

# Modern Slavery Statement FY 2023

Forico Pty Limited  
ACN 169 204 059

  
*future fibre*



employer  
of choice

work safe  
home safe

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## Acknowledgement of Country

Forico is committed to progressing reconciliation with the First Nations peoples of lutruwita / trowunna - Tasmania. We respect the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we do business and desire to actively engage with them to improve outcomes and land access. Our commitment and engagement journey are detailed in our Reconciliation Action Plan.

Forico acknowledges and pays respect to the Palawa and Pakana peoples as the Traditional Owners and spiritual custodians of lutruwita / trowunna - Tasmania, the land on which we do business.

We acknowledge their Elders – past and present.


## About this Statement

This Statement covers the activities of Forico Pty Limited (Forico) (ACN 169 204 059) a proprietary company incorporated and domiciled in Australia under the Corporations Act (Cth) 2001. Forico is a reporting entity for the purposes of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth)*. Forico does not have any subsidiaries, nor does it own or control any other entities. All references to a year are the financial year ended 30 June 2023 unless otherwise stated.

This statement has been approved by the Forico Board of Directors 21 December 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Crapp".

**Matthew Crapp**  
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E ALBERTINI".

**Evangelista Albertini**  
Chief Executive Officer

## Our 2023 Highlights

- Continued implementation of Modern Slavery clauses in new and renewed supplier contracts.
- Review of supplier “*Risk Profiles*” (origin of source and activity).
- Continual review and updating of policies and procedures as part of the company’s ongoing governance framework which form an integral part to address and manage Modern Slavery, Health, Safety and Environmental risks in the supply chain as well as industry certifications and ongoing staff training.



## About Forico

### Corporate Information

Forico Pty Limited is a proprietary company incorporated on 24 April 2014 and domiciled in Australia. Forico's parent entity is **The Trust Company Limited** (ACN 004 027 749) as Trustee for **Tasmanian Forest Operating Trust** (ABN 43 827 359 657).

Forico's registered office and principal place of business for the financial year were:

Registered Office:	Principal Place of Business
Level 23	16 Techno Park Drive
141 Walker Street, North Sydney NSW 2060	Kings Meadows TAS 7249

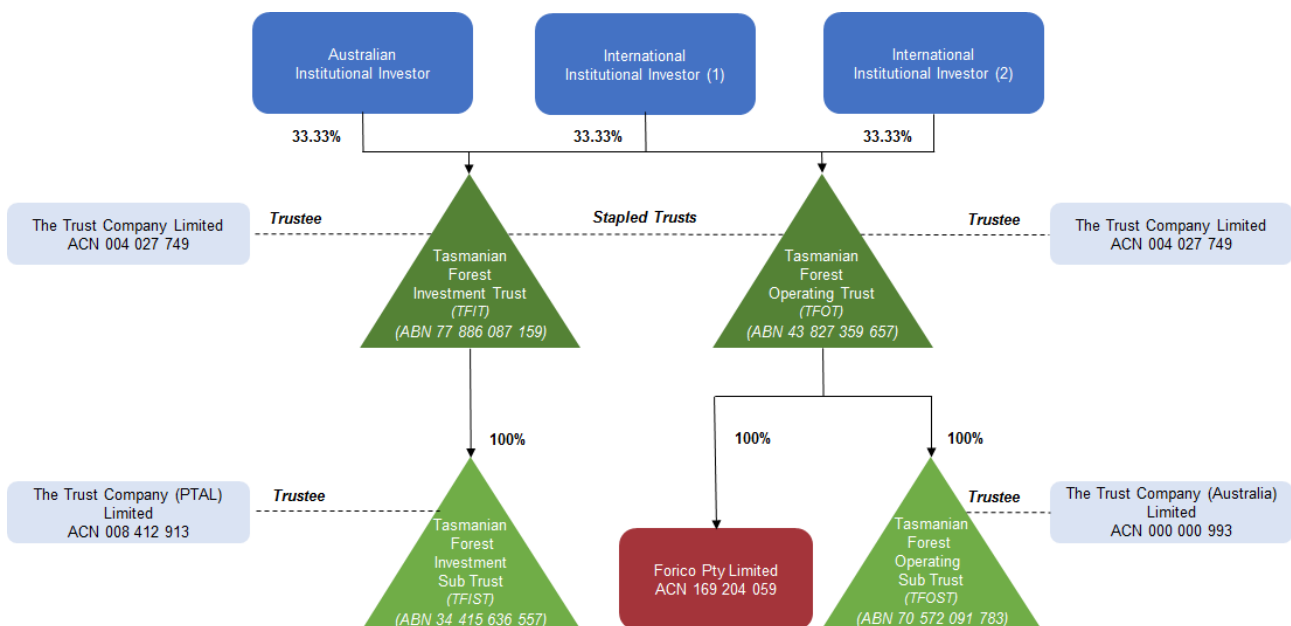
On 5 December 2023 the registered office transferred to the principal place of business:

