



Cabot Corporation
Position Statement Regarding Mining of Col-tan in Regions of Central Africa

Background

During the past few weeks, there have been several news articles on the Democratic Republic of Congo regarding the mining of col-tan or columbite-tantalite, the source of tantalum and niobium, in African wildlife preserves.

Our Position

Cabot is a leading world producer of tantalum and niobium products as well as other chemicals. As responsible global citizens, we are committed to ensuring the safety, health and protection of people and the environment around the world, continually striving to meet or exceed governmental and environmental standards. We demand personal integrity, compliance with all laws and regulations, unwavering efforts toward the highest quality in all areas, and indisputable respect for safety, health and the environment.

Cabot fully supports efforts by the relevant authorities to enforce initiatives that protect the environment and endangered species and deplores all unlawful and immoral activities surrounding the use and production of col-tan mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Cabot will not purchase any tantalum supplies from any unlawful source in any part of the world.

Here are the facts:

1. Cabot is a leading world producer of tantalum and purchases the majority of its ore from two main sources: the Tantalum Mining Corporation of Canada (Tanco) located in Manitoba, Canada; and the Sons of Gwalia mines, located in Western Australia.
2. A small percentage of our ore is sourced from other locations, and to the best of our knowledge, none of that material originates from environmentally sensitive areas.
3. As a member of the Tantalum-Niobium International Study Center (T.I.C.), the industry organization representing producers, processors and consumers of tantalum and niobium around the world, Cabot fully supports the T.I.C. position deploring the reported activities of illegal miners in the National Parks and Wildlife Reserves of the Democratic Republic of Congo.
4. Cabot also fully supports the position taken by the T.I.C. and other relevant organizations to preserve the World Heritage Sites in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

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