

# Transparency Act Report

## 2023

Norautron AS





## **Foreword from CEO**

#### Dear Readers,

I am pleased to present this year's Transparency Act report, which reflects Norautron's ongoing commitment to responsible and ethical business practices. As CEO, it remains my responsibility to ensure that our operations align with international guidelines and respect human rights.

This report, following the OECD's due diligence guidelines, continues to provide a comprehensive framework for evaluating and addressing the human rights impacts of our business activities. It remains an essential resource for navigating the complexities of responsible business practices.

In this year's report, you will find an updated analysis of our efforts to assess and manage the effects of our operations on human rights. We acknowledge that every business faces challenges and potential negative impacts, and we are committed to addressing these issues openly in partnership with our stakeholders.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to our dedicated employees across all locations, whose commitment to our values drives our progress in fostering responsible business practices. I also express my appreciation to our partners and stakeholders for their continued support and engagement as we work towards a more sustainable and inclusive future.

This report reaffirms our ongoing commitment to transparency, continuous improvement, and accountability. It underscores our belief that responsible business conduct is crucial for long-term success.

I invite you to explore the following pages to gain insight into Norautron's efforts over the past year towards building a more sustainable and socially responsible business environment.

Sincerely,

Øyvind Sedivy CEO/ President

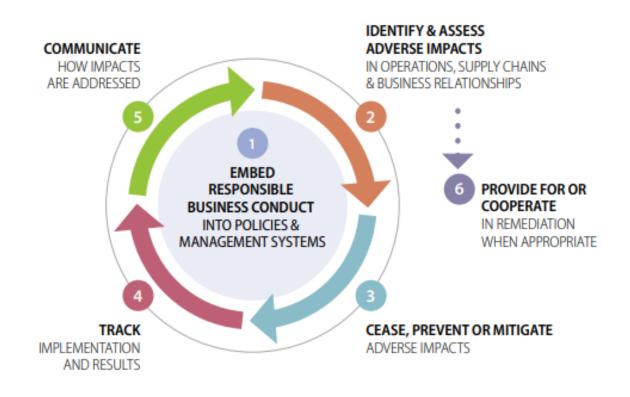






## **Due Diligence**

This report follows the UN's guiding principles on business and human rights, and the OECD's framework for responsible business practices. The six-stage framework outlines how companies can enhance accountability and sustainability. Excelling in these assessments means being transparent about challenges and actively managing them with stakeholders. The report's chapters are structured accordingly.









## **Responsible Business Conduct**

Management systems & Policies

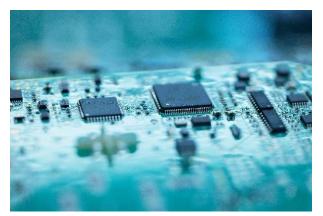




## **Our organizational structure**

Norautron AS, along with its subsidiaries in Sweden, China, Poland, the USA, and Malaysia, is a comprehensive electronics manufacturer and a part of Embron Group. Dating back to 1989, we have established ourselves as a service provider in the international market. Our core processes and challenges as an EMS provider remain consistent across different market sectors. Norautron AS operates with a management structure that carries global responsibilities.

By delivering customized solutions for specific segments, we often generate positive outcomes that can be utilized by customers in other sectors and markets. However, each sector has its own unique demands, which must be acknowledged and addressed. Combining our global responsibilities, the specialized skills and knowledge of our branch-specific employees, close contact with distribution channels, and appropriate manufacturing expertise are crucial for understanding and serving our customers with the right customer service capabilities.



Norautron is constantly striving to enhance its capabilities and improve productivity. When combined with our sector-specific knowledge, this leads to cost reductions, which benefit all our customers.

## **Products and services**

With fully integrated Human Capital Management, Quality Management Systems, Manufacturing Execution System, and Enterprise Resource Planning, our services encompass the following:

- NPI & Prototyping
- Manufacturing
- Industrialization
- Product Life Cycle Management



## Markets



#### Ocean Technology

Norautron has been a supplier to global players in this sector for decades. Our track record and competencies have kept us at the forefront of process knowledge in an industry grappling with technology-driven globalization. Our specialization lies in high-tech, high-end, low-volume builds, as well as globally price-competitive high-volume production, covering a wide range of products from simple data processing units to complex system builds.



