

We deplore the violence and human rights violations in the mining of certain minerals from a location described as the “Conflict Region”, which is situated in the eastern portion of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and surrounding countries. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) adopted final rules to implement reporting and disclosure requirements related to “conflict minerals,” as directed by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. The rules require manufacturers who file certain reports with the SEC to disclose whether the products they manufacture or contract to manufacture contain “conflict minerals” that are “necessary to the functionality or production” of those products ([SEC Conflict Minerals Rule](#)).

The definition of “conflict minerals” refers to gold, as well as tin, tantalum, and tungsten, the derivatives of cassiterite, columbite-tantalite, and wolframite, regardless of where they are sourced, processed or sold. The U.S. Secretary of State may designate other minerals in the future. We support these requirements to further the humanitarian goal of ending violent conflict in the DRC and in surrounding countries, which has been partially financed by the exploitation and trade of “conflict minerals”.

We are committed to

1. Support the aims and objectives of the U.S. legislation on the supply of “conflict minerals”;
2. Avoid knowing procurement of specified metals that originate from facilities in the “Conflict Region” that are not certified as “conflict free”; and
3. Ensure compliance with these requirements and ask our suppliers to undertake reasonable due diligence with their supply chains to assure that specified metals are being sourced only from:
  - mines and smelters outside the “Conflict Region”,
  - mines and smelters which have been certified by an independent third party as “conflict free” if sourced within the “Conflict Region”.

Our due diligence includes having our suppliers provide documentation that raw materials used to produce gold, tin, tantalum and tungsten, used in the manufacture of components and products supplied to us, originate from outside the “Conflict Region” or if they originate from within the “Conflict Region”, such other further due diligence as is required by applicable law and regulation to determine source and chain of customer of such raw materials.

Our goal is to ensure that only “conflict free” materials and components are used in products that we procure. If we discover the use of these minerals produced in facilities that are considered to be “non-conflict free”, in any material, parts or components we procure, we will take appropriate actions to transition the product to be “conflict free”.



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