

# Avantor Conflict Minerals Statement

Section 1502 of the U.S. Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection act requires certain publicly traded companies to disclose whether the products they manufacture or contract to manufacture contain conflict minerals sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and neighboring countries. Conflict minerals are minerals mined in conditions of armed conflict and human rights abuses. Conflict minerals, as defined by the US legislation, currently include the metals tantalum, tin, tungsten and gold, which are collectively referred to as "3TG". Avantor is committed to ensuring that if 3TG are required to manufacture or are contained in its self-manufactured or contract to manufacture products, these are sourced with due respect for human rights.

## AVANTOR'S CONFLICT MINERALS PRACTICES

Avantor follows a 5-step process for its conflict minerals due diligence practices in accordance with the OECD guidelines.

Step 1	Establish strong company management systems
Step 2	Identify and assess risk in the supply chain
Step 3	Design and implement a strategy to respond to identified risks
Step 4	Carry out independent third-party audits of supply chain due diligence at identified points in the supply chain
Step 5	Report annually on supply chain due diligence

Each step has been described in more detail below:

### 1. Establish strong company management systems

Avantor has published its requirements in relation to human rights protection on its website. These requirements can be found under Avantor's Responsible Supplier Code of Conduct, Human Rights Statement for the Supply and Conflict Minerals Statement (this statement).

Avantor has appointed an executive team sponsor for its Responsible Supplier Program and sustainable sourcing practices.

Avantor has included conflict minerals risks identification in its Social Monitoring practices and works with a third-party due diligence provider to assess its supply chain for conflict minerals risks annually.

Avantor reports its risks using the Responsible Minerals Initiative's Conflict Mineral Reporting Template (CMRT) and submits a specialized disclosure report to the Securities and Exchanges Commission annually.

Avantor has recently made its Ethics Helpline for Suppliers more accessible to ensure that all actors in the supply chain can report violations of its policies.

### 2. Identify and assess risk in the supply chain

Avantor uses its Social Monitoring practices to identify suppliers which are most at risk of human rights abuses and require additional monitoring practices, including conflict minerals due diligence.

Avantor requests that its in-scope conflict minerals suppliers provide a CMRT to collect information about the smelters of 3TG used in its products.

Avantor assesses the CMRTs received from its in-scope suppliers for completeness and reasonableness and conducts additional fact finding to ensure that all smelters in Avantor's supply chain are on [the Responsible Minerals Initiative \(RMI\) conformant lists](#).

### 3. Design and implement a strategy to respond to identified risks

Avantor encourages its in-scope suppliers to adopt policies and practices which support a conflict-free supply chain. This includes the inclusion of conflict minerals practices and obligations in supplier contracts.

Avantor has developed a training plan for its suppliers to ensure that those suppliers operating in high-risk markets or in-scope of conflict minerals improve their human rights protection capacity.

Should non-conformant smelters be present in Avantor's supply chain, Avantor develops plans for in-scope suppliers to transition to conformant smelters only.

Avantor continues to improve its conflict minerals due diligence process to ensure that access to data is improved so risks can be better identified and mitigated.

### 4. Carry out independent third-party audits of supply chain due diligence at identified points in the supply chain

Avantor relies upon the RMI to validate that companies meet the criteria of a smelter and conform to the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process.

Avantor will continue to use a third-party due diligence provider to ensure a neutral and verified approach to risk monitoring.

Avantor has invested in its own Assurance team to audit its private label suppliers and those suppliers which are identified as posing a potential high-risk to human rights in accordance with Avantor Social Monitoring practices.

#### 5. Report annually on supply chain due diligence

Avantor will include the outputs of its conflict minerals risk management practices in its specialized disclosure report submitted to the Securities and Exchanges Commission. This report is shared on our website and provided to our Sustainability Committee and Responsible Supplier Program sponsor.

Avantor will continue to provide a summary of improvements and evolution in its specialized disclosure report to the Securities and Exchanges Commission.

#### SUPPLIERS' CONFLICT MINERALS PRACTICES

Avantor expects its suppliers with suspected 3TG in their supply chain ("Suppliers") to adopt the following practices.

1. Suppliers to have a publicly available Conflict Minerals statement.
2. Suppliers to establish a conflict minerals governance program to survey their supply chains, conduct due diligence and report information to Avantor using Avantor's third party due diligence system in accordance with CMRT reporting requirements.
3. Suppliers to ensure that their governance programs are consistent with the [OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas](#).

4. Suppliers to ensure that any smelters processing 3TG for Avantor products are on the [Responsible Minerals Initiative \(RMI\)](#) conformant lists and that their smelters have had their sourcing practices validated by third party audit through participation in the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process.
5. Suppliers to cascade responsible sourcing expectations up the supply chain.
6. Suppliers to transition away from smelters in a timely manner, where smelters are subsequently removed from the RMI conformant lists.
7. Suppliers are encouraged to have a cobalt policy where cobalt forms an integral commodity in the suppliers' supply chain, for example, in the case of vehicle batteries for fleet providers.

#### CMRT SHARING WITH CUSTOMERS

Avantor produces a new CMRT for its business annually in May. This is made available to customer-facing teams so that it can be shared with its customers where needed for their own reporting purposes. Avantor's distribution business, known as VWR, is also committed to ensuring that 3TG contained in the products we sell are also sourced ethically. Although Avantor does not collect CMRTs from those suppliers whose products it distributes, it is committed to supporting its customers in obtaining the information they need for their own Conflict Minerals assurance practices. Avantor therefore obligate its suppliers, through contractual relationships, to provide source of origin information in relation to 3TG and to carry out their own assurance practices. Avantor also facilitates obtaining user defined CMRT requests, where customers can identify specific products at risk and their associated VWR catalogue numbers.

