

## Conflict Minerals Statement

This is an official statement of Akzo Nobel N.V. on behalf of its affiliates and subsidiaries.

**At AkzoNobel, we recognize the human rights of all people as outlined in the International Bill on Human Rights, and take responsibility to respect human rights as set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. We are committed to actively and systematically assessing (potential) human rights impacts across our value chain and ensuring that our impact on people's lives is as positive as possible. We expect our business partners to respect human rights by applying similar principles, and we're committed to supporting them.**

AkzoNobel is deeply committed to responsible sourcing, as an important part of AkzoNobel's supplier sustainability strategy. We do our best to ensure that our suppliers' products and components do not contribute to adverse impacts on human rights.

### Conflict Minerals

Conflict minerals are minerals mined in conditions where armed conflict and human rights abuses occur. The term is often used to refer to four minerals – tungsten, tantalum, tin and gold (also known as 3TG) – that are mined in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). These minerals have a high risk to be mined in conditions where armed conflict and human rights abuses occur.

After conflict minerals were under high scrutiny and addressed by NGOs, the United States of America have passed a law requiring companies to conduct due diligence on the origin, source and chain of custody of such minerals and provide specialized disclosure regarding the findings of such due diligence.<sup>1</sup> Also, the European Union has passed a regulation on conflict minerals, coming into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.<sup>2</sup>

We are carrying out due diligence on conflict minerals in line with our commitment to respect human rights across our value chain and supporting the objectives of these laws and our customers in this regard.

### Due Diligence

After analysis, we have identified that of the 3TG only tin is used in the manufacturing of some additives, pigments, resins and tin-packaging material that we source for our manufacturing processes. Although related supply chains are often global, long, and complex, we are conducting due

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<sup>1</sup> Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, requiring companies to publicly report on their use and the source of these minerals. In August 2012, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) adopted a final rule under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Rule 13(p)-1, requiring SEC-reporting companies that manufacture or contract to manufacture products that contain "conflict minerals" to conduct due diligence on the origin, source and chain of custody of such minerals and provide specialized disclosure regarding the findings of such diligence.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) 2017/821 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017

diligence based on the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidance for Responsible Mineral Supply Chains.

Working closely together with suppliers that supply tin-containing products, we require them to:

- declare whether they have a Conflict Minerals Policy in place;
- conduct the necessary due diligence, and to provide us with verification of the country of origin and source of the materials used in the products they supply to us;
- identify smelters in their supply chains in the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (CMRT), and
- support initiatives that determine whether smelters and refiners are conformant with Responsible Mineral Assurance Process standards, while expecting them to utilize such conflict-free smelter/refinery programs that are available.

In case of inconsistencies or delay, we strongly encourage the supplier to develop, implement and document plans to remedy the situation or accelerate implementation. Where necessary we provide support. Should a supplier not meet our expectations, we would seek to terminate the relationship.

#### Conflict-free smelters

Smelters mix minerals from many sources and refine them into metal used in our industry. The smelter is at a key point in the supply chain to enforce responsible sourcing – by exercising due diligence in selecting their mineral sources.

The Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP) identifies smelters which can demonstrate, through an independent third-party assessment, that the minerals they procure do not originate from sources that contribute to conflict in the DRC.

AkzoNobel expects suppliers to steer their supply chain towards using only smelters validated via RMAP (or equivalent). A list of conflict-free validated smelters is available on the website of the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI). We request all suppliers using smelters that are not yet verified as conflict-free to address these smelters with a request to participate in the RMI smelter audit program (or equivalent) or otherwise switch to an already audited smelter.

For more information about our responsible sourcing, see also AkzoNobel's disclosures relating to [the 2015 UK Modern Slavery Act and the California Transparency in Supply Chains Act of 2010](#).