16 Techno Park Drive, Kings Meadows TAS 7249

### Principal Activities

Forico was established in 2014 to manage and operate the business, property and forestry management activities and the management, maintenance and operation of the assets of the Tasmanian Forest Investment Sub-Trust and the Tasmania Forest Operating Sub-Trust for institutional investors who own the units in the Tasmanian Forests Investment Trust and The Tasmanian Operation Trust – (stapled trusts).

The Trust and Sub Trust relationships are depicted in the following diagram (Figure 1):



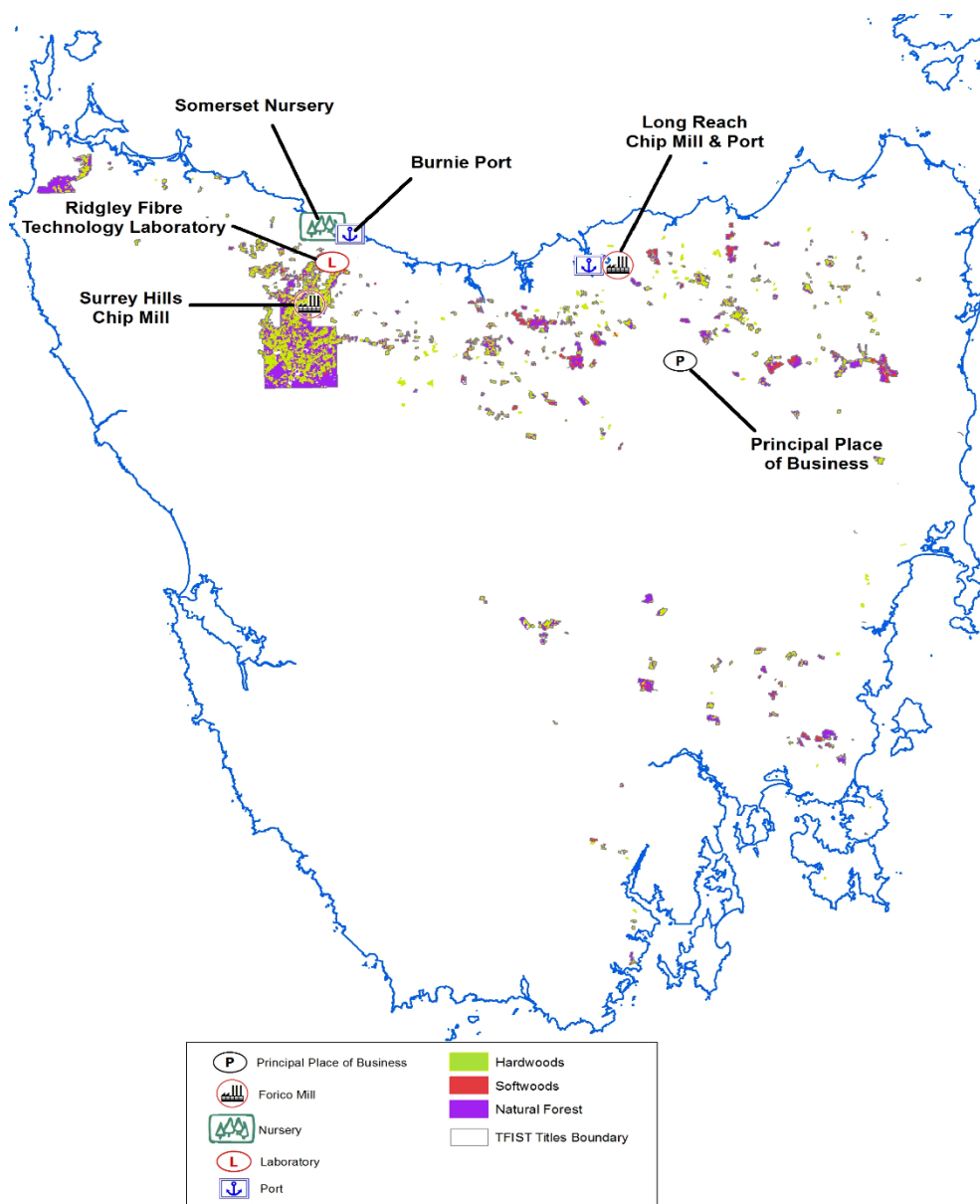
Forico is Tasmania's largest private forest management company and one of Australia's leading certified sustainable plantation estates.



