

BINDER Policy Statement on Conflict Minerals

Within the framework of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) "Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act", whereby all stock exchanges in the United States must report the origin of "**conflict minerals**", including **tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold (3TG)** from areas in and around the **DR Congo in Africa**, **BINDER**, as a supplier to various US companies, is subject to compliance with all legal and regulatory provisions in force.

Even though we do **not directly acquire** these metals, they may be present in the **materials and components we acquire**. We are thereby obligated, in collaboration with our customers and suppliers, to the responsible acquisition of materials and components which are used in the manufacture of our products and which may contain these minerals.

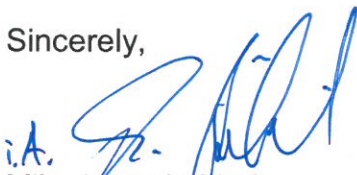
In order to **comply with the SEC notification requirement for conflict minerals**, **BINDER** demands that its **suppliers present verification of conformity**, whereby minerals are only acquired from smelters and refiners proven to comply with the CFS program (Conflict-Free Smelter) of the **CFSI (Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative)**.

In order to identify **conflict-free smelters in the DR Congo**, we compare summaries of the **smelter lists of our suppliers with the list of compliant smelters** of the CFSI. The information from our suppliers is used for the conflict mineral report and for the SD official form.

More legally binding and considerably more effective for **BINDER** is the EU issued **Conflict Mineral - Regulation 2017/821 of 17 May 2017**, which establishes tasks for due diligence in the supply chain **for importers of tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold from conflict and high-risk areas**. In it, the downstream industry, i.e. **BINDER**, does not have the duty to report, but rather the regulation stipulates **the duty to report of smelters and refiners**.

Tuttlingen, Germany 03/20/2020

Sincerely,


 i.A. Mike Imwinkelried
 Purchasing Department


 Jochen Bollaender
 Research & Development


 i.A. Jens Bretkopf
 Quality Management