

# WACKER'S POSITION ON CONFLICT MINERALS

Conflict minerals extracted from mines in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) and neighboring states have become an increasing focus of international attention in recent years. Armed groups involved in mining in the region are assumed to be committing serious human rights violations against mine workers and local populations. An additional assumption here is that the proceeds from the sale of these minerals are being used to finance regional conflicts.

## Four types of minerals are at issue

According to Rule 1502 of the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), publicly traded companies that use tantalum, tin, gold or tungsten must demonstrate that they have not obtained these minerals from a conflict region and must comply with a series of due diligence requirements and document their compliance. Similar rules can also be found in EU Regulation 2017/82.

## Mining

We know that human rights violations are a possibility anytime minerals are mined. For this reason, we are deeply engaged in issues concerning raw materials that stem from mining, even in cases of materials not mentioned in any law or other legally binding documents.

## Supply chains are complex

Because the international supply chain for these minerals is complex, and tracing them to the place where they were extracted can be quite challenging, WACKER has to rely on its suppliers when it comes to identifying the origin of conflict materials. The same applies to declaring the status of products that could contain conflict materials.

## We assess our suppliers very carefully

At least once a year, companies that supply us with raw materials containing tin, gold, tungsten and/or tantalum must confirm for us that neither they nor their suppliers obtain these minerals from non-compliant/non-conforming sources. As such, we have no reason to believe that the tantalum, tin, tungsten or gold that WACKER receives in the form of raw materials stem from non-compliant/non-conforming mines.

## Transparency at WACKER

For reporting on minerals, including conflict minerals, we use the CMRT (Conflict Minerals Reporting Template) and EMRT (Extended Minerals Reporting Template) reporting forms, which we update once each year. The CMRT and EMRT forms are standardized reporting templates developed by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI), which simplify information across the entire supply chain regarding material country of origin and the smelters and refiners involved. These templates also make it easier to identify new smelters/foundries and refiners who may not undergo a relevant audit through RMI's Conflict-Free Smelter Program until some point in the future. We provide our customers with our annually updated CMRT and EMRT forms upon request.

## Another step forward...

In addition to currently identified conflict materials (tantalum, tin, gold and tungsten), we also perform regular due diligence reviews of suppliers of other focus minerals and raw materials, such as palm oil, mica and cobalt.

### Additional information

[Home page of the Responsible Minerals Initiative \(RMI\)](#)

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