Forico maintains and operates a vertically integrated forestry business managing seed production through to the supply of domestic / export logs and wood fibre. The operation spans approximately 90,000 hectares of sustainable plantation, managed for log and wood fibre production and some 77,000 hectares of natural forest managed for conservation, biodiversity and cultural values. Other components in the supply chain management include property management, land care, carbon and conservation, forestry management, plantation operations, fibre harvest and haulage, nursery operations, laboratory and mill operations and facility maintenance (See Figure 2 – Forico footprint and operations FY2023).

This integrated model operating in Tasmania provides Forico with supply chain security and control which accounts for a significant portion of the procurement spend in financial year 2023.

Figure 2 – Forico footprint and operations FY2023.



## Events after the Balance Date

On the 20 April 2023, the unitholders of the Stapled Trusts (Tasmania Forest Investment Trust and Tasmanian Forest Operating Trust) agreed to transfer their units to a new buyer's consortium which settled

on 29 September 2023. There has been no significant change to the day-to-day operations of Forico following the change of ownership of units in the stapled trusts.

## Risk in Operations

The activities of the business are predominantly located across Northern Tasmania which is considered to have a low to zero risk of modern slavery practices. Australia has strong labour rights, regulatory framework and related enforcement which is supported by internal Forico policies and procedures. The risk of modern slavery is further mitigated as we remunerate our employees and contracts in line with the relevant awards where applicable and above the living wage. Our contracts of employment protect the rights of the individual and we have been recognised as an Employer of Choice by the Tasmanian Government.

Forico has a strong and ongoing commitment to sustainability principles. Forico's managed forests are certified to the Responsible Wood (RW) and Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) Certification Schemes which demonstrates a commitment to responsible holistic forest management. The Responsible Wood Certification Scheme is endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes (PEFC). Forico is also certified to the FSC® and RW Chain of Custody (CoC) Standards. Chain of Custody traces material through all stages of the supply chain so wood fibre products can be sold with certification claims, this includes ensuring compliance with modern slavery requirements.

Independent third-party auditing is completed on an annual basis to demonstrate compliance. Internal auditing complements this process to ensure continual improvements are achieved.

Forico has a Speak-up (Whistleblowing) Policy and to date we have not received any reports which relate to modern slavery. Should any incidents adverse to human rights or pertaining to modern slavery be raised, they will be formally reported and escalated through the organisation; Supervisor / Manager, People and Culture, Company Secretary, Chief Executive Officer, Board, and /or external authorities.

All staff must comply with the company's modern slavery policy and complete the mandatory training, on joining the company or biannual refresh. The program is managed through the Office of the Company Secretary, supported by the operational arms of the business.

## Suppliers

Forico procures products and services from a broad range of suppliers who support the vertically integrated forestry business, including log supply, harvest and haulage, fixed plant, consumables/commodities, freight and logistics, labour hire / contractors, energy, information technology and storage.

Two of the largest categories of spend, harvest and haulage (including chip cartage) and silviculture combined represent just over 61% of the Company's overall procurement spend. The suppliers of these activities are Tasmanian / Australian based service providers.

## Risk in Supply Chain

Forico is committed to being an exemplary corporate citizen and conducting business in an ethical and socially responsible manner. Respecting human rights is inherent to our core value of promoting growth and fostering respect, trust and transparent engagement in the treatment of our people. As part of our commitment, we do not tolerate Modern Slavery or human trafficking within our business or our supply chain.



In 2023, Forico continued to review the potential risks of Modern Slavery practices across its operations. During the assessment process Forico considered risks that may possibly cause, contribute and/or be directly linked to Modern Slavery practices, in accordance with the Australian Government Home Affairs Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 Guidance for reporting entities document and the Global Slavery Index 2023.

As part of this assessment process Forico continues to review risk factors in line with the guidance document / index including geographic locations, industry and type of products. From this review process, Forico has defined operational activities directly undertaken by its employees which are covered by internal processes and controls as areas with no or low risk of Modern Slavery.

