



Dressmann Cubus BIKBOK WOOD VIVIKES VOLT urban. CARLINSB WEAMBUSS

12.05.2014

HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION

Important information from The Varner Group regarding Sandblasting

In accordance with *The Varner Group Code of Conduct* a ban on sandblasting has been effective since 2. November 2010. The reason being risk of respiratory diseases like silicosis and other health related threats. The use of sandblasting is banned in all our product lines across all brands.

Sandblasting is one of several techniques used to create the worn denim look. When sandblasting is used, rigorous work practices must be in place to protect factory workers from potentially serious harm resulting from exposure to silica (a compound found in sand). However, reports and studies show that even if appropriate health and safety measures are taken, sandblasting still represents a high risk for workers.

As a leading brand, it is important to support a common goal for the textile industry to eliminate sandblasting. The following applies for The Varner Group:

- **Sandblasting shall not be used for any product**
- **Factories shall not have sandblasting equipment available for use**

There are several alternative methods to sandblasting. For the Varner Group it is important that alternative methods are in line with our ethical guidelines and do not represent a risk to the workers in production lines.

Please confirm by return e-mail that this information was received, understood and accepted. In advance, thank you for your understanding and your co-operation.

For any other questions, please contact Head of CSR Vegard Neverlien
Vegard.Neverlien@varner.no

With regards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marius Varner".

Marius Varner
CEO
The Varner Group