

Protecting Unilever's Physical & Financial Assets & Intellectual Property



Employees are responsible for ensuring Unilever's assets are protected.

For information on the protection of several other asset types see the Code Policies on [Occupational Health and Safety](#) and [Protecting Unilever's Information](#).

This Code Policy covers the protection of physical assets and property, financial assets and intellectual property.

Musts

Physical assets/property

Employees must:

- Take care to ensure that all Unilever physical assets and property they come into contact with while working are not damaged, misused or wasted. Physical assets and property includes factory and laboratory equipment, Unilever products or components, buildings, computers and company motor vehicles

The head of each Unilever site must:

- Identify potential hazards from activities and services on site
- Evaluate the risk of damage to site assets of such hazards and of any potential business interruption or liability that could result
- Take steps to reduce identified risks to an acceptable level

Financial assets

Employees must:

- Protect Unilever's financial assets – such as cash, bank accounts and credit cards - guarding against misuse, loss, fraud or theft
- Only authorise commitments, expenditure, borrowing or other financial transactions in line with their role as specified in local, regional and / or global financial and / or treasury authority schedules
- Comply with the relevant Unilever standards when involved in hedging contracts or transactions

Intellectual property

Employees must:

- Report to Business Group or IP General Counsel any suspected counterfeit products or any product, packaging, communication or marketing practice that are suspected of infringing our copyright, trademarks, patents, design rights, domain names and / or other intellectual property rights

- Ensure all necessary checks and filings have occurred with respect to patents, designs and trademarks or other intellectual property rights, when researching, developing or preparing to launch new brands, sub brands, services, designs, inventions, communication, advertising and promotional materials
- Ensure a contract is in place with appropriate clauses to protect Unilever's intellectual property rights and ensure freedom to use results when undertaking collaborative work with third parties

Must nots

Employees must not:

- Remove Unilever's physical assets or property from company premises without permission or use them for inappropriate purposes
- Knowingly infringe the valid patents, design rights, trademarks, copyright and other intellectual property rights of any third party