



Conflict Minerals Policy

Proto Labs, Inc.

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Protolabs is committed to being a socially responsible corporation that conducts business ethically, respectful of the rights of humans, communities, and the environment.

Conflict Minerals Policy

Tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold, also referred to as “3TG”, have been subject to trade that is often linked to armed conflict and related human rights abuses. The term “conflict minerals” refers to 3TG that originates from countries or regions where these minerals are in high demand and the region suffers from armed conflicts, violence, unrest, instability and human rights abuses.

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Central Africa has vast reserves of 3TG. Many of these minerals are sourced unethically and traded by armed groups in the eastern DRC and nine surrounding countries (Republic of Congo, Central Africa Republic, South Sudan, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda), perpetuating ongoing violence as these armed groups fight for control of the mines or mining trade in this region.

On August 22, 2012, the final rule regarding sourcing of “conflict minerals” under Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act was approved by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The rule imposes the requirement on publicly traded companies to report annually to the SEC the presence of “conflict minerals” originating from the DRC or the nine surrounding countries in the products they manufacture.

In the EU, the EU Conflict Minerals Regulation came into effect on January 1, 2021, with respect to “conflict minerals.” The regulation directly applies to companies that import tin, tungsten, tantalum or gold into the EU in the form of mineral ores, concentrates or processed metals, regardless of where the 3TG originate from. The regulation requires importers to adopt the framework for compliance set forth by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Protolabs produces custom, on-demand parts for our customers based on their designs and material selections. We report annually to the SEC on the source of conflict minerals, if any, in the products we manufacture for our customers. We do not directly source any 3TG. Protolabs purchases materials from third party suppliers who are several layers removed from the smelters and refiners of 3TG that may be present in the materials supplied to us.

Protolabs is using the Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (CMRT), created and maintained by the Responsible Minerals Initiative, to collect Conflict Minerals information from our supply chain and report information to our customers. We have initiated a due diligence process that is intended to conform to the framework set forth under the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This includes establishing compliance requirements for our direct suppliers regarding conflict minerals, ongoing review of our materials to understand the composition of such materials, reviewing CMRTs collected from our supply chain, and taking appropriate actions to ensure compliance with applicable rules and initiatives for socially responsible sourcing.