Supplying for Tomorrow, Today...

CONFLICT MINERALS STATEMENT

The term 'Conflict Minerals' refers to any natural resource mined and extracted in conditions of armed conflict where human rights abuses are a significant concern. The profits from the sale of these minerals are directly deployed for the purposes of perpetuating violent hostilities.

A prominent example of this has been reported from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) due to their extensive mineral wealth. Various armed groups have been reported as utilising the profits from mining to contribute to violence and exploitation.

The four most commonly mined Conflict Minerals, (known collectively as the 3TGs), are Cassiterite (for tin), Wolframite (for tungsten), Coltan (for tantalum), and Gold ore, which are extracted from the DRC and surrounding countries, and are passed through a variety of intermediaries before being purchased. These minerals are essential in the manufacture of many electrical and electronic components.

In response to these concerns, concerted International efforts have sought to reduce trade in these Conflict Minerals. In the USA, the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act requires manufacturers to audit their supply chains and report the use of Conflict Minerals.

As an independent distributor of electronic components, the business does not directly purchase minerals nor manufacture product and is, therefore, unable to make any claims of material contents. In accordance with section 1502 of the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act, supply chain due diligence, we expect our supply chain partners to adopt this policy regarding Conflict Minerals.

The EU's new Conflict Minerals Regulation came into force on 1 January 2021, which requires importers of these 'Conflict Minerals' to apply due diligence in their supply chains to reduce the risk that minerals are sourced from the areas of conflict. At the time of writing there is no information of an equivalent regulation from the UK Government.

Signed: *D. Sykes*

Donna Sykes
Purchasing and QA Manager

Issue Number: 03
Issue Date: 28/06/2022