

# Time to bite into a fair Apple

Call for sustainable IT



Apple is a world leader in producing innovative, smart, beautifully designed electronic goods that enrich our lives. We are calling on Apple to take the lead in improving working conditions too.

## We are asking Apple to:

### **IMPROVE THEIR PURCHASING PRACTICES:**

fair prices and well-planned lead times will make sure that all workers have a fair bite of the apple – allowing suppliers to pay a living wage so that workers don't have to work long overtime hours to make ends meet.



### **IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY AND COMMUNICATION**

- by providing consumers with information about working conditions for workers down the supply chain.
- by improving communication between workers and management at Apple suppliers.
- by engaging with labour rights organisations to make sure that working conditions improve.

Join us in our call to make IT fair.  
It is time to bite into a fair Apple!

Express your concerns by joining our public actions:

1. Hand in a feed-back card at your nearest Apple store.
2. Send a message to Apple from our website and spread the word through Facebook and Twitter! Go to [www.makeitfair.org](http://www.makeitfair.org)

## Workers deserve a fair bite of the Apple

Apple suppliers employ tens of thousands of workers around the world. We are concerned about working conditions for some of these employees, in particular at two Chinese Apple suppliers – Wintek and Foxconn.

More than 135 workers were poisoned at one of **WINTEK'S FACTORIES** in China when cleaning the screens of iPhones and iPads with a highly toxic solvent. Affected workers are now demanding check-ups and hospital treatment, as well as sufficient compensation for care and food. Workers who have returned to work insist on decent wages and effective protective equipment. Labour groups have asked Apple to take its responsibility in monitoring and addressing this situation, but Apple has not yet responded.

In 2010, at one of **FOXCONN'S FACTORIES** in China, 19 young workers tried to kill themselves – 16 people subsequently died. Under pressure from brand name companies, the media and concerned electronics consumers, Foxconn has made some improvements to the factory's oppressive working conditions, including psychological counselling and limited wage increases. But the root causes of the tragedy have not yet been dealt with. Work pressure is high; Foxconn's management style is authoritarian; student workers are abused as cheap labour; and there is no reliable mechanism (like democratically elected labour unions) for workers to make their voices heard.

**MAKEITFAIR AND GOOELECTRONICS ARE URGING APPLE TO MAKE SURE ITS CODE OF CONDUCT IS RESPECTED BY THESE AND OTHER SUPPLIERS, SO THAT IT WORKERS EVERYWHERE HAVE A FAIR BITE OF THE APPLE.**



makeItfair is a European project focusing on the electronics industry, especially on consumer electronics like mobile phones, laptops and MP3 players. [www.makeitfair.org](http://www.makeitfair.org)



GoodElectronics is an international network of NGOs, trade unions, researchers and social activists working on sustainability and human rights in the global electronics supply chain. [www.gooelectronics.org](http://www.gooelectronics.org)

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Commission. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of SOMO and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Commission.



May 2011