



Oct.20<sup>th</sup> 2020

To whom it may concern

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### VAT Conflict Minerals Statement

Dear VAT Business Partner, dealing with disclosure requirements along the supply chain

VAT is committed group wide to promoting honest and ethical business conduct by all its employees and in compliance with the laws that govern the conduct of business worldwide.

VAT believes that a commitment to honesty, ethical conduct and integrity is an essential asset that builds trust with clients and business partners and the community in which we are operating.

In July of 2010, the United States Congress passed legislation requiring those companies that are subject to Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reporting requirements to include information in their SEC reports regarding the use of "Conflict Minerals" in the manufacturing of their products. "Conflict Minerals" in this context refers to specific minerals originating from mines controlled by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) or adjoining countries.

More details of the "Conflict Minerals" legislation can be found in the H.R.4173 - Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Whilst VAT is not a SEC reporting company, we see it as our responsibility to take this legislation into consideration with the aim to enable designation of all materials used for our products as "DRC conflict free".

At this time, VAT is not aware of the use of any "Conflict Minerals" in its direct supply chain and sources no minerals from DRC. VAT is committed to ensure sustainable sourcing of all raw materials in its supply chain. The legislation to "Conflict Minerals" came into effect on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014.

We are a member of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) with a Code of Conduct: This means, we do fulfill the Conflict Minerals requirements.

This VAT Conflict Minerals Statement is valid until October 20<sup>th</sup> 2022.

Please feel free to contact the author of this letter with any further concerns or questions regarding any related matter.

Handwritten signature of M. Allison in blue ink.

M. Allison  
CEO

Handwritten signature of H. Märkli in black ink.

H. Märkli  
Environmental Program Manager

Enclosure: -