

Background

In 2012, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) released regulations governing Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Act"), which aim to prevent the use of certain minerals that directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and adjoining countries.

Specifically, the Act requires companies to trace the Tantalum, Tin, Tungsten and Gold (known as 3TG) in their products through the supply chain and disclose whether they came from "conflict mines" in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

In addition, in January 2021, the Conflict Minerals Regulation came into force across the EU, requiring companies to ensure they import these minerals and metals (3TG) from responsible and conflict-free sources only.

Our Conflict minerals policy applies to all entities within the Ependion Group and is to be seen as a complementary to our Code of Conduct and to our Human Rights Policy.

Our commitments

We are committed to conducting our business in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.

We are working towards ensuring that our products do not contain Conflict Minerals that have been sourced from mines that support or fund conflict within the Democratic Republic of Congo or adjoining countries.

We are committed to transparency and accountability in our reporting on Conflict Minerals.

We expect our suppliers to share our commitment and to adopt policies and procedures that ensure the responsible sourcing of minerals.

We encourage all our stakeholders to report concerns and violations with respect to our conflict minerals practices. Any potential violation can be reported through our whistle blower system.