#### Electricity & Energy

Over the past few years, we have elevated our expertise to meet the evolving needs of our customers in this sector. This segment of electronics manufacturing encompasses energy storage, delivery, and control systems through prototyping, test services and production processes



#### Connectivity & Computing

In an increasingly interconnected world, businesses can leverage digital tools like cloud computing, big data analysis, signal interpretation, and artificial intelligence to transform the way we live. Norautron plays a role in enabling this connectivity and computing infrastructure.

#### Industry



With a customer-focused approach, we deliver complete products, sub systems and components to various customers within general industry. By being present in multiple market segments across different continents, we share the competitive advantages we gain with our customers. Our objectives include continuous product upgrades and ensuring product lifecycles.



#### Healthcare

Norautron collaborates with several customers in the medical technology field. Our applications range from cardiology to quality assurance in diagnostic radiology and equipment for the pharmaceutical industry.



#### Defense & Aerospace

Over the years, Norautron has been involved in numerous programs within the defense market, delivering high-end surveillance systems and command & control systems featuring the most sophisticated technologies available. We produce equipment for applications ranging from mobile subsea platforms to airborne systems.

## Guidelines, procedures, policies

Guidelines, procedures and policies for handling actual and potential adverse impacts on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions include:

- Ethical Guidelines and Social Responsibility
- Supplier Conduct Principles
- Supplier Assessment form
- IQP HRE.1 Business Conduct and Ethical Guidelines





## **Identification & Assessment of Adverse Impacts**

In operations, supply chains & Business Relationships





### Information regarding the supply chain

#### General description of the company's procurement model and supply chain

As an electronics manufacturer Norautron's procurement model and supply chain involve the process of sourcing and acquiring components, materials, and equipment necessary to produce electronic devices. It encompasses the entire lifecycle, from the initial identification of suppliers to the delivery of finished products to our customers.

The procurement model and supply chain of our organization are heavily influenced by customer requirements. The customer's preferences and specifications are paramount in determining our purchasing decisions, including the choice of suppliers and where to procure the necessary parts. As a result, establishing a strong collaboration with our customers becomes crucial, to ensure that our suppliers adhere to human rights and maintain decent working conditions.

The products we manufacture consist of components/materials from 279 suppliers located in 20 countries.

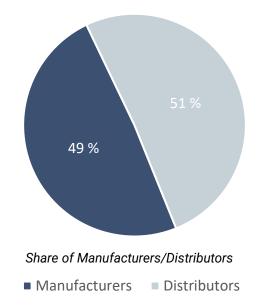
The total count of suppliers engaged in commercial relationships with the company last year (2023) is 649.

The analyses in this report are based on suppliers from whom we have purchased more than 100K Euros in 2023, 70 suppliers in total. Purchases from these suppliers account for 75% of the total purchase amount in 2023.

#### Type of sourcing/ supplier relationship

Our supplier base is grouped into two primary categories: Manufacturers and Distributors. The proportion of each category is indicated on the right.

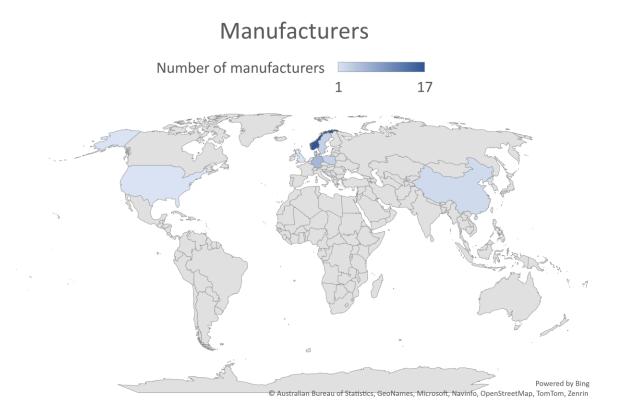
Both manufacturers and distributors supply our manufacturing process directly. The main distinction lies in the sourcing location. Manufacturers deliver directly from their production facilities, while distributors serve as mid-stream suppliers, connecting us to manufacturers further down in the supply chain. In general, it is more challenging to map the complete supply chain for distributors.





