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To whom it may concern

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TQ-Group Conflict Minerals Policy Statement

Dear Sir or Madam,

the TQ-Group (in the following TQ) is deeply concerned by reports that profits from the sale of certain metals mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) or neighbouring countries and regions has helped fuel war human rights violations in the eastern Congo. Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Customer Protection Act (in the following Dodd-Frank-Act) enacted in July 2010 requires publicly traded companies in the United States to conduct new supply chain reporting requirements to promote transparency and consumer awareness regarding the use of Conflict Minerals. These Conflict Minerals are columbite-tantalite (coltan), cassiterite, gold wolframite, or their derivatives (tantalum, tin, gold and tungsten) and further minerals such as cobalt, copper, nickel, lithium, graphite and mica (extended minerals). As directed by the Dodd-Frank-Act, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission S.E.C (U.S. S.E.C) has adopted rules requiring publicly traded US-Companies to disclose annually whether they use tantalum, tin, gold and tungsten that originated in the DRC and neighbouring countries. In this case the companies are required to submit a report identifying their products that are not conflict free and their due diligence efforts to determine the source and chain of custody of such minerals. Conflict free means the product does not contain tantalum, tin, gold and tungsten that directly or indirectly finances or benefits armed groups in the DRC or a neighbouring country. For extended minerals there are the same procedure and circumstances.

Also the European Union has been actively engaged in an initiative of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to advance the responsible sourcing of minerals from conflict areas, which has resulted in a government-backed multi-stakeholder process leading to the adoption of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (OECD Due Diligence Guidance) including the annexes and supplements thereto. With the REGULATION (EU) 2017/821 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 17 May 2017 laying down supply chain due diligence obligations for Union importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas, all Union importers retain individual responsibility to comply with the due diligence obligations set out in this Regulation.

TQ is fully aware of the importance of this issue to its customers and appreciates the several supply chain initiatives and overall corporate social responsibility and sustainability efforts that work towards a conflict free supply chain.

TQ is one of the leading technology service providers and system vendors in Germany. TQ is working closely with its own suppliers to ensure responsible sourcing and to assure - in all conscience - conflict free minerals in the supply chain. For this purpose TQ will

- identify which TQ-products are impacted and target all efforts accordingly,
- not buy directly products and materials from Conflict Smelters or Refiners containing Conflict Minerals,
- ask its suppliers to ensure by sending periodically requests that any Conflict Minerals contained in the products and supplied to TQ do not originate from Conflict Smelters or Refiners,
- expect its suppliers to cooperate in providing due diligence information to confirm that Conflict Minerals in TQ's supply-chain are conflict free and to take similar measures with their suppliers to ensure alignment throughout the supply chain,
- check all information gained by these requests for accordance with the Dodd-Frank-Act and the Regulation (EU) 2017/821 of 17 May 2017 laying down supply chain due diligence obligations for union importers of tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, gold and extended minerals originating from conflict-affected and high-risk areas, collect and link them with our Conflict Minerals database,
- takes feasible actions if deviations will be detected at the due diligence process.

TQ has implemented the aforementioned in an internal process. Also our General Purchasing Conditions depict this policy.

Kind Regards,



Detlef Schneider
Managing Director



Stefan Schneider
Managing Director



Rüdiger Stahl
Managing Director