



ES Components and Conflict Minerals (Metals) Reporting Requirements – CY2015

Introduction

The Conflict Metals Reporting requirements are a flow-down from the Dodd-Frank Act (Section 1502) and are requirements for publicly traded companies with SEC listings/filings.

The intent here is to acknowledge the source of certain materials and avoid their use if originate from mines in the Democratic Republic of Congo or its border countries. The materials are the mineral forms of Gold, Tungsten, Tantalum and Tin.

Publicly traded companies are required to file reports to identify if the products they produce use these conflict metals, and the due diligence used to verify the source of these materials.

This requirement has been “flowed” down into the supply chain to many of our customers, and to small, privately-held companies like ES Components. We plan to support our customer’s efforts to meet the requirements for compliance with the Dodd-Frank Act.

Background

Regarding the metals (minerals) and how they may be incorporated into the products we supply:

Gold (Au) – used as a protective metal plating on contacts (die backside metal, gold bond pads on bare die, package leads & headers) usually in micro inches or angstroms.

Tungsten (W, Wolframite) – used as a barrier metal in some semiconductor backside metal schemes (TiW-Au) usually in Angstroms.

Tantalum (Ta, Columbium-Tantalite) – used as a dielectric in Tantalum capacitors.

Tin (Sn, Cassiterite) – Used as a plating on device leads with lead (Pb) usually as a percentage of a compound or in micro inches as a plating.

As a Distributor, we are directed by our customers to purchase specific devices, from specific manufacturers with specific metal schemes (ie: Al top metal, TiNiAg backside metal, Gold bond pads, silicon backside, Al top metal, AuSb backside metal).



ESC does not have direct influence over the selections of materials and the origin of materials used in the fabrication of the die and packaged products we supply. Manufactures have not authorized their distributors to provide this complex data to the end customer, as traditional component distribution activities are not within the scope of the bill's reporting requirements. However ESC realizes the importance of this initiative and fully supports its spirit. To aid customers in determining the component manufactures' Conflict Material Position, ESC is providing access to our manufacturer's statements via the internet.

From our Franchises

Presently, our franchised manufacturers Vishay, Micrel, Zetex/Diodes Inc., Skyworks and Novacap have a statement posted to their websites which address the Conflict Metals issue and their policies.

Novacap Statement from website October 9,2015:

<http://www.knowlescapacitors.com/novacap/en/gn/green-initiative>

Visahy Statement from website October 9, 2015:

<http://www.vishay.com/quality/>

Micrel Statement from website October 9, 2015:

<http://www.micrel.com/index.php/quality/conflictminerals.html>

Zetex/Diodes Inc Statement from website October 9, 2015

<http://www.diodes.com/quality.html>

Skyworks Statement from website October 9,2015

<http://www.skyworksinc.com/Search.aspx?term=conflict%20materials>

ES Components Policy

ES Components is not subject to the SEC Conflict Materials requirement rule but will continue to support our customer's and supplier's efforts in complying with the Conflict Metals requirements and will be happy to our best in completing the required due diligence.

For more information, please feel free to contact Frank Marhefka, QA Manager, ES Components as indicated below.

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