#### Manufacturers by country

Below manufacturers in our supply chain are plotted on the world map. Darker color means higher number of suppliers.



#### Manufacturers grouped by region

Below manufacturers in our supply chain grouped in regions



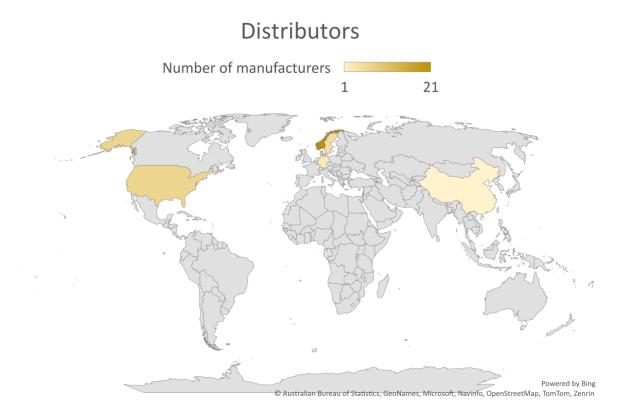
Share of Manufacturers grouped in regions





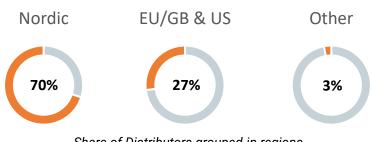
#### **Distributors by country**

Below distributors in our supply chain are plotted on the world map. Darker color means higher number of suppliers.



#### Distributors grouped by region

Below manufacturers in our supply chain grouped in regions



Share of Distributors grouped in regions

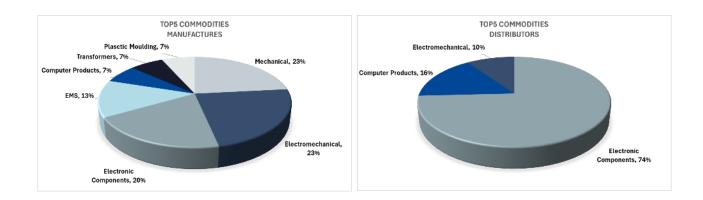




#### Key inputs, commodity and origin/geography

Within Manufacturing we have grouped the suppliers in 13 segments or commodity groups.

For Distributors, the number of commodity groups are 7.



The top 5 commodities are listed below, showing share of suppliers in relation with total for each commodity. Suppliers' country of origin in right column.

Top Commodities	% of tot. suppliers	Country
Electronic components	38%	Norway, USA, Sweden, Germany, China, GB
Electromechanical	13%	Norway, Sweden, USA
Computer products	9%	Norway, Germany, Sweden, Netherlands
Mechanical	9%	Norway, Sweden, Poland, Denmark,
EMS	5%	China, Sweden, Poland



#### Key inputs, commodity and origin/geography

To streamline the process of mapping our suppliers and the participants involved in the production of a final product or part, we have categorized our suppliers as "complex" and "not-complex." This classification helps us differentiate between suppliers with intricate supply chains and those with more straightforward ones.

All our distributors, along with manufacturers who deliver products or parts with complex supply chains, fall under the "complex" category. These suppliers often have multiple tiers of suppliers and involve various intermediaries or subcontractors in their production processes, making it more challenging to trace the complete supply chain. By grouping them together, we can allocate appropriate resources and implement robust strategies to effectively manage and monitor these complex supply chains.

We have categorized our suppliers as shown on the right. 100% of our distributors and 61% of our manufacturers have a complex supply chain.



