

# ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION RISK INSTITUTE

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## Conflict Minerals

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**Purpose:** To introduce and summaries the issues and requirements under the law for the procurement of 'Conflict Minerals'

**Introduction:** Conflict minerals are defined as those minerals mined in conditions of armed conflict and/or human rights abuses. These minerals are usually quite rare and the profits from the sale of these minerals can help finance continued armed conflict and particularly in gaining control of the mines where these minerals are extracted. Examples of such minerals include Tantalum, Tungsten, Tin, Gold, and Diamonds (often referred to as 'Blood Diamonds').

These minerals are mainly used, after being purchased through a variety of intermediaries, by multi-national electronics companies for the manufacture of laptops, mobile phones etc.

However, E&C companies might also, directly or indirectly, use such minerals in the manufacture of certain equipment such as Reformers and Fired Heaters.

The Dodd-Frank Act's provision, section 1502, signed into law in the U.S. in July 2010, and rules issued in August 2011, requires companies to trace and audit their supply chain in order to ensure their products are not financing illegal activities.

This is a comprehensive subject and Sponsor Companies are encouraged to obtain more detailed information from the numerous websites available on this matter.

**ECRI Description file – The complete version if this document is located in the Sponsors Resources area of this website and requires a Sponsors Login to access.**

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