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Steps	Guidance	Key Notes
<b>1</b> Joining Sedex & Setting Up Your Account	Joining Sedex & Paying For Your Account  <a href="#">video for non-members</a> <a href="#">video for members</a> 	<b>Note:</b> Please visit the <a href="#">Sedex website</a> for details on the membership types available so you can choose the right account type for your company Live Webinar available on <a href="#">Setting Up Your Account</a> 
<b>2</b> Pay for Membership	Joining Sedex & Paying For Your Account 	<b>Tip:</b> Pay for membership and all sites; Membership will “lapse” upon expiry which will prevent Walmart from accepting relationships and reports <b>Note:</b> Payment processing could take up to 10 days; Registration is imperative 10 days prior to audit scheduled date
<b>3</b> Create a Site	Creating Sites 	<b>Tip:</b> You will need knowledge of product types produced at the site, site functions, and worker demographics to complete this step; Site name should be in English and match business license and information in Retail Link Factory Audit System; Nicknames for the site should not be used
<b>4</b> Link to Customers: Direct & Indirect	Linking to Buyers & Setting Site Visibility  Intermediaries: Linking Together Suppliers & Buyers (Indirect Linking) 	<b>Tip:</b> Company = Your Company Name, if Direct <b>OR</b> Site Name if Indirect; Target Company = “Customer” = Walmart Stores Inc (ZC4702325) Indirect sites must accept relationship requests; Visit the Glossary to explore Direct vs. Indirect relationships. Best Practice: Leave all 4 boxes checked when setting site visibility; Add Walmart Factory ID in “reference” box 
<b>5</b> Complete SAQ	Completing the SAQ 	<b>Tip:</b> Save answers frequently; update yearly
<b>6</b> Contact Audit Firm (for cost quote and scheduling)	Action Taken Outside Platform	<b>Tip:</b> Audits must be conducted by an audit firm that is a member in good standing of the Association of Professional Social Compliance Auditors (APSCA); By February 1, 2019, audits must be conducted by auditors registered for the APSCA certification program; Walmart will accept a full-scope 2-Pillar or 4-Pillar audit; Quotes should include audit upload fees and corrective action/verification costs 
<b>7</b> Initiate Audit & Upload Report	Initiate an Audit Upload 	<b>Tip:</b> To ensure the audit firm uploads the report automatically, the “yes” box must be checked; audit must be uploaded by firm which conducted the audit, not by supplier/facility <b>Best Practice:</b> Complete this step prior to conducting the audit
<b>8</b> Verify Audit Status = “Accepted”	Initiate an Audit Upload 	<b>Tip:</b> Confirm audit upload request has been accepted by the audit firm
<b>9</b> Review and Publish Audit Report	Viewing and Publishing Audits 	<b>Tip:</b> You must “publish” the audit in order for customers to view the report; Verify the audit is for the correct site. If edits are needed, scroll to the bottom of the page and click “edit”
<b>10</b> Submitting the Audit Report to Walmart & Notification of Assessment and Next Audit Due	Action Taken Outside the Platform	<b>Tip:</b> Audit reports must be emailed to the appropriate Responsible Sourcing Supplier and Facility Administration (RSSFA) team (see <a href="#">SMETA Program Guide</a> ); Audit reports must be submitted to Walmart no more than one year after the date the audit was conducted; An assessment notification will be issued including expectations for remediation and timeline for submitting the next audit 
<b>11</b> Add Corrective Actions for Noncompliances & Submit to Audit Firm	Adding and Submitting Corrective Actions 	<b>Tip:</b> Adding corrective actions can only be actioned once the report is “published” Any corrective action can be submitted to the firm after it is marked by you as “complete”
<b>12</b> Contact Audit Firm for Follow-Up (if necessary)	Action Taken Outside Platform	<b>Tip:</b> Check regularly to see if the audit firm requires further action on your corrective actions to prompt their review of your additional information
<b>13</b> Verify Audit Status = “Verified”	Adding and Submitting Corrective Actions 	<b>Tip:</b> Check regularly to confirm that corrective actions have been marked “verified” as closed
<b>14</b> Notify Walmart and other Customers of Noncompliance Closure Once Verified	Action Taken Outside Platform	<b>Tip:</b> If you would like Walmart to review corrective actions that have been taken, contact the appropriate RSSFA team (see <a href="#">SMETA Program Guide</a> ) once corrective actions are “verified” by the audit firm as closed 