Share of Suppliers with complex supply chains







#### Key areas for adverse impact/harm on people, society or environment

The electronics industry, like many other global industries, does carry a risk of human rights violations and poor working conditions within its supply chain. The complex and global nature of the electronics supply chain, involving multiple tiers of suppliers across different countries, can create challenges in ensuring respect for human rights and decent working conditions.

Issues such as forced labor, child labor, excessive working hours, unsafe working conditions, inadequate wages, and lack of workers' rights are risks within the electronics industry that can occur at different stages of the supply chain e.g., the extraction of raw materials, manufacturing, assembly, and component production. Common risk factors are:

**Complex supply chain:** As mentioned on previous pages, electronics supply chain is often complex, with numerous suppliers involved in the production of a single device. This complexity can make it difficult for companies to have complete visibility and control over all stages of production, increasing the risk of labor rights violations and poor working conditions going undetected.

**Outsourcing and Subcontracting**: Electronics manufacturers frequently outsource production or subcontract parts of the manufacturing process to third-party suppliers. While outsourcing can bring cost efficiencies, it also increases the risk of labor rights abuses if proper due diligence and monitoring systems are not in place.

**Raw Material Extraction**: The extraction of minerals and metals used in electronics, such as coltan, cobalt, and gold, has been associated with human rights violations, including forced labor and hazardous working conditions, particularly in certain regions of the world.

We recognize that mapping the various risk factors and developing specific actions to address them across the entire supply chain requires a significant investment of time and resources. However, we firmly believe that achieving this goal is feasible when all participants in the supply chain are united and working towards a shared objective.

As a contract manufacturer, establishing a close cooperation with our customers is particularly important for us. As the owners of the products we manufacture, they play a major role in defining the parameters within which we operate to ensure the respect for human rights and maintain decent working conditions.



## Key areas for adverse impact/harm on people or society based on countries identified in the "other" category p.8 & 9 $\,$

Preliminary list of countries in our direct supply chain. Complex supplier investigation is ongoing.

Identified adverse impact	Description	Geography Direct suppliers	Geography complex
Forced Labour	This includes situations where individuals are coerced or compelled to work against their will, often through threats, physical violence, or withholding of wages. Forced labor is a severe violation of human rights and can involve various forms, such as debt bondage, human trafficking, or modern slavery.	China	Under investigation
Child Labour	Child labor refers to the engagement of children in work that is mentally, physically, socially, or morally harmful and interferes with their education. It deprives children of their right to a proper childhood and can have long-lasting negative effects on their well-being	China	Under investigation
Working Conditions	This aspect encompasses issues such as excessively long working hours, unsafe work environments, lack of proper protective equipment, and failure to provide adequate rest periods. Poor working conditions can result in physical harm, occupational hazards, and negative health outcomes for workers.	China	Under investigation

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Identified adverse impact	Description	Geography Direct suppliers	Geography complex
Discrimination	Discrimination in the workplace based on characteristics such as race, gender, age, religion, disability, or nationality is a violation of human rights. It undermines equal opportunities, fairness, and dignity in employment.	China	Under investigation
Wages and Benefits	Inadequate or unfair compensation, including non-payment of wages, extremely low pay, or denial of benefits, can deprive workers of their right to fair remuneration, impacting their standard of living and overall well-being.	China	Under investigation
Health and Safety Risks	Unsafe working conditions, lack of proper safety protocols, exposure to hazardous substances, and failure to provide necessary training and protective measures can lead to occupational accidents, injuries, and long-term health issues for workers.	China	Under investigation
Freedom of Association	Denial of the right to freedom of association, including the right to form trade unions and engage in collective bargaining, hinders workers' ability to voice their concerns, negotiate fair conditions, and protect their rights collectively.	China	Under investigation
Corruption and unethical behaviour	Bribery, fraud, and unethical conduct in both public and private sectors	China	Under investigation

Source: U.S. Department of State, 2023 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices







