

Hardide plc Conflict Minerals Policy

On 17 May 2017, the EU Parliament and EU Council adopted a new import regulation on 'Conflict Minerals' under [Regulation 2017/821](#).

The EU Conflict Minerals regulation means that selected EU importers of the respective minerals (tin, tantalum and tungsten, their ores, and gold, also referred to as '3TG') need to comply with, and report on, supply chain due diligence obligations if the minerals originate (even potentially) from conflict affected and high-risk areas.

The EU Conflict Minerals Regulation will apply across the EU on 1 January 2021 and is expected to be enacted into UK law from that date.

Hardide plc uses certain gases that contain some of these materials which are essential to the functionality of the coating process. Hardide plc takes very seriously the global concern that minerals mined from some sources within the Democratic Republic of Congo or its adjoining countries (the "conflict region"), that benefit armed groups, may be making their way into the general industry supply chain, and that profits from this could potentially contribute to human rights violations.

Hardide plc does not purchase minerals directly from smelters or mines, and as such it must rely on sourcing information provided by our suppliers. Hardide plc is committed to socially responsible sourcing and supports the development of regulations and processes for suppliers to determine whether minerals within their supply chain are sourced from the conflict region. Guided by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict Affected and High Risk Areas, Hardide plc has implemented a supply chain due diligence framework. We are pleased to report that all suppliers of our gases have confirmed that conflict minerals are not used in their processes.