

Laukötter Policy on the Responsible Procurement of Raw Materials

Technological developments have led to the worldwide increasing demand for valuable and rare raw materials.

In politically unstable areas, mineral extraction is often controlled by armed groups. Mining often involves the use of forced labour, and the proceeds are used to finance violent conflicts. The materials gold, tin, tungsten, cobalt and tantalum in particular often come from conflict countries that directly or indirectly finance or favour armed groups (e.g. in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or neighbouring countries such as the Central African Republic, Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania or Zambia).

Industries that use minerals mined in conflict zones have a particular responsibility to demonstrate where the minerals they process come from.

The regulation ((EU) 2017/821) put into effect by the European Parliament at the beginning of 2017 is intended to prevent the financing of conflicts and human rights violations through the mineral trade. The law obliges all direct raw material importers in the EU to subject their supply chains to due diligence.

Laukötter assumes its due diligence in the supply chain and meets customer's requirements as well as the legal requirements.

We expect the same dedication to the protection of human rights from our suppliers and thus the same care for their supply chain as well as proof that they only source or process conflict-free raw materials.

We ask our suppliers to ensure that the minerals they use are only from traceable and certified sources. In particular, minerals may not be obtained from identified high-risk smelters.

Our suppliers are also requested to always check their supply sources against the regularly updated list of conflict-affected and high-risk areas (CAHRAs). This list is intended to provide orientation and facilitate the discovery of conflict and risk areas according to Art. 14 (2) of the EU Regulation (2017/821).

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