



# Responsible Minerals Sourcing Policy

## 1.0 PURPOSE

This policy is in place to ensure F5 remains in compliance with conflict minerals reporting requirements in the United States and European Union, and fulfills customer expectations regarding transparency, accountability, and sustainable sourcing practices. It also addresses the company's commitment to responsible sourcing of both traditional and extended minerals, including Cobalt and Mica.

## 2.0 SCOPE

This policy covers suppliers and operations within F5's hardware groups.

## 3.0 POLICY STATEMENT

As a global technology company, F5 acknowledges the environmental and human rights impact of its sourcing practices. We align our program with the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and evolving expectations around responsible sourcing. The exploitation and trade of Tin, Tantalum, Tungsten, Gold (3TG), and extended minerals such as Cobalt and Mica can contribute to human rights violations and environmental degradation, especially in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs).

Prompted by growing concerns about additional human rights violations beyond the scope of Dodd Frank, F5 has evolved its responsible minerals program and related due diligence practices to address minerals originating from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs)<sup>2</sup>. F5's program framework is in alignment with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (OECD Guidance)<sup>3</sup>.

F5 requires suppliers using any of the four conflict minerals sourced from the DRC or an adjoining country to use only materials which are certified Conflict Free through the Conflict Free Smelter Initiative or a comparable process.

We are committed to eliminating conflict minerals from our manufacturing supply chain through use of widely adopted best practices, including:

- Maintain a conflict minerals compliance program consistent with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance.
- Conduct due diligence on the sourcing of 3TG, Cobalt, and Mica.
- Require suppliers to use only materials from smelters and refiners validated as conformant by the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP) or an equivalent third-party audit scheme.



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- Collect and assess Conflict Minerals Reporting Templates (CMRTs) and Extended Minerals Reporting Templates (EMRTs) from applicable suppliers.
- Educate our suppliers on evolving due diligence expectations and encourage them to implement similar programs in their supply chains.
- Engage with customers, suppliers, and industry groups like the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI).
- Increase transparency through public disclosure of program activities and due diligence results.

### 4.0 DEFINITIONS

#### *Conflict Minerals*

Conflict minerals are the metals Tin, Tantalum, Tungsten, and Gold, as well as the ores from which they are mined Cassiterite, Coltan, Wolframite and Gold.

#### *Extended Minerals*

Cobalt and Mica, known for risk of human rights violations in artisanal and small-scale mining.

#### *Covered Countries*

The covered countries are the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and any country with which the DRC shares a border

#### *CAHRAs*

Regions experiencing armed conflict, political instability, or institutional weakness, as defined by OECD.

### 5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

The supply chain group within the manufacturing department is responsible for program execution, including:

- Gathering and reviewing CMRTs and EMRTs
- Supplier engagement and issue resolution
- Conflict minerals report preparation and filing
- Staying updated on regulatory changes and industry trends



## Responsible Minerals Sourcing Policy

### 6.0 ENFORCEMENT

Suppliers and other parties may contact us with conflict minerals questions or concerns.

- Via email: [rohscompliance@f5.com](mailto:rohscompliance@f5.com)

Reports also may be made anonymously to the F5 Ethics Point portal.

- Online at [f5.ethicspoint.com](https://f5.ethicspoint.com)
- By telephone at +1 (855) 409-0947

### 7.0 EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to this policy are not permitted.

### 8.0 DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT

This policy must be reviewed annually or when needed by the Policy Owner as part of the conflict minerals filings due to the United States Securities and Exchange Commission

#### Revision History and Approval

| Rev # | Revision Date  | Description   | Policy Owner       | EVP Approver |
|-------|----------------|---|--------------------|--------------|
| 1.1   | March 15, 2023 | Re-publish existing policy in new format                        | Suzanne Schumacher | Tom Fountain |
| 1.2   | March 19, 2024 | Reviewed-no updates (possible updates during the report in May) | Suzanne Schumacher | Tom Fountain |



## Responsible Minerals Sourcing Policy

|     |               |   |                    |              |
|-----|---------------|---|--------------------|--------------|
| 2.0 | April 19,2024 | Changed the verbiage of the policy statement, added CMRT link and defined terminology   | Suzanne Schumacher | Tom Fountain |
| 3.0 | May, 06,2025  | Changed the policy name from Enterprise Conflict Minerals Policy to F5 Inc Responsible Minerals sourcing policy. Added Due Diligence effort for extended Minerals like cobalt and Mica in the form of EMRT. | Suzanne Schumacher | Tom Fountain |

### 9.0 RELATED POLICIES & PROCESSES

F5's latest conflict Minerals reporting template is always available at the link below.

<https://my.f5.com/manage/s/article/K51230228>

<sup>1</sup>**Dodd-Frank Section 1502:** In 2012, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) adopted rules mandated by the conflict minerals disclosure provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. These rules require publicly traded companies to report annually on the source and chain of custody of conflict minerals in products manufactured by the company.

<sup>2</sup>**OECD definition of Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (CAHRAs):** Conflict-affected and high-risk areas are identified by the presence of armed conflict, widespread violence or other risks of harm to people. Armed conflict may take a variety of forms, such as a conflict of international or non-international character, which may involve two or more states, or may consist of wars of liberation, or insurgencies, civil wars, etc. High-risk areas may include areas of political instability or repression, institutional weakness, insecurity, collapse of civil infrastructure and widespread violence. Such areas are often characterized by widespread human rights abuses and violations of national or international law.

<sup>3</sup>**OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (OECD Guidance):** Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict Affected and High-Risk Areas, Third Edition, and related Supplements on Tin, Tantalum and Tungsten and on Gold.

<sup>4</sup>**Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP):** The flagship program of the RMI, the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP) uses an independent third-party audit of smelter/refiner management systems and sourcing practices to validate conformance with RMAP protocols and current global standards. The audit employs a risk-based approach to validate smelters' company-level management processes for responsible mineral procurement. Companies can then use this information to inform their sourcing choices.