



Conflict Minerals

Minerals mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and adjoining countries may be making their way into the electronics industry supply chain. As part of the Dodd- Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) passed legislation which requires certain U.S. companies to report on the origin of these conflict minerals including tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold.

FermionX are committed to ethical practices and compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. While we do not source these metals directly, they may exist in the materials and components we source. We are therefore committed to working with our customers and suppliers to responsibly source the materials and components we use in manufacturing our customers' products which may contain these minerals.

In order to assist its customers' requirements to comply with the above regulations relating to conflict minerals, FermionX requires suppliers where possible to provide assurance of their due diligence with regard to these minerals (specifically gold, tin, tantalum, and tungsten) confirming that parts supplied do not originate from mining or smelting operations in the Conflict Region to the best of their knowledge.

FermionX is not a manufacturer of electronics parts and therefore is not in a position to provide accurate information relating to the use of conflict minerals in the products it distributes. The manufacturers of the electronic components and products are the only source of accurate information regarding any conflict minerals that may have been used in the manufacture of their products.

As a purchaser FermionX is many steps removed from the mining of conflict minerals. We do not purchase raw ore or unrefined conflict minerals and we do not knowingly procure any parts containing conflict minerals from the covered countries.

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In addition, we require the following from our suppliers:

- To source materials from socially responsible sub-tier suppliers and manufacturers.
- To assist in complying with regulations related to conflict minerals.
- To pass these requirements along to their sub-tier suppliers. We request the following from our customers:
 - To design in components that can be sourced from socially responsible suppliers.
 - To assist in complying with regulations related to conflict minerals.
- Support supply chain changes required to eliminate DRC conflict minerals from products.

The process of tracing the conflict minerals through the supply chain is complicated and time-consuming. Therefore, we will rely on industry initiatives, such as the Conflict Free Smelter Program, for assistance in complying with any reporting requirements on conflict minerals.

We have multiple suppliers who in turn supply us with thousands of components, although they are endeavouring to obtain declarations from their suppliers, the ability to draw down to the original Smelter Information is a major challenge.

FermionX declaration on the CMRT currently can only indicate smelters not yet identified. This situation is unlikely to change until our suppliers have obtained this information from their procurement chain.

FermionX are committed to working with our customers and our suppliers to ensure effective implementation of this legislation.