

**Customer requests concerning „Conflict Minerals“ in conjunction with the „US Dodd-Frank Act“ (version: May 2016)**

Statement on: *H.R. 4173 „Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act“, Section 1502 „Conflict Minerals“*

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your request regarding the obligations resulting from US Public Law H.R. 4173 „Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act“. Due to Section 1502 Dodd-Frank Act (Sec. 1502), companies that are subject to the reporting requirements under US law have to disclose annually whether Conflict Minerals which are necessary for the production or function of their products originate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo or neighboring countries.

As an unlisted company we do not fall under the scope of the Dodd-Frank Act which generally does not stipulate a special format for supplier declarations.

For the supply of the raw materials, qualified and trustworthy sources or distributors are very important for us. Our suppliers are aware of our quality requirements. Up to now we have no evidence that, our products contain any of the defined Conflict Minerals like tin, tungsten, tantalum or gold, which would require the disclosure and reporting under the Dodd-Frank Act. Once we receive further information we will inform you immediately.

Nevertheless conflict minerals may be present in our products in small traces. A possible contamination is often an undesirable side effect due to the high recycling rates of metals. Conflict minerals were not intentionally added or used to fulfill a particular function in our products.

Our company monitors all developments related to the disclosure and reporting requirements for US-listed companies. This also applies to the implementation rules adopted under the Dodd-Frank Act in May 2012. You may rest assure that we pay very close attention to German, European and international developments concerning ethical, social and environmental standards.

Finally, we point out that on April 14, 2014 an US Court of Appeals expressed considerable doubts regarding the constitutionality of parts of the disclosure and reporting requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act because the freedom of opinion is not respected.

With this information, it is currently unclear, even for directly affected US companies, how to deal with the obligations and to what extent they affect US companies at all.

For any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

  
Jochen Lubetz  
Quality Management

Julius Blum GmbH Beschlägefabrik A-6973 Höchst  
Tel.: +43 5578 705 3103  
E-Mail: [Jochen.Lubetz@blum.com](mailto:Jochen.Lubetz@blum.com)  
Internet: [www.blum.com](http://www.blum.com)