

STATEMENT ON CONFLICT MINERALS

Introduction

halstrup-walcher GmbH, halstrup-walcher S.r.l and its parent company Walcher Meßtechnik GmbH (hereinafter collectively referred to as "halstrup-walcher") recognize international human rights and support their enforcement.

halstrup-walcher is aware of its special social and corporate responsibilities as a globally active company. For this reason, halstrup-walcher has imposed a Code of Conduct on itself, which sets minimum standards for responsible and sustainable cooperation.

Through its Supplier Code of Conduct, halstrup-walcher aims to enforce these basic principles along the entire value chain.

Conflict minerals

The extraction of certain raw materials is financing ongoing armed conflicts, especially in the Democratic Republic of Congo and its neighbouring countries. Some mines are controlled by militias responsible for numerous human rights violations. As a result, the United States Congress enacted the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act), which, together with the implementation rules of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), requires certain companies to file a report on whether their manufactured or contracted products contain conflict minerals.

The EU also imposes reporting and certification requirements on smelters, refiners and large importers of raw materials in its Conflict Minerals Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/821). Conflict minerals are defined as tantalum, tungsten, tin and gold (3TG minerals) extracted in the aforementioned regions, which in the case of the EU are defined by the EU Commission, under the said conditions.

halstrup-walcher is not affected by the reporting requirements but recognizes the underlying transparency goal of the Dodd-Frank Act as well as many other initiatives (such as those of the OECD) to avoid sourcing minerals in a manner that supports armed conflicts and the violation of human rights.

Statement

halstrup-walcher wishes to avoid the sourcing and use of conflict minerals – whether directly sourced by the company itself, or indirectly sourced via suppliers and products that have already been processed. Where halstrup-walcher itself sources 3TG minerals directly, this is already done via certified smelters which guarantee these products do not originate from conflict zones. In addition, halstrup-walcher endeavors to raise awareness of the issue of conflict minerals among its own suppliers. These suppliers are required to take appropriate action within the framework of the halstrup-walcher Supplier Code of Conduct.

Kirchzarten, February 2021



Jürgen Walcher



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