



CONFLICT MINERALS STATEMENT

Modern Group is aware of conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), where rebel armies, violent groups, and outside actors have profited from mining exploitation while contributing to violence in the region.

The four main end products of mining in the eastern DRC are tin, tungsten, tantalum, and gold, which are extracted and passed through various intermediaries before being sold to international markets.

Accordingly, in the United States, the four main conflict minerals are:

- Columbite-tantalite: A metal ore extracted from tantalum.
- Cassiterite: A primary ore needed to produce tin.
- Wolframite: An important source of the element tungsten.
- Gold: Used in jewelry, investments, electronics, and dental products.

Mining and commerce of conflict minerals support conflicts and contribute to grave human rights cruelties.

Modern Group denounces all actions associated with the forbidden or criminal exploitation of minerals and ores. Our companies support the purposes of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to avoid the use of raw materials which directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in conflict-affected and high-risk areas.

By committing to this policy, Modern Group furthers the humanitarian goal of ending the violent conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo and its adjoining countries (Angola, the Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Zambia).

To the best of our knowledge, Modern Group management contends that there are no instances of the use of conflict minerals in our supply chain, specifically - to be from a source that, to our knowledge, was directly or indirectly financed or benefitted from any armed conflict in the known regions.

Modern Group continues to procure all materials locally from approved steel mills which source from conflict-free regions, and we commit to participate in any third-party audit of our internal buying practices.