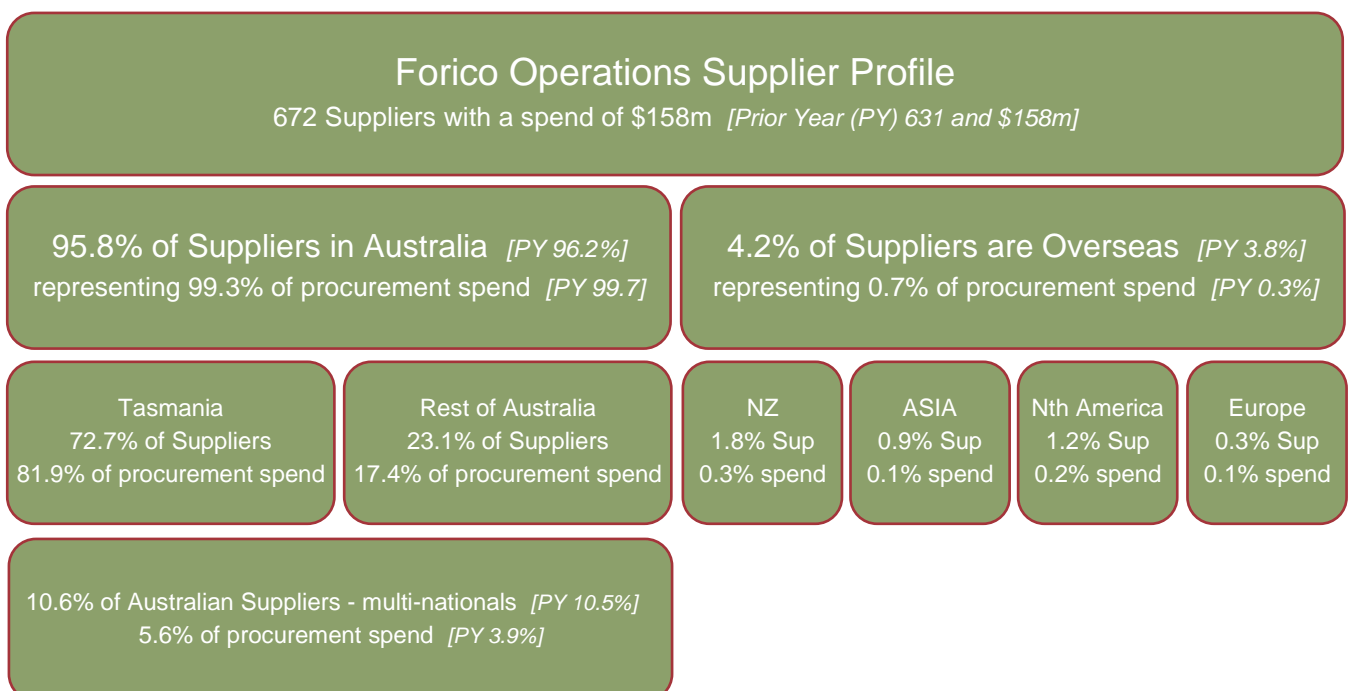
Forico continues to closely monitor the following identified potential “risk hotspots”:

1. products sourced directly from overseas suppliers e.g. plant and equipment, assets and asset spare parts.
2. sourcing from multinationals with a local presence e.g. plant and equipment, assets, asset spare parts, consumables, saleable product and chemicals.
3. local retail / distributors sourcing products from overseas (i.e. Tiers 2 & 3 supply) e.g. fuel, tyres, assets and asset spare parts, supplies, uniforms and technology.
4. labour hire / contract services e.g. use of casual / itinerant seasonal workers (nursery work and tree planting).

Forico continues to work with its suppliers to reduce the risk of Modern Slavery in the supply chain. Modern slavery by its very nature lurks in the shadows and we continue to explore avenues to delve deeper into the lower tiers of the supply chain.

Further analysis of Forico’s supply chain has identified that most of the procurement spend is local, that is in Tasmania (Australia) suggesting a significant reduction in the risk to Modern Slavery within first-tier suppliers (see Figure 3).

Figure 3 – Forico operations supplier profile FY2023.



## Addressing Risk of Modern Slavery

A threefold approach to address Modern Slavery risk was undertaken in the 2023 financial year comprising of:

1. Continuation of the roll out of Modern Slavery clauses in supplier contracts;
2. High level risk assessment of suppliers; and
3. Review of internal policies, procedures and training.

### 1. Modern slavery clause in supplier contracts

During 2023 the company has continued to ensure Modern Slavery clauses are included in new and or renewed supplier contracts. The inclusion of Modern Slavery clauses heightens a supplier's level of awareness of our requirements and their need to comply with the current legislation and conduct their business in alignment with the principles and objectives of laws in relation to Modern Slavery.

