**Our international supply chain journey**

**Quarrying**

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

**Portugal, Spain, Italy, China and Vietnam**

Our ethically sourced material journey starts at the quarry, with our carefully chosen and audited quarries supplying BBS Natural Stone with material which has been independently tested in UKAS laboratories and checked to ensure it is fit for purpose and complies with the technical standards required. These quarries have been inspected for ETI 9-point base code compliance by BBS or our ETI trained partners in their country of origin.

**Factory/production**

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated

**Portugal, Spain, Italy, China and Vietnam**

Our materials are then transported to one of our supply chain factories where the raw block is fabricated into the items required by the end user. These items include kerbs, paving, setts, benches and many other civil engineering and hard landscaping products. Our factories have all been audited by BBS or our ETI trained partners overseas and have all passed the ETI 9-point base code requirements as a minimum standard of acceptability by BBS. Our long-term relationships with our trusted supply chains, allow us to continually monitor the standards of working conditions, health and safety and quality without compromising our affiliation with this part of the supply chain, as joint monitoring allows positive growth and an open culture for all.

**Shipping from the dock**

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Portugal, Spain, Italy, China and Vietnam**

Our continued approach to ensuring our supply chain is transparent, is maintained once our shipments reach the port for transportation across the oceans. BBS work closely with the International Transport Federation (ITF) and already hold joint meetings with unions in Portugal to discuss the workers’ rights and how BBS can help with leverage with the port authorities to assist the workforce when required. BBS have also forged links with the All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) through our partners in China, who have been able to arrange meetings for BBS which will allow us to discuss Freedom of Association (FOA) and workers rights in general. These Chinese meetings are set for late 2023/early 2024.

**On the high seas**

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

**Portugal, Spain, Italy, China and Vietnam**

BBS continue to work with then ITF even when our materials are on the water on route to the UK. BBS arranged for all our vessels leaving Portugal over the last 12 months to be independently health checked through the ITF, to ensure all workers’ rights are observed. The ITF is an international trade union federation of transport worker’s unions, with 670 unions representing over 18 million transport workers in 147 countries and is aligned with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) BBS will continue to work together with the ITF as part of our transparent supply chain.

**Into the UK**

Graphical user interface, website

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**UK**

On arrival into the UK, our materials are unloaded and either taken directly to site, or taken to our depot in Ipswich for transportation to site at an agreed date. BBS are ISO 9001 accredited and our Quality Management System ensures our clients are in safe hands.

A close-up of a logo

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