## **Cease, Prevent or Mitigate**

Adverse Impacts

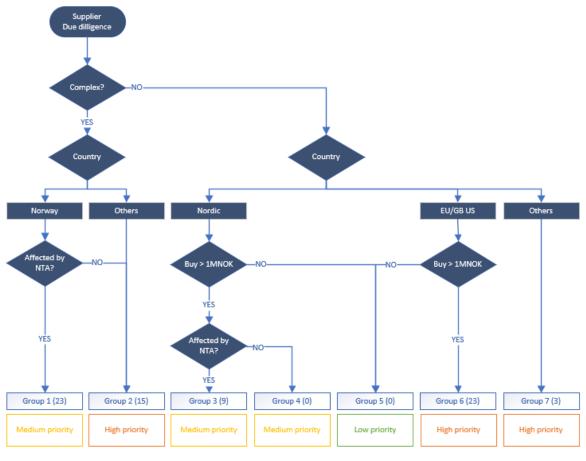




#### Management of prioritized adverse impact

Following the analysis from section 2, we have categorized our supply chain into seven action groups. See flow chart below. Each group will be managed individually and with different priority to ensure compliance with the transparency act.

Implementing differentiated management approaches for these groups will enable us to effectively monitor and address any potential risks or non-compliance issues that may arise.



\*NTA – Norwegian Transparency Act

Logic flow of supply chain grouping

Action group no.	Mitigating/ preventive action	Status
1, 3	Request annual NTA report from supplier. Analyze result and make individual action plan.	Ongoing see next page
2, 4, 6, 7	Request completed Norautron Supplier Self Assessment by supplier. Analyze result and make individual action plan.	Ongoing see next page
5	No actions at this point	-





#### Preliminary result from Survey related to human rights and labor conditions

We distributed a questionnaire to assess our suppliers' adherence to human rights and labor conditions. Out of 70 forms sent, we have received 32 responses, which is a 45% response rate so far.

To single out suppliers in action groups 1 and 3, one of the first questions was about their obligation related to NTA, specifically whether they were a Norwegian company fulfilling the financial criteria. 44% of the respondents confirmed this. At this point, we will collect their annual due diligence reports without further action.



Share of suppliers with NTA obligations

For the 50% who responded "NO" to the same question, a set of follow-up questions was provided. These questions were grouped into the following topics:

- Human Rights & Labor
- Health & Safety
- Your Supply Chain

The results are shown on the next page.







Human Rights & Labor	YES	NO
Does your company have measures in place to prevent child labor, forced labor and any kind of slavery?	100%	0%
Does your company have measures in place to actively prevent discrimination and ensure equal rights for all employees?	100%	0%
Is there a grievance mechanism for employees to report violations of their rights?	89%	11%
Do you conduct regular assessments to ensure fair wages for workers?	100%	0%
Do you monitor working hours to prevent excessive overtime?	94%	6%
Is your company committed to recognize and promote the fundamental right of employees to form trade unions, as well as collective bargaining?	100%	0%
Health & Safety	YES	NO

Health & Safety	YES	NO
Is a member of your company's management responsible for compliance with local occupational health and safety laws?	100%	0%
Have you implemented measures to promote workplace safety and health?	94%	6%
Does your company have processes in place to record and evaluate safety risks and correct identified weaknesses?	94%	6%

Your Supply Chain	YES	NO
Is your supply chain structure transparent and well-documented?	100%	0%
Do you regularly conduct due diligence assessments for human rights and working conditions in your supply chain?	83%	17%
Are you trying to influence your subcontractors/business partners to enhance their transparency, accountability, and respect for fundamental human rights and decent working conditions?	78%	22%
Have you identified major risks in your supply chain?	0%	100%
Finally, all respondents got this final question: Is your company a member of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) or similar recognized initiative?	18%	66%
	No, we have	no such plans
	No, but eval	uating
	Yes	

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The work of collecting the remaining 55% of responses from the questionnaire will continue until all answers are retrieved. In parallel, we will analyze the results on hand and decide on individual actions for each supplier.