### 2. High level risk assessment of existing suppliers

A high-level desk top review was again conducted of the annual procurement spend on suppliers and direct offshore suppliers - (see *Figure 3*), against the risk factors identified in the Australian Government Home Affairs Commonwealth Modern Slavery Act 2018 Guidance for Reporting Entities document and The Global Slavery Index 2023 (Walk Free). The review revealed a low risk of Modern Slavery in Forico's supply chain based on the product type and location of existing suppliers<sup>1</sup>. Forico is committed to continue to review all existing suppliers to ensure a low risk of Modern Slavery in its supply chain.

### 3. Review of internal policies and procedures

During the reporting period the company has continued to review and update its policies and procedures which form an integral part to address and manage Modern Slavery, Health, Safety and Environmental risks in the supply chain as well as industry certifications. Forico staff have completed ongoing mandatory training.

## Effectiveness of our Approach

We recognise the challenge in assessing the effectiveness of our approach due to the complexity of Modern Slavery and that many of the risks exist deep in the supply chains – where our visibility and ability to influence suppliers is limited. We are committed to strengthening relationships with suppliers to improve our understanding of risk within their operations and supply chain.

Forico will continue to assess the effectiveness of our monitoring and compliance mechanisms to ensure all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent Modern Slavery and Human Rights violations in our business and supply chains and ensure effective compliance to the Modern Slavery legislation in Australia. Existing documents such as the Forico Code of Conduct, Supplier Code of Conduct, Modern

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<sup>1</sup> The Global Slavery Index, 2023



Slavery Policy and Speak-up (Whistleblowing) Policy, Conflict of interest and Related Party Transaction Policy, support the company's commitment to social responsibility.

Further to Forico's Code of Conduct outlining the company's zero tolerance position on bribery and corruption, the Company also has a separate Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy. The Speak-up (Whistleblowing) Policy is supported by a third party independent and confidential reporting service to encourage the reporting of actual or potential misconduct, including Modern Slavery activity within the supply chain.

This year we have not received any whistleblower complaints or incidents and we are monitoring supplier acknowledgments of the Supplier Code of Conduct and employees undertaking Modern Slavery Policy training, all indicators for Modern Slavery Risk.

The overarching assessment governance framework, including policies and procedures and third-party business certifications underpin the effectiveness of our approach to manage Modern Slavery, Health, Safety and Environmental risks in our operations and supply chain.

## Next Steps in 2024

We are committed to identifying 'lessons learned' and continually improving our processes. Several steps are in planning for the 2024 Financial Year to support Forico's Modern Slavery programme.

These steps include:

- Identification and utilisation of third party (desktop) due diligence tool to delve deeper into our supply chain (tier 2 and tier 3 – risk profiling) to identify those that require closer scrutiny – for compliance with Modern Slavery and Human Rights commitments.
- Conduct a questionnaire across identified higher risk suppliers as to the source of products, materials and business practices and compliance with Modern Slavery and Human Right commitments.
- Ongoing development and delivery of Modern Slavery training programmes with a focus on staff in key leadership and commercial procurement roles in the organisation to understand Modern Slavery risk factors when engaging suppliers.
- Amend the current programme to incorporate any new or modified requirements driven by anticipated changes in the Australian Modern Slavery legislation.



## APPENDIX 1 – Regulatory Disclosure

Regulatory disclosure – the table below references where the mandatory criteria are disclosed for the purposes of the Australian Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth).

Modern Slavery Act mandatory reporting criteria	Forico disclosure reference
1. Identify the reporting entity.	About this Statement Page 2
2. Describe the reporting entity's structure, operations and supply chains.	About Forico Pages 3 - 4
3. Describe the risk of modern slavery practices in the operations and supply chains of the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls.	Risk in Operations & Supply Chain Pages 5 - 6
4. Describe the actions taken by the reporting entity and any entities it owns or controls to assess and address those risks including due diligence and remediation processes.	Addressing Risk of Modern Slavery Page 7
5. Describe how the reporting entity assess the effectiveness of such actions.	Effectiveness of our Approach Pages 7 - 8
6. Describe the process of consultation with any entities that the reporting entity owns or controls.	Not applicable
7. Provide any other information that the reporting entity or the entity giving the statement considers relevant.	Next steps in 2024 Page 8 APPENDIX 1 – Regulatory Disclosure Page 9

