

WHY IS CLEANING CONSIDERED **HIGH RISK** FOR **MODERN SLAVERY?**

Modern slavery describes situations where coercion, threats or deception are used to exploit people. Human-trafficking, forced labour and debt bondage are forms of modern slavery and have been found in Australia. Australia currently has a [Modern Slavery Act](#) that requires entities with turnover of more than \$100 million to report on steps they are taking to identify and address modern slavery risk.

In the cleaning industry, common exploitative practices include:



Withholding of wages



Immigration-related coercion and threats



Excessive overtime



Dangerous and sub-standard working conditions

These exploitative practices may be indicators of modern slavery or may lead to modern slavery if left unaddressed.

Key risk factors for modern slavery

Key risk factors for modern slavery can be divided into 4 key areas:



Occupational and Industry risks

e.g. underpayment of wages and entitlements



Vulnerable workforce risks

e.g. high proportion of temporary migrant workers



Procurement risks

e.g. Insufficient contract pricing



Contract management risks

e.g. lack of integrated, effective oversight mechanism to regularly monitor risk of modern slavery or worker exploitation in supply chain

To find out more about the key risk factors for modern slavery, and mitigation strategies lead firms can employ to prevent modern slavery occurring in their cleaning supply chain, watch the [Why is cleaning considered high risk for modern slavery?](#) video.