Focusrite’s Anti-Slavery & Human Trafficking Statement

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We are committed to combating slavery and human trafficking. We are a manufacturer in the music technology sector. The Focusrite group of companies consists of Focusrite plc, Focusrite Audio Engineering Limited, Focusrite Novation, Inc., and Focusrite Novation Asia Limited, Focusrite Australia pty Ltd., Optimal Audio Group Limited, Martin Audio Limited, Martin Audio US LLC, Pro Audio Beteiligungs GmbH, ADAM Audio GmbH, ADAM Audio USA, Inc and ADAM Audio Business Service Co., Ltd (Group). The ultimate parent company is Focusrite plc. Focusrite plc has its head office in the United Kingdom. The Group has nearly 400 employees worldwide and has offices in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Germany, China Hong Kong and Mexico. In the financial year ending 31 August 2020 the global annual turnover of the Group was £130m.

OUR SUPPLY CHAINS

All Focusrite contract manufacturers operate with a minimum accreditation of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. Our largest manufacturer, representing approximately 70% of our total manufacturing, also holds SA8000 and OHSAS18001 accreditation with a strong, active Corporate Social Responsibility program in place to improve worker engagement, health and safety.

We remain committed to eradicating slavery and human trafficking through a combination of risk assessment, collaborative programmes, policies and activities which help us identify, mitigate and manage the risk.

IMPACT OF COVID-19

During the reporting period covered by this statement, the COVID-19 pandemic had taken hold. For many months of the past year, the UK was under lockdown. Whilst we welcome the UK Government’s decision to allow for a delay of up to 6 months in the publication of modern slavery statements without the risk of facing penalty Focusrite is in a position to publish its statement for the 12-month period ended 31 March 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic did not adjust the risk of modern slavery to a level above that which existed before the pandemic above. During the pandemic, employees still had access to the grievance and whistleblowing procedures to raise any concerns that they may have had. In line with emergency legislation, employees have been paid Statutory Sick Pay during periods of self-isolation where it has not been possible to agree a temporary period of homeworking and as a Group we took the decision from the outset of the pandemic to ensure that any employee required to self-isolate in accordance with public health guidelines received full pay during their absence.

OUR POLICIES ON SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

We are committed to ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking in our supply chains or any part of our business. Focusrite’s Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy reflects our commitment to acting ethically and with integrity in all our business relationships and to implementing and enforcing effective systems and controls to ensure slavery and human trafficking is not taking place anywhere in our supply chains.

DUE DILIGENCE PROCESSES FOR SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

As part of our initiative to identify and mitigate risk, during our regular manufacturer meetings questions are asked of each supplier to ensure that its practices and policies conform to the Group’s policies and the relevant legislative provisions. We have in place systems to:
• Identify and assess potential risk areas in our supply chains;
• Mitigate the risk of slavery and human trafficking occurring in our supply chains;
• Monitor potential risk areas in our supply chains; and
• Protect whistleblowers.

Concerns about slavery and human trafficking may be raised by employees and contractors through our existing whistleblowing procedure. During the last 12 months, there have been no concerns raised regarding allegations of slavery or human trafficking. Had there been any such concerns, appropriate investigations and remedial action would have been undertaken, including the potential termination of the relevant supply contract if remediation proved to be unsuccessful.

Supplier Adherence To Our Values And Ethics

We have zero tolerance to slavery and human trafficking. To ensure all those in our supply chain and contractors comply with our values and ethics, we have in place a supply chain compliance programme. As part of the regular quarterly business review programme, suppliers’ conformance to slavery and human trafficking is discussed in order to assess and manage risk. Focusrite’s Anti-Slavery and Human Trafficking Policy is reviewed annually with each supplier, and it is a requirement that each contract manufacturer completes a slavery and human trafficking due diligence questionnaire to ensure that the supplier has warranted its compliance with the Modern Slavery Act. Compliance is led by the legal department who involve those members of the Finance, People and Operations (including procurement) departments as necessary.

Awareness Raising and Training

To ensure a high level of understanding of the risks of modern slavery and human trafficking in our supply chains and our business, we will be developing our own e-learning module to raise awareness of the issue of slavery and human trafficking and to help identify and mitigate potential risks from our global supply chain. An introduction to our modern slavery and human trafficking practices and policies forms part of the induction process for each new member of staff.

Reporting on our Progress

In this statement, we have set out the steps that we are taking to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking in our business and supply chains. We realise that this will be an ongoing process and going forward we will demonstrate the progress that we are making each financial year through certain key performance indicators.

In the 12 months to 31 March 2021 no concerns relating to slavery and human trafficking have been reported by employees globally.

Modern Slavery Act 2015 Compliance

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our Group’s slavery and human trafficking statement for the financial year ending 31 August 2020.

Tim Carroll
Chief Executive Officer

Approved by the board of directors 26 March 2021