A preliminary observation is that we need more information about the complex supply chains to evaluate risk properly. This work will start immediately.

The efforts to promote RBA or similar standards will be intensified.

Action group no.	Mitigating/ preventive action	Status
1, 3	Request annual NTA report from supplier. Analyze result and make individual action plan.	Ongoing see next page
2, 4, 6, 7	Request completed Norautron Supplier Self Assessment by supplier.	Ongoing see next page
	Analyze available results and make individual action plan.	Q4/24
	Send our Norautron's Supplier Code of Conduct and request a signed copy.	Q3/24
	Request more information regarding the complex supply chains	Q4/24
5	No actions at this point	-







## Track

Implementation & Results





#### **Objectives and KPI's**

Norautron aims to drive impactful and sustainable change through strategic initiatives. It will conduct thorough human rights due diligence across its operations and supply chain, addressing key risks. Collaborating with business partners and adhering to the Responsible Business Alliance's Supplier Conduct Principles, Norautron will engage stakeholders and ensure accountability through transparent reporting.

Internally, Norautron will raise awareness and build capacity to address human rights risks via communication campaigns, training, and workshops. By aligning efforts with available resources, Norautron is committed to responsible business practices and implementing sustainable initiatives that uphold human rights throughout its operations and supply chain.

Objective	Target	KPI
Training and Capacity Building in the supply chain	Norautron will encourage suppliers to align themselves with recognized initiatives such as the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA). By implementing these requirements, Norautron aims to ensure that human rights are upheld throughout its supply chain and that suppliers actively engage in promoting responsible business practices.	% of suppliers in RBA (or similar)
	Promote alternative sustainable solutions and suppliers to customers when possible. During RFQ's and running projects	
Awareness training Norautron group	Norautron plans to conduct training to raise awareness about human rights among employees. Through educational materials, we aim to promote understanding of human rights principles and their practical application, empowering individuals to identify and prevent violations.	% of personnel that have completed training
Auditing	Based on supplier's self assement result and other relevant input Norautron will extend it's audit plan.	#of NTA related audits







## Communicate

Share information of how impacts are addressed





#### **Commitment to Transparency**

Norautron is committed to transparently communicating and sharing information about its efforts to address human rights impacts. To achieve this, Norautron will yearly publish Transparency Act reports that provide comprehensive insights into its human rights practices across its operations and supply chain.

These reports will outline the steps taken by Norautron to identify, assess, and mitigate potential human rights risks. By making these reports readily available, Norautron aims to promote transparency and accountability in its approach to human rights.

In addition, Norautron will regularly update its web pages to provide current and accurate information on its human rights initiatives and progress. These updates will serve as a platform for sharing relevant policies, practices, and ongoing efforts to promote responsible business practices and respect for human rights.

Through the publication of due diligence reports and the ongoing updating of its web pages, Norautron aims to engage stakeholders and demonstrate its commitment to transparency in addressing human rights impacts.









## **Provide for or Cooperate**

In remediation when appropriate





#### Approach to Addressing Adverse Impacts

Norautron has established a channel that enables individuals or communities to voice their concerns about any adverse impacts they may have experienced. This channel operates by allowing individuals to submit a *notification of concern*, thereby initiating a process to address their grievances. Norautron is committed to handling these concerns in a fair and transparent manner, ensuring that each issue is given proper attention and consideration.

Norautron acknowledges and embraces its responsibility to conduct business in accordance with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. This commitment extends to taking necessary measures in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to restore and provide compensation, as required, when adverse impacts occur.

Norautron has so far not identified cases which call for compensation.







#### Forms and Contact info

If you have any concerns regarding human rights violations related to Norautron's operations, please fill out the "Notification of Concern" form on our website.

For additional questions regarding our due diligence work related to the Norwegian Transparency Act, or this report. Refer to our website form (Request for information) or contact:

> Company contact for this report Even Engebakken, Business development manager/ Sales dept. Even.Engebakken@norautron.com

> > *Address* Nedre vei 8, bygg 25, 3192 Horten, Norway

