



# Responsible Sourcing Policy

To fulfill the duty of care for promoting responsible supply chains for minerals from conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

In order to recognize the potential negative consequences of mineral extraction, trade, handling and export from conflict-affected and high-risk areas and our responsibility to respect human rights and prevent conflict aggravation, we commit to adopt and disseminate as widely as possible the following strategy on responsible sourcing of minerals from conflict and high-risk areas. It is intended to provide a common guide for conflict-prone procurement processes and for the risk awareness of our suppliers from the extraction to the delivery of our products. We are committed to avoid deliberately taking action that could contribute to the financing of conflicts, and to comply with all relevant resolutions of UN sanctions and to implement the national legislation with that regard.

## **1 Disapproval of irregularities in the extraction, transport, or trading of minerals**

We do not, under any circumstances, condone, profit from, participate in, or assist in any way the following actions taken by any party involved in our procurement process:

- Any form of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;
- Any form of forced labor; this includes any task or service that a person is forced to perform against their will or under threat of punishment;
- Child labor out of legal legitimacy;
- Other serious human rights violations and abuses, such as the widespread occurrence of sexual violence
- War crimes or other serious violations of international humanitarian law, crimes against humanity or genocide.

## **2 Rejection of any support from non-state armed groups**

We will not accept any direct or indirect support of non-state armed groups through the mining, transport, trade, handling, or export of minerals. "Direct or indirect support" also includes, but is not limited to, the procurement of minerals, the execution of payments and the provision of logistic support or equipment to non-state armed groups or their business partners who:

- Illegally monitor the mining sites and/or otherwise control the transportation routes, distribution centers and upstream suppliers in the supply chain
- Illegally demand contributions and / or extort money at the entrances to the mining sites, on the transport routes or other distribution points
- Demand illegal contributions or extort payments from intermediaries, exporting companies or international traders.

### **3 Public and private security forces**

We refuse any direct or indirect support of any public or private security forces exercising unauthorized control over mining sites, transportation routes and upstream actors in the supply chain; demand illegal contributions, extort money or minerals at the access points to the mining sites, along the transport routes or at distribution points; or illegally tax or extort intermediaries, exporting companies or international traders.

We acknowledge that the role of public or private security forces at the mining sites, in the surrounding areas or along the transportation routes is solely to uphold the rule of law, including safeguarding human rights, ensuring the safety of miners, equipment and facilities, as well as in the protection of the mining site and the transport routes from an impairment of lawful mining and trading.

### **4 Corruption and fraudulent deceit regarding the origin of the minerals**

We will not offer, promise, give or demand any bribe, or succumb to request for a bribe to conceal or disguise the origin of minerals or to provide false information regarding paid taxes, royalties, or license fees for the purpose of mineral extraction, trading, handling, transporting, or exporting.

### **5 Money laundering**

We will make every effort to cooperate in the effective fight against money laundering, or take appropriate measures, if there is a reasonable risk of money laundering arising out of or in association with the mining, trading, handling, transporting, or exporting of minerals, that were obtained through illegal taxation or extortion of upstream companies at the access points to the mining sites, along transport routes or at distribution points.

### **6 Payment of taxes, levies, and license fees to the authorities:**

We will ensure that all taxes, levies, and license fees collected in relation with the mining, trading, and export of minerals in conflict-affected and high-risk areas are remitted to the government and we commit ourselves, according to the position of our company in the supply chain to disclosing these payments in conformity with the principles set out in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

### **7 Implementation**

In accordance with our company's position in the supply chain, we are committed to cooperating with suppliers, central or local government authorities, international organizations, civil society and third parties to optimize and monitor the results of preventing or mitigating the risks of adverse impacts through provable actions taken within an appropriate time.

This policy is implemented through careful supplier selection in the procurement of tin, tantalum, tungsten or gold, as well as raw materials or components of which these materials are an essential part and which are used in the manufacture of our products. A regular risk assessment is carried out for the products and suppliers concerned.

If the regular supplier qualification reveals a substantial risk that upstream suppliers obtain their goods from a party committing serious violations or that they are otherwise associated with such party, or if we receive reasonable and comprehensible reference about such circumstances, we will immediately suspend or terminate all business relationships, provided that all attempts to mitigate the risk have failed.

## **8 Confirmation**

This policy is adopted by the management of QSIL Ceramics GmbH.

Auma-Weidatal, October 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jaime Schmitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a blue oval drawn around the end of the signature.

Managing Director