

DECLARATION ON CONFLICT MATERIALS

WHAT ARE CONFLICT MINERALS?

The term "conflict minerals" is used in the US Dodd-Frank Act to refer to the raw materials tantalum, tin, gold and tungsten if their extraction and trade contribute to the financing or other support of armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) or its neighbouring countries.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

In politically unstable areas, the trade in minerals can finance armed groups, promote forced labour and other human rights abuses, and support corruption and money laundering. The Dodd-Frank Act and the EU Conflict Minerals Regulation aim to prevent this.

Section 1502 of the US Dodd-Frank Act, also known as the conflict minerals provision, has been legally binding since 2010. It requires US-listed companies to determine whether their products contain one or more of the four conflict minerals originating from Congo (DRC) or one of its nine neighbouring countries (Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia).

The EU Conflict Minerals Regulation, which came into force on 1 January 2021, aims to ensure that EU importers of tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold comply with responsible international sourcing standards set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It also aims to ensure that global and European smelters and refiners source the four conflict mining regions responsibly.

There are no direct obligations for our company. However, we follow the regulations out of our own conviction in the course of sustainable procurement.

DO WE USE TIN, TUNGSTEN, TANTALUM OR GOLD?

We use only one of the four minerals in our cast iron products: tin. However, this applies to less than one percent of our product portfolio.

If you would like to know whether tin is contained in a product you purchase from us, please contact us by email: sustainability@brechmann-guss.de. If tin is used, we will provide you with an up-to-date report in the Responsible Minerals Initiative format so that you can comply with your disclosure and reporting obligations.

HOW DO WE PROCURE MINERALS?

We do not directly import any minerals ourselves, i.e. not even conflict minerals. Traders who supply us with tin are obliged to declare in writing at the time of delivery that the procurement has been carried out conflict-free in accordance with the Dodd-Frank Act.

Should we become aware of any violation of our guidelines, we will immediately take appropriate measures.

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