, with access to information limited to individuals directly involved in the handling and resolution of the case.
- Awareness and training of relevant personnel, to ensure respectful and non-retaliatory handling of whistleblowing cases.
- Ongoing monitoring of the whistleblower's situation, to detect and prevent any direct or indirect form of retaliation.

Whistleblowers who believe they have faced retaliation may file a written complaint. Any retaliation complaint will be investigated promptly, and appropriate corrective actions will be taken if the retaliation allegations are substantiated.

Report

Whistleblower